



Thames River Basin Partnership October 16, 2012 Meeting notes

Attendance: Jean Pillo, Judy Rondeau, ECCD; Ray Covino, NRCS; Elaine Trench, USGS; Dave Schroeder, Ledyard Conservation Commission; Rick Potvin, USFWS; Bev Thornton, Brooklyn CC; Dave Goodrich, Hampton IWC; Grace Jacobson, Woodstock CC; Lois Briunooog, TLGV; Anne Roberts Pierson, Avalonia Land Conservancy; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Bud McAllister, PHC

Meeting notes for July 17, 2012 were approved by group consensus.

The Partnership was welcomed to NECCOG by Jim Larkin.

Special Presentation

Ray Covino, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) District Conservationist for Windham County gave a lively presentation on Soil Health Nutrient Pathways. NRCS nationally is promoting a healthy soils initiative to increase crop production, save money and decrease erosion and NPS runoff. In summary, the four rules for soil health are:

1. Minimize disturbance (no-till)
2. Maximize diversity (plant community, crop rotation)
3. Keep the soil surface covered (residue, living leaves)
4. Keep a living root in the soil as long as possible.

Healthy soils contain up to and exceeding 2000 pounds of animal life per acre of soil. The living biomass of soil is disturbed by tillage and over application of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and leads to increased erosion and runoff.

TRBP Financial Report

We started the quarter with \$ 2,296.59

07/16/12	Floating Workshop Registration	\$25.00	\$2,321.59
07/17/12	July Meeting Refreshments	\$32.86	\$2,288.73
07/31/12	Jean Pillo-FW12 reimburse ice	\$ 1.99	\$2,286.74
10/09/12	GoDaddy-website domains (ck #7735)	\$22.85	\$2,263.89

TRBP Coordinators Report:

TRBP Partners in Action Reports are behind schedule due to other Watershed Conservation Coordinator duties. Each report will be completed and posted to the website by the end of October 2012.

A mini PowerPoint presentation has been posted to the TRBP website, recapping the June 22 Floating Workshop.

Marc Cohen has been hired as Wetlands Agent/Environmental Planner for the Town of Windsor and has resigned his position on the TRBP steering committee. A letter of congratulations and gratitude for his service was sent.

Holly Drinkuth is transitioning to a full time position with TNC and has relocated to New Haven, CT and will not likely be able to serve as a TRBP Steering Committee member

Additional TRBP steering committee members are needed.

Maura Robie has been hired as the Windsor Locks Wetlands Agent and will not be able to serve as the TRBP Representative on the Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council. A new TRBP representative is needed. (Judy Rondeau represents ECCD and Lois Bruinooge represents TLGV on the Council).

Partner reports were recorded in the TRBP newsletter Partners in Action Report.

Next meeting will be January 15, 2013 at Goodwin Forest in Hampton.

Meeting notes prepared by Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation Coordinator, ECCD

Meeting notes are not official until approved by consensus at the next TRBP quarterly meeting.