

An aerial satellite view of a coastal area. In the center, there is a peninsula with several buildings and a lighthouse labeled 'Avery Point Lighthouse'. To the right, there is a large marina filled with many sailboats. Below the main peninsula, there is a smaller island labeled 'Pine Island'. The water is dark blue, and the land is green with some brown patches. The text 'Thames River Basin Partnership Floating Workshop IX' is overlaid in large yellow letters. Below it, the text 'Municipal Actions to Reduce Harmful Hypoxia in Long Island Sound' is overlaid in white letters. At the bottom, there are copyright notices and coordinates.

# Thames River Basin Partnership Floating Workshop IX

Municipal Actions to Reduce Harmful  
Hypoxia in Long Island Sound

Image © 2009 DigitalGlobe  
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Oct 2006

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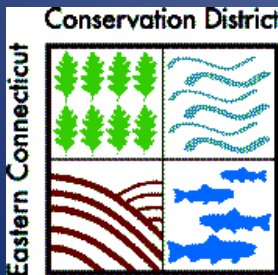
N 72°03'48.60" W

Thank you to our major workshop sponsor:

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation as part of the Long Island Sound Study

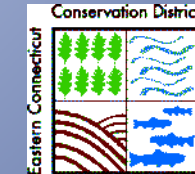
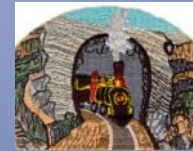
also

- The Last Green Valley
- Norwich Public Utilities
- Eastern Connecticut Conservation District
- Project Oceanology





# Who are the Thames River Basin Partners?



Our Mission: The Thames River Basin Partnership is a voluntary, cooperative effort to share organizational resources and to develop a regional approach to natural resource protection. The partnership grew out of locally led workshops held by the region's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Priority areas of concern for the Basin are to:

- Protect the region's agricultural and natural areas being threatened by land use changes.
- Protect ground and surface water quantity and quality being threatened and degraded by contamination.
- Protect the region's biodiversity.
- Improve the coastal zone resource conditions.

# Floating Workshop IX

## Planning Committee Members

Jean Pillo, TRBP Coordinator

Pat Young, Eastern Connecticut Conservation District

Holly Drinkuth, The Nature Conservancy/ Green Valley Institute

Eric Thomas, CT DEP

Jessica Morgan, CT DEP

Mark Parker, CT DEP

Mickey Weiss, Project Oceanology

Lois Bruinooge, The Last Green Valley

# TRBP 2009 Municipal Survey

- Forty Connecticut municipalities in the greater Thames River watershed were sent a survey.
- Survey results were used to develop this workshop.
- Survey results were also used to prepare the TRBP 09/10 Plan of Work.

# Municipalities that returned the survey

Brooklyn	Canterbury	Chaplin
Colchester	Coventry	Eastford
Franklin	Griswold	City of Groton
Killingly	Ledyard	Lisbon
Mansfield	Montville	City of New London
Norwich	Preston	Salem
Sterling	Thompson	Tolland
Waterford	Willington	Windham
	Woodstock	



# Floating Workshop IX was Planned to Coordinate with The Last Green Valley Source to Sea, Connecting the Drops in The Last Green Valley Expedition





Lois Bruinooge of The Last Green Valley overviewed the Source to Sea, Expedition, which included a series of water based events from the top of the Thames watershed to Long Island Sound over 9 weeks. The TRBP Floating Workshop IX was one of the final events of the series.



At Project Oceanology, John Mullaney of the USGS presented the keynote address on Nitrogen Loading in Long Island Sound. Over enrichment of the water from many sources leads to depleted oxygen on the bottom of Long Island Sound in the summer.







After the keynote address, workshop participants boarded the Envirolab II for a tour of the Thames River.



## Focus on the Source



CT DEP Long Island Sound Coordinator, Mark Parker explained the successful nitrogen trading program, the first such program in the nation.



Bob Meyers overviewed a recent pilot stormwater authority study for the city of New London.





Elaine Trench of the USGS reviewed The Thames Science Plan: Suggested Hydrologic Investigations to Support Nutrient-Related Water-Quality Improvements in the Thames River Basin, Connecticut



## Paving the Way to Reduced Impervious Cover



Jessica Morgan, CT DEP Low Impact Development Coordinator, introduced the concept of Low Impact Development (LID) strategies and how her position was created to assist municipalities.

Eric Thomas, a CT DEP Watershed Manager and Coventry resident, overviews the Coventry Impervious Cover Regulations in the lake neighborhood. The TRBP facilitated the installation of a model Rain Garden located at the Coventry Town Hall.





ECCD Natural Resource Specialist Pat Young overviews a recently completed stormwater retrofit project at the Children's Museum in Niantic, CT that incorporated many LID principles.





## Water Pollution from the Sky - Addressing NOx

Patrice Gillespie of the Sierra Club overviews her work with CT Municipalities on the Mayor's Climate Change Initiative. Not only does this reduce green house gasses, but NOx as well.

