Thames River Basin Partnership

Partners in Action Quarterly Report

Summer 2018 **Volume 47**

The Thames River watershed includes the Five Mile, French, Moosup, Natchaug, Pachaug, Quinebaug, Shetucket, Willimantic, and Yantic Rivers and all their tributaries. We're not just the "Thames main stem."

Greetings from the Thames River Basin Partnership. Once again this quarter our partners have proven their ability to work cooperatively on projects compatible with the TRBP Workplan and in support of our common mission statement to share organizational resources and to develop a regional approach to natural resource protection. I hope you enjoy reading about these activities as much as I enjoy sharing information about them with you. For more information on any of these updates, just click on the blue website hyperlinks in this e-publication, but be sure to come back to finish reading the rest of the report.

Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation Project Manager
Eastern Connecticut Conservation District
And TRBP Coordinator

Special Presentation

If you missed the July 2018 meeting of the Thames River Basin Partnership, then you missed a presentation by Chuck Toal, Avalonia Land Conservancy's development and programs director. Chuck gave a presentation on the 50 years of accomplishments of ALC as a regional land trust. ALC is focused on 22 towns in southeastern Connecticut. ALC, which oversees 4000 acres of preserved land, achieved accreditation in 2017. Their success has resulted from a working board of directors and the establishment of town committees to focus on smaller areas. Their current focus is to be more selective on land acquisition, particularly concentrating on building blocks of open space while also building an endowment fund land stewardship going forward. You can learn more about Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. at https://avalonialandconservancy.org.

TRBP Updates

Partner Reports

One benefit of participating in the Thames River Basin Partnership includes the opportunity to collaborate with other conservation organizations in order to achieve greater success of our shared conservation goals. In recent years, this has been evidenced by interagency cooperation through opportunities for programs funded through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The RCPP encourages partners to join in efforts with agricultural producers to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil,

water, wildlife and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales through locally-led initiatives.

- The Last Green Valley (TLGV) *Improving Soil Health and Water Quality in the Thames River Watershed*. The long-term objective of this project is to implement soil health conservation practices through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) on 500 acres of cropland and show a measurable improvement of edge-of-field and in-stream water quality, including a decrease in nutrient and turbidity levels. Recently, ECCD recruited a dairy farm to participate in the program, applying to NRCS to plant a 5-species mixed cover crop on 275 acres of farmland. Once the contract closes with this new applicant, it will expend the remaining NRCS EQIP funding allotted to this project. Modified Edge of Field Monitoring has been permitted to measure water quality before and after conservation practice implementation by this landowner.

- The University of Connecticut's (UCONN) *PATH to Reduce Pathogens in CT Agricultural Runoff* project focused on collecting stormwater samples from two corn fields in Woodstock this year. The samples for 2018 are being collected using passive stormwater samplers situated at the edge of farm fields. This sampling was requested by the farmer who wants to know more about what is contained in the runoff from his corn fields.

- The Last Green Valley (TLGV) *Accelerating the Pace of Conservation in the Southern New England Heritage Forest.* The Last Green Valley Forestry RCPP contract with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service was executed in September 2017 and the project was rolled out during the Spring 2018. This $6.1 million project includes $1.5 million of special EQIP funding for forest management plans and forest conservation practices with a focus on bird habitat. $4.6 million is included to buy Healthy Forest Reserve Easements from private landowners. The project will support landowners interested in preserving their woods, including surveys, transaction costs and funding for bird habitat assessments. Landowners within the 1.4 million acre tri-state Southern New Heritage Forest are eligible to participate in the program. An application package was developed and distributed. The application deadline for the first round of this competitive funding program was July 20, 2018. There has been overwhelming response to the easement program and there won't be enough funding to support all the applications received to date.

TLGV is partnering with the Connecticut Land Conservation Council for a Northeast Land Trust Advancement Initiative. The overarching goal of this project is to significantly strengthen the individual and collective capacity of participating land trusts to save and enhance the region's natural heritage, land, and water resources by investing in a program focused on: (1) community engagement and communications to raise the visibility of land trust work in Northeast Connecticut; (2) strategic conservation planning to assist land trusts in identifying, prioritizing, and conserving critical lands; and (3) establishing the framework for a larger, watershed-wide regional conservation strategy that will allow land trusts to cooperatively seek landscape-scale funding for shared priorities. The Project Partners include the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC), The Last Green Valley (TLGV), and the following Northeast Connecticut land

trusts: Northern CT Land Trust, Joshua's Trust, Wyndham Land Trust, Wolf Den – Eastern CT Forest Landowners Association and New Roxbury Land Trust.
In a kick off meeting on August 20, 2018, a regional conservation mapping system was explored. This project is funded in part by a grant provided by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

Funds are available from TLGV to support non-profit and municipal cleanups. Up to $500 (paid on a reimbursable basis) are available to fund basic cleanup supplies and food for volunteers. Recipients must keep track of the trash and report totals so they can measure region-wide impacts.

