

TOWN CENTER PARK RAIN GARDEN

HOW IT ALL CAME TOGETHER

Nicole Davis, Watersheds Project Manager



Save the Sound
Action for our region's environment.

December 5, 2024
Community Resilience Workshop