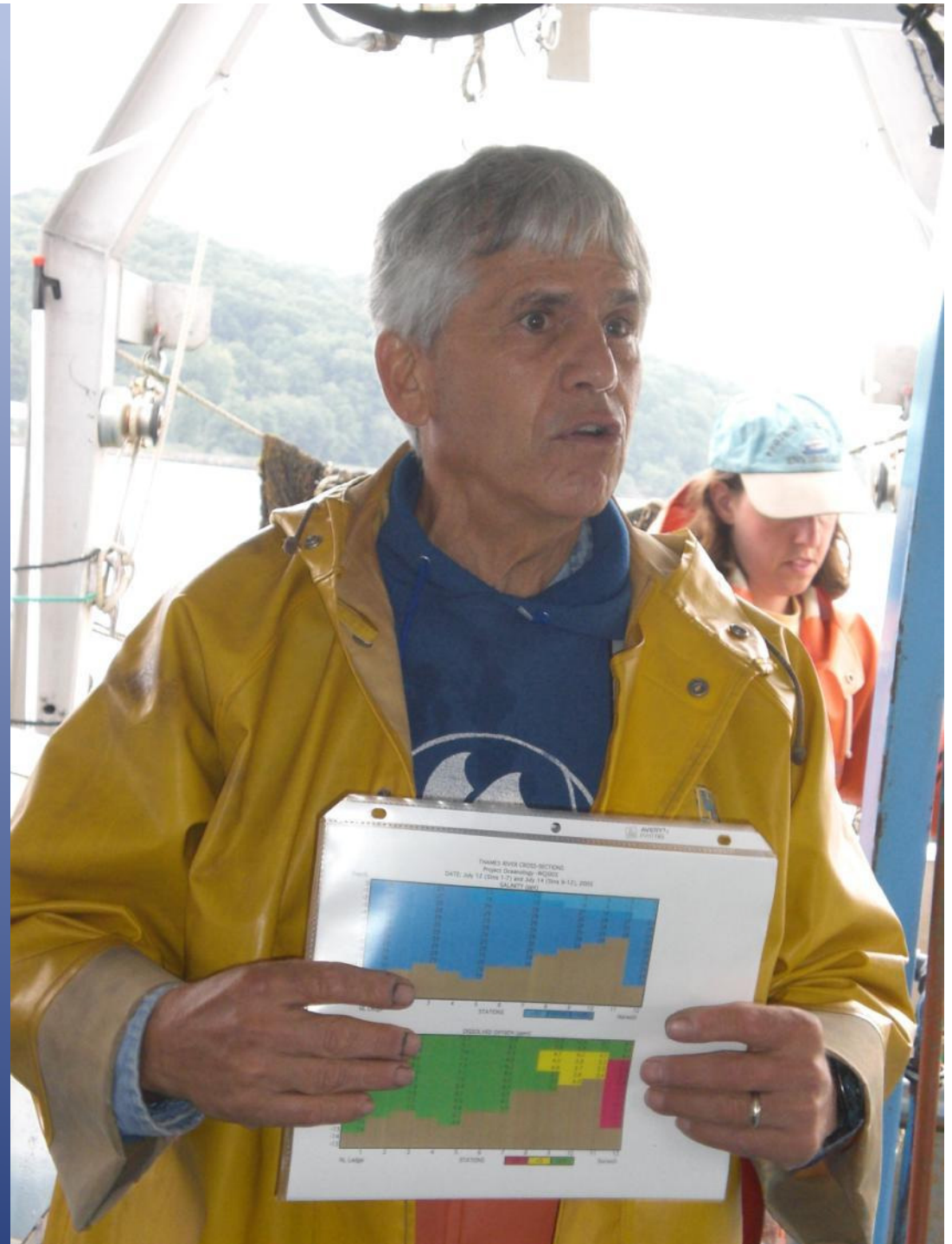


Jean Pillo, ECCD Watershed Conservation Coordinator and Coordinator for the TRBP, asks if your community is a Green Community as part of the CT Clean Energy Initiative.



## Norwich Harbor: Issues and Answers

Mickey Weiss of Project Oceanology reviews data collected over many years that demonstrates seasonal hypoxia (low oxygen) conditions in Norwich Harbor caused by excess nitrates from many sources.





Dave Grundwalski of Norwich Public Utilities reviews efforts being undertaken by the City of Norwich to eliminate their Combine Sewage Overflow issues and explains their Clean Water, Clean Harbor, Sound Norwich campaign.





**Getting to the Bottom of the Issue** – a grab sample is used to demonstrate the bottom dwelling organisms impacted when there is not enough oxygen





Captain Ian piloted our  
very informative  
Thames River cruise.



Workshop participants were asked to pledge to facilitate a follow up event in their community.



They each went home with a custom flash drive containing expanded info on the topics covered during the event.

Did I hear that somebody had a birthday?