Also from TLGV, funding was offered for Historic and Cultural Resources Grants for non-profits and municipalities. Projects that will preserve, protect, interpret, promote or market historic and cultural resources were eligible. Grants may range from $500 to $4,000, must be matched 1:1 by cash or in-kind contributions. The application deadline was July 26.

The 2018 Walktober Guides were printed in September. Over 300 events are included in this guide. Additional activities that were not submitted in time to make the printed version will be added to the Walktober page on the TLGV website. Tune up your hiking boots and get ready to Walktober.

TLGV Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program Coordinator's Report

- For a second year, the Shetucket River, from Windham to Lisbon, is being assessed for E. coli contamination. The Ten Mile River in Lebanon is also being monitored in three locations in an attempt to track down the source of E. coli contamination causing the river to not meet water quality standards. CT DPH and CT DEEP are the partners in this program.
- In the Massachusetts part of the watershed, the Charlton Lakes and Ponds Association, French River Connection and the Webster Lake Association are all involved in monitoring select water resources
- HOBO temperature data loggers have been placed in 23 locations by volunteers involved with TLGV within TLGV area.
    - Two were placed in the MA part of the French River by the French River Connection.
    - Seventeen TLGV temperature data loggers have been deployed to support 3 different studies.
        - A Mount Hope River temperature study is underway at the request of Neal Hagstrom of the CT DEEP Fisheries Department, to see if there is any impact of water withdrawal from a well field, and if there is, how long before the impact is diluted by tributary streams. Six loggers were deployed in late May and will remain in place until early October.
        - Cold water stream assessments continue in the Natchaug watershed.
        - As part of the Roseland Lake (Woodstock) algae monitoring, temperature loggers are tracking the water temperature in the upper layer of the lake, and in the two major inlets and the outlet streams.
- A new TLGV cyanobacteria monitoring program was initiated as a pilot project in Roseland Lake (Woodstock). This program is being supported by the US EPA and equipment was purchased using funds from the small grant program by the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut. Biweekly water column samples were collected using an integrated tube sampler and processed using a

fluorimeter. The project will measure the relative ratio of chlorophyll pigments that are found in all algae types to phycocyanin pigments that are found only in cyanobacteria (blue green algae). In addition, a plankton net was used to determine algae diversity in the water column. Using a digital microscope, the different types of algae were photo-documented and uploaded to a special cyanobacteria monitoring i-Naturalist site for identification.

Harmful Algae Blooms are a growing concern nationally, and data from this project will hopefully be useful for developing a predictive model for determining when an algae bloom is imminent. Cyanobacteria blooms are influenced by water temperature (>25°C).

Besides water temperature data, TLGV volunteers also collected secchi disc depth data and developed a temperature and dissolved oxygen profile of the lake in the middle of the lake. In Roseland Lake, when the lake is stratified, the dissolved oxygen becomes depleted at the bottom of the lake, which has been shown to release nutrients that normally would be bound within the sediments.

Cyanobacteria have the ability to vertically migrate within the water column and can access that nutrient source and thrive during hot weather. An early observation was that the type of algae being captured in the plankton net does not include the some of the major types of algae found in the floating algal mats on top of the lake that form in the more shallow regions of the lake.

In cooperation with CT DEEP Fisheries, volunteers from the Thames Valley chapter of Trout Unlimited are also involved in a temperature data logger monitoring program in Merrick Brook.

Eastern Connecticut Conservation District (ECCD) is working within the 36 towns in their District to install 100 70 ft^2 rain gardens and distribute 100 free rain barrels. This project is being funded by a Long Island Sound Futures Fund grant through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the US EPA. Partners on this project include the Boy Scouts of America, who will help install the rain gardens; The Rivers Network which supplied kits for converting re-used syrup drums into rain barrels and Coca-cola, which provided the used syrup drums. Five rain garden workshops and five build-a-rain-barrel workshops have been or will be scheduled in different areas of the ECCD territory. ECCD is well under way with 70% of the rain gardens installed in towns throughout the district. For more information on this project, please contact Dan Mullins at 860-319-8808.

