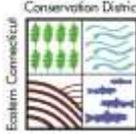


EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT, INC.

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Minutes

Anguilla Brook Bacteria Trackdown & WBP Stakeholder Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 1-3 PM

Via Zoom

1. Welcome/Introductions: Judy Rondeau of the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
2. January 15, 2020 Meeting Notes Review: Attendees reviewed the notes from the January meeting. No additions, corrections, or revisions were proposed.
3. Project Update: Judy reviewed project goals and provided a status report of each goal. The meeting presentation can be viewed at the ECCD project webpage at www.conservect.org/eastern > Current Projects > Water Quality Investigations.
 - a. Draft Watershed-Based Plan Overview: Judy reviewed the draft watershed plan outline and reviewed key plan components. The outline will be posted on the project webpage.
 - b. Resource Maps: Judy provided an overview of resource maps that will be included in the plan, and presented several sample maps.
 - c. Pollutant Loads and Load Reductions: Judy reviewed pollutant loads and load reductions. E. coli reductions based on collected data and CT water quality standards were presented. Judy also modeled other NPS pollutant loads (including total nitrogen, total phosphorus, total suspended sediments and fecal coliform) using the Watershed Treatment Model (WTM) developed by the Center for Watershed Protection. Pollutant loads and yields for each sub-watershed and each land use/land cover type were calculated. Load reductions based on an undeveloped condition for each sub-watershed were determined.
 - d. Management Recommendations: Judy reviewed some preliminary management recommendations that will be incorporated in the plan, including general watershed-wide and site-specific recommendations. She hopes to be able to visit specific sites in the watershed later this spring or early summer for further evaluation.
 - e. Next Steps: Draft the watershed plan between present date and May 31st; distribute the plan for review and comments June 1st - 30th; incorporate comments and prepare final draft July 1st – 31st; release final plan in August (upon DEEP review and approval); conduct targeted outreach June – September.

4. SE CT Water Quality Project Expo/Other Outreach: Due to social distancing, the status of the Expo is uncertain. Judy has proposed project-specific targeted outreach topics including various actions to reduce nitrogen and bacteria loading. Depending on when social distancing restrictions are lifted, outreach could take the form of on-line or in-person workshops. Potential outreach topics include lawn fertilizer reductions, septic system maintenance, pet waste and manure management, residential BMPs, rain garden and rain barrel workshops, and linkages between stormwater runoff and water quality. Holly Drinkuth noted there were many opportunities for community engagement including virtual meetings. Lydia Pan agreed that there were good opportunities for local engagement. She stated that there has been interest in the Pollinator Pathways program that is popular in other parts of the state. An outreach program could be developed to encourage the development of pollinator gardens, including rain gardens and plantings along riparian areas. Eric Thomas asked if Judy had contacted the local health district for information regarding septic system repairs and reviewed that information relative to known bacteria hot spots. Judy has not requested that information yet, but will do so. Eric also suggested that stakeholders could provide insight on how to best connect with the community to promote outreach. Several potential options were discussed.
5. Next Meeting: July 15, 2020, Time/Location TBD

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy Rondeau". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light yellow rectangular background.

Judy Rondeau
ECCD