

Thames River Basin Partnership (TRBP) Quarterly Meeting Notes
Office of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, Norwich, CT
April 10, 2007

Attendees: E. Thomas, CT DEP; E. Rogers, USDA NRCS; J. Rondeau, Thompson; L. Szruba, Lisbon; M. Goodwin, Trout Unlimited TVC; C. Fontaneau, Griswold Town Planner; A. Hayes, NECCOG; A. Watson, Colchester; A. Turner, Colchester Town Planner; T. Seidel, SECCOG; R. Hust, CT DEP; E. Trench, USGS; S. Gravatt, ECCD; D. Schroeder, Ledyard; H. Drinkuth, TNC/GVI; M. Szul, Pfizer; J. Rozum, CES-NEMO, G. Smith, ECCD, J. Pillo, TRBP Coordinator

T. Seidel, SECCOG Senior Planner, opened the meeting.

Meeting notes from January 16, 2007 approved.

John Rozum of the Connecticut **Non-point Education for Municipal Officials** (NEMO) gave a special presentation on the on-line resources to that are available to assist local land use decisions makers. He demonstrated how anyone can build a community resources inventory by following 3 easy steps using their interactive website, <http://nemo.uconn.edu/tools/cri/index.htm>.

Treasurer's Report as prepared by K. Johnson, ECCD

01/23/07	Project Oceanology-balance boat pyment (#5945)		\$ 425.00	\$ 395.83
01/31/07	Pfizer-FW Donation (ck #005400480)	\$ 1,200.00		\$ 1,595.83
02/06/07	Jean Pillo-reimburse meeting exps. (ck #5954)		\$ 12.22	\$ 1,583.61
02/22/07	UConn-workshop registration (ck #5971)		\$ 50.00	\$ 1,533.61
03/01/07	Trout Unlimited- Donation (ck #1142)	\$ 200.00		\$ 1,733.61
04/03/07	Constitution Coach-deposit FW (ck #6006)		\$ 100.00	\$ 1,633.61

Report approved. Pfizer and Trout Unlimited both mailed thank you letters by J. Pillo, acknowledging their generous donations.

TRBP Coordinator's Report presented by J. Pillo

Activities of the TRBP Coordinator since January include planning for multiple workshops and field events with other Partners, including the June 1, 2007 Partnership flagship event, the Floating Workshop. All required reporting to the DEP have been filed on time.

Watershed Restoration Project update – as required by the Year 1 TRBP Coordinator funding provided by the CT DEP through an EPA NPS section 319 grant. Chosen watershed to restore – a multiyear Phragmites control project in Poquetanuck Cove, in Preston/Ledyard utilizing the CT DEP Wetlands Habitat And Mosquito Management program, plus a multi-seasonal floristic survey to identify/locate desired special concern plant species that may otherwise be negatively impacted if not protected from accidental spraying. A list of all project funding requests was provided with expected notification dates. Continued outreach to Poquetanuck Cove area residents as well as a state wide efforts were also outlined.

TRBP Coordinator Grant Report by S. Gravatt, Eastern Connecticut Conservation District.

Year 2 funding from a EPA Section 319 Clean Water Act Grant administered by the CT DEP finalized and to be presented to the ECCD board on April 11, 2007 for signatures. ECCD administers this grant for the TRBP. Work under this funding contract can only begin once final signatures from the Attorney General's office are on it, but the ECCD will continue to employ the TRBP Coordinator with the expectation there will be minimal delays in the signature process.

TRBP Plan of Work Update.

An updated electronic copy of the 07-08 Thames River Basin Partnership Plan of Work was distributed to Partner representatives with a request for all comments to be sent to the TRBP Coordinator by early May. The updated Plan of Work reflects changes necessary to reflect both the year one and two TRBP Coordinator grant specified tasks and other changes as discussed by the Plan of Work steering committee. A final draft will be emailed to Partners for review before the July 07 meeting.

TRBP Floating Workshop VII planning update

The Workshop to be held on June 1 and to feature a bus tour of the Shetucket River beginning and ending in Willimantic at the Windham Mills complex. Cost of the workshop to be \$25. Each participant will receive a USB port flash drive containing relevant data. Next FW steering committee meeting to be May 1 or 2.

Partners updates were reported and can be viewed in the TRBP "April 07 Partner's in Action Report" which was posted to the TRBP Website at <http://www.thamesriverbasinpartnership.org> and e-distributed to those on the distribution list. To be included on the distribution list for the TRBP Partners in Action report, contact J. Pillo, TRBP Coordinator at trbp_jeanpillo2sbcglobal.net.

A stormwater retrofit steering committee to advise the TRBP coordinator regarding the grant required task to "Facilitate the Partnership's involvement with at least one town to assist with a stormwater retrofit that impacts a 303 (d) listed water. Consult with town(s) and DEP to identify highest priority problems, best method of retrofit, and act as the liaison between partner organizations and the town(s) and DEP." L. Szuba, Lisbon; E. Thomas, CT DEP; S. Gravatt, ECCD and H. Drinkuth, TNC/GVI will serve on this steering committee. More are welcome. The first meeting will be arranged after the year 2 grant signatures are acquired.

Upcoming Workshops by partner organizations were announced.

Next TRBP quarterly meeting to be held beginning at 9:30 AM on July 17, 2007 at Project Oceanology in Groton CT.

Meeting adjourned.

Meeting notes prepared by J. Pillo, TRBP coordinator. TRBP Coordinator position is funded in part by an EPA Clean Water Act Grant administered by the CT DEP. Meeting notes not official until approved at the following meeting.