ECCD was awarded funding through a capacity building grant from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut. This project is divided into two parts. The first part is to focus internally on the development of a strategic plan for ECCD to follow going into the future. The second part of this project is to work with municipalities in southeastern Connecticut to develop a stormwater collaborative to pool resources to meet the requirements of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) general permit. A kick-off meeting for the stormwater collaborative is scheduled for October 24th from 9a.m. – 11a.m. and his being held at the office of the Southeast CT Council of Governments.

Each year, ECCD and the other conservation districts in Connecticut are awarded US EPA Clean Water Act §319 Non-point source funds through the CT DEEP to support providing site plan reviews and technical assistance to towns and town residents. This funding is known as the annual “block grant”. This year, a portion of the block grant award will be dedicated to creating a

Little River Healthy Watershed Collaborative that will focus on prioritizing projects that were recommended in the Roseland Lake Management Plan and the Muddy Brook/Little River Watershed Based Plan. An initial Little River Healthy Watershed Collaborative meeting has been organized to take place on October 24, 2018. Another portion of the block grant funding has dedicated to special projects in the Niantic River watershed.

Work on the Fairvue Farm Agricultural Waste Management Practices Project is nearing completion. Completed projects phases include:

- Installation of subsurface drainage under the silage bunker;
- Inside the silage bunker: Installed Concrete Floor with Asphalt Cap;
- Installed High/low Flow Separator to Control Silage Leachate;
- Constructed Two Concrete Receiving Tanks to Temporarily Store Waste;
- Built Pumphouse to Transfer Waste to Larger Storage Tanks.

The final project phases to be completed this fall include:

- Install Barn and Milkhouse Waste Transfer System to Pump Waste via Underground Pipes to Concrete Storage Tanks.

The ECCD Baker Cove Goose Control Project is continuing. Resident goose population data was collected by volunteers using an *epicollect* app on their cell phones as well as eBird data and was processed into a map. This map was shared at a projects partners meeting on September 26, 2018.

ECCD was awarded funds to support a bacteria trackdown in Anguilla Brook (Stonington/North Stonington).

From the CT DEEP Water Bureau Report

Update on relevant Clean Water Act Section 319 NPS grant contract projects

1. University of Connecticut:

- North Eagleville Road Green Street Implementation Project (Eagleville Brook, Mansfield). Two bus pull-off/loading area pervious paver installations, and three stormwater tree filters are being installed this season within completely renovated major campus on North Eagleville Road, as implementable action for the Eagleville Brook Watershed Management Plan.

2. Eastern CT Conservation District:

- Mashamoquet Brook Septic Systems Upgrade Project (Mashamoquet Brook, Pomfret/Brooklyn). This project has been closed out, short of goal to support targeted homeowners with onsite wastewater treatment system (septics) repair or replacement costs. Lessons learned summary to be shared.
- Grand Street Stormwater Management Project (Niantic River basin, East Lyme). Over 30 tree/grass wells or dry wells have been installed as part of 80-acre contributing residential/commercial neighborhood disconnection from East Lyme town stormwater collection and conveyance system that was discharging untreated runoff into the Niantic River. This project included good outreach including partnering with UCONN CLEAR for an MS4 outreach workshop on site.

- Non-migratory Canada Goose Outreach and Control Project (lower Thames/SE Coast area, Groton). Volunteer goose survey data collection phase continues with early consideration of management action options with key project stakeholders.
- Latimer Brook Stormwater Infiltration Project (Niantic River basin, East Lyme). Final design and construction phase on hold pending an updated agreement on funding and technical support between ECCD and the East Lyme Board of Education. Scheduling implementation work for a summer 2019 installation to capture and treat 1 acre paved parking lot currently discharging into a stormwater conveyance system that discharges into the lower Latimer Brook.
- Dairy Farm Agricultural Wastewater Management Project (Little River, Woodstock). New wastewater building and pump facilities under construction this summer to wrap up this large dairy farm wastewater management project, directly supporting improved water quality to the Little River and Putnam public water supply surface intake downstream of this farm.
- Woodchip Bioreactor Subsurface Water Monitoring Project (Little River, Woodstock). Subsurface water quality monitoring pre- and post-bioreactor monitoring underway to assess nutrient (N, P) and pathogen (E. coli) reductions from managed hayfield agricultural tile drained field. Preliminary data is encouraging this denitrification practice for possible wider application use.
- Anguilla Brook Bacteria Trackdown and Watershed Plan (SE Coastal, Stonington/North Stonington). Project grant contract now executed, but first water monitoring and streamwalk survey season has passed, delaying those project tasks until Spring 2019.

A Lower Natchaug Stormwater Management Project (Lower Natchaug basin, Mansfield) - This project was approved and is slated for future grant funding. Contract pending.

*Little River (Putnam) Watershed Planning Project, (Little River, Putnam) - DEEP has not fully developed the project scope and budget with ECCD for contracting; Town still supportive of project goals.
*Upper Natchaug Healthy Watershed Planning Project (greater Upper Natchaug, NE CT) – DEEP has not fully developed the project scope and budget with ECCD for contracting, pending discussion with other priority watershed action planning by DEEP in same upper Natchaug River watershed area.

3. Niantic River Watershed Committee:
Niantic River Watershed Protection Plan Update project now has an executed contract, and soon will be issuing an RFP for consultant services.

4. Rivers Alliance of Connecticut Watershed Assistance Small Grant Program (Round 7).
- The Last Green Valley Water Quality Monitoring (WQ monitoring equipment)
- Thames River Basin Partnership (TRBP Website Development)

FY 2018 Clean Water Act Section 319 NPS grant - the latest grant round is closed and DEEP and EPA are reviewing applications including several from the greater Thames River basin region. Award notification may not occur until Fall 2018 pending Congressional release of program funds and notification to state agency applicants.

A draft version 2018 CT Integrated Water Quality report will likely be available in fall 2018 for public review (there will be a 45+ day comment period). The draft document will be posted at http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2719&q=325610&deepNav_GID=1654.

- This report will incorporate qualified water data submissions from TLGV Water Monitoring program, CUSH, Inc. and others in this reporting cycle
- This report will further integrate TMDL priorities with Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) watershed prioritization and action plan development – current greater Thames/SE Coast/Pawcatuck targets are Natchaug/Mt. Hope watershed; Niantic River; Mystic River/Frontal Fisher Sound; Ashaway River/Lower Pawcatuck watershed.

DEEP Watershed/NPS Management Program staff is realigned somewhat within DEEP's Water Planning and Management Division with reduced staffing and other resources, with a goal to better collaborate with the Dam Safety as well as Water Quantity/Streamflow programs. DEEP Watershed/NPS Management Program is also working closely with the TMDL/Integrated Water Resources Management program on priority waters listed for either restoration or protection action planning. Inland waters include the upper Natchaug regional watershed and coastal embayments with contributing watersheds in the Groton-Stonington area and the East Lyme-Waterford area.

DEEP Watershed program staff is working within the Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Study committee to complete a study report this month and plans to work with CT and RI Congressional representatives to raise a legislative bill to amend the federal W&SR Act to add several rivers, including the Wood, Shunock, Green Fall/Ashaway and Pawcatuck Rivers in CT.

The DEEP Open Space and Watershed Lands Acquisition Grant Program Spring 2018 cycle has been closed for application submissions (15 received). State of Connecticut has approved bond funding for this acquisition program cycle. Award notifications are likely in Fall 2018. A few applications were submitted within the greater Thames River basin. DEEP is currently accepting application for the next round of Open Space and Watershed Lands Acquisition Grants. The closing date for accepting applications is February 7, 2019. For more information or to download an application, click here.

DEEP Wildlife hosted an event called "Discover Outdoor Connecticut, Join the Force for the Resource", formerly "Hunting and Fishing Day". This free event was held at Franklin Wildlife Management Area in North Franklin, Connecticut on Saturday, September 22nd. The event offered activities for all ages, including live birds of prey, field dog demonstrations, trap and archery shooting, dart guns, fly tying and casting, fish and game prep and sampling, photo contest, outdoors skills clinics, wildlife and nature crafts, face painting, and interesting programs and workshops about hunting, fishing, boating, forestry, parks, and the great outdoors. Attendees will had the opportunity to speak face-to-face with DEEP staff from the Divisions of Wildlife, Inland and Marine Fisheries, Law Enforcement, Boating, Parks, and Forestry, as well as with representatives from conservation and outdoors organizations, including representatives from The Last Green Valley.

DEEP Wildlife Division published the Interactive Atlas of Crayfish of Connecticut.
It includes an interactive map showing the distribution of the nine species of crayfish observed though DEEP's Fisheries and Water Quality Monitoring programs. The application contains a map for each species, an overview of crayfish anatomy, key identification characteristics, and detailed photographs. To view this online resource, click this link.

https://ctdeep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=b9b8fa8441ac4ccab088db6c38ff0500.

Highstead is involved with the coordination of a *Regional Conservation Partnerships in New England* conference. The conference is scheduled for November 15 and it will take place at UMASS Amherst. The free conference will include a new emphasis on engaging regional planning organizations on smart growth and collaborative land conservation.

CT Sea Grant

- UCONN Master Gardener Program has a Coastal Certificate Program teaching local gardeners to reduce their impacts on Long Island Sound. Each spring 20 – 25 people receive training and then are required to complete a set amount of outreach time. Contact Judy Preston for more information.
- Coastal Resilience – Sea Grant is addressing the multi-faceted challenge of climate change through existing program initiatives. Climate change serves as an overarching area of emphasis, informing outreach and education activities. Strategies to determine climate change impacts and to adapt successfully have been developed. Connecticut Sea Grant and UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) are partnering with researchers, consultants and other professionals to work with municipalities and relevant professionals on climate resiliency through the Climate Adaptation Academy (CAA). Contact Julianna Barrett for more information.

Southeast Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) and a consultant team is providing assistance to member municipalities and FEMA National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) communities, Noank Fire District and Groton Long Point Association, interested in joining or improving standing in the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is a voluntary program in which NFIP communities are awarded points for documenting and undertaking activities that improve flood resilience. Based on CRS standing, NFIP communities are sorted into classes, in which premium discounts of 5-45% are awarded to policy holders. The CRS Study is currently underway with assistance from a consultant team led by Dewberry Companies.

The New England Forestry Foundation, in partnership with My MassConn Woods, hosted a Woodland Resilience Walk on September 8, 2018 in Mansfield, CT on a 24 acre privately owned woodlot that is being managed for sustainable forestry. A licensed forester explained the goals of the forest management plan for sustainable forestry, wildlife habitat and recreational uses. Also included was how to manage the woodlot for invasive species to promote a diversity of tree species in light of climate change.

Soundkeeper, Bill Lucey, attended the TRBP Summer meeting. His job is to act as an advocate, organizer and resource for Long Island Sound. He left the meeting impressed by the activities of the Partners in addressing non-point source pollution issues in eastern Connecticut.

The Willimantic Whitewater Partnership had planned to host the annual Willimantic River Festival on 9/29/18 but were forced to cancel the event due to high water and down trees along the paddle route.

News from Municipalities

The Town of Putnam has hired a new Water Pollution Control Authority Director. Brian Lynch filled that position on July1, 2018.

The Town of Killingly was awarded $395,803 for the Quinebaug River Trail Phase V (trail extension on Beatrice Avenue). Killingly was one of 40 towns and cities across Connecticut that shared $12.4 million in funding under a competitive state grant program that seeks to support pedestrian and bicycle safety and improve accessibility within urban, suburban, and rural community centers where people can meet for work, school, social, and recreational activities. Administered by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), the Community Connectivity Grant Program goals is to make conditions safer for people of all ages to walk, bike, and take transit, thereby encouraging more people to use these healthy and environmentally sustainable modes of travel. At the same time, these improvements will make Connecticut's community centers more accessible places to live and work.

Land Trust Updates

Two regional conservation conversations to promote Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Program (OSWA) success stories were held in eastern Connecticut. These programs featured two area land trusts in partnership with the Connecticut Land Conservation Council. On July 12, 2018, the Wyndham Land Trust hosted an event at their Bull Hill Preserve in Thompson Connecticut. This meeting featured a guided tour of the Bull Hill Preserve property. On July 14, 2018, Avalonia Land Conservancy, Inc. hosted a hike at their Tri-Town Ridgeline Forest located at 91 Miller Road, North Stonington, CT. Both of these properties were acquired with funding assistance provided through OSWA. Both events included an opportunity to enjoy a walk exploring the sites, and an opportunity to talk with State legislators, other elected officials, land trust representatives, and community leaders about state, regional, and local conservation priorities.

Avalonia Land Conservancy received a $55,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Long Island Sound Future Fund to develop and implement a coastal resilience management plan designed specifically for the Conservancy's Dodge Paddock/Beal Preserve in Stonington, Connecticut. Dr. Juliana Barrett, Associate Extension Educator at Connecticut Sea Grant, will partner with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to oversee the development and implementation of this important project.

The coastal preserve, located at the end of Wall Street in a highly residential neighborhood in Stonington Borough, features a diverse mix of at-risk and high-priority habitats including tidal wetlands, coastal grassland, beach/dune habitat and rocky intertidal habitat.

The new management plan will factor in impacts of climate change such as major storm events, sea level rise, and increased heavy precipitation. The incorporation of "hybrid living shoreline" (anti-erosion) measures to Avalonia's current management plan will be critical to the long term resilience of the tidal wetlands. To that end, an engineering study will be funded to assess how best to protect the south face of the property. Other protective measures will include the

replanting of existing cultivated gardens with hardy, native, salt-tolerant plants to form a tidal marsh migration buffer and the replacement of uplands brush and invasive plants with coastal grasslands.

The Wyndham Land Trust continues to acquire land along the Bull Hill ridgeline in Thompson in an effort to protect this large, unbroken forested lot from development. The land trust now owns 771 acres on Bull Hill, including a few adjacent properties across the town line in Woodstock. David Ostrowski and Karen Durlach, residents of Thompson, recently donated 10 acres on Bull Hill to the land trust. Ostrowski, who had owned the property for over 30 years, stipulated that it be preserved as a bird sanctuary and wildlife habitat and that the parcel be called Avian Haven Wildlife Preserve.

The New Roxbury Land Trust hosted a free workshop entitled Planting for Bees' Needs. Entomologist Kimberly Stoner of the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station gave a talk on the diversity of native bees, where they live, what plants they need to survive and how to protect them from pesticides and more. The program was held on September 23, 2018 at the Barn at Roseland Park located at 205 Roseland Park Road, Woodstock, CT.

Other News

On Wednesday, September 12, 2018 the Source Water Collaborative (SWC) hosted a free webinar with The Trust for Public Land (TPL) entitled, "Multi-Purpose Decision Support Systems for Source Water Protection Strategies." The purpose of this webinar was to demonstrate the use of decision support tools and multi-purpose landscape analysis systems that can strengthen the ability of water suppliers to develop land protection strategies that address threats to drinking water sources. The webinar included a demonstration of various GIS-based tools that TPL has developed, an explanation of their data layers, and description of specific applications of this information. An archived version of this webinar can be downloaded from the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators website at this link. https://www.asdwa.org/past-events-webinar-recordings/?mgc_158=92/source-water.

The Willamette Partnership and Oregon Public Health Institute built the "Green Infrastructure and Health Guide" for the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange to help local government, communities, and health care organizations connect green infrastructure and public health in new ways. This free guide outlining the relationship between green infrastructure and human health can be downloaded at this link. http://willamettepartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Green-Infrastructure-and-Health-Guide_FINAL_071018.pdf.

Here is some great advice on leaf management this fall from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. https://www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/dont-let-leaves-litter-lakes.

If you would like your organization's efforts included in the next edition of the TRBP Partners in Action Report, consider attending one of our quarterly meetings. It includes a TRBP Plan of Work activity reporting session, which is an informal "round the table" discussion of Partner

activities. It is a great time to network with like-focused organizations. All meetings begin at 9:30 AM. Generally, the TRBP meets quarterly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Next meeting will be on October 16, 2018. The meeting will be held in Northeast District Department of Health conference room. NDDH is located at 69 S Main St #4, Brooklyn, CT.

If you are not already on the e-distribution list for this publication, contact Jean Pillo by email and request to be added, or you can download the previous versions of this quarterly publication from the TRBP website (Summer 2006 – Spring 2015) or more current editions at http://thelastgreenvalley.org/learn-protect/watershed-protection/thames-river-basin-partnership.

The Thames River Basin Partnership is a voluntary, cooperative effort to share resources, and strives to develop a regional approach to resource protection. The Partnership is made up of a variety of agencies, organizations, municipalities, educational institutions, companies, and individuals interested in the environmental health of the greater Thames River basin. Partial funding support for FY 18 for TRBP Coordinator time has been provided by The Last Green Valley. Additional sources of funding are being sought to continue the TRBP Coordinator position. Please consider making a donation to the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District and designate it to support the Thames River Basin Partnership Coordinator position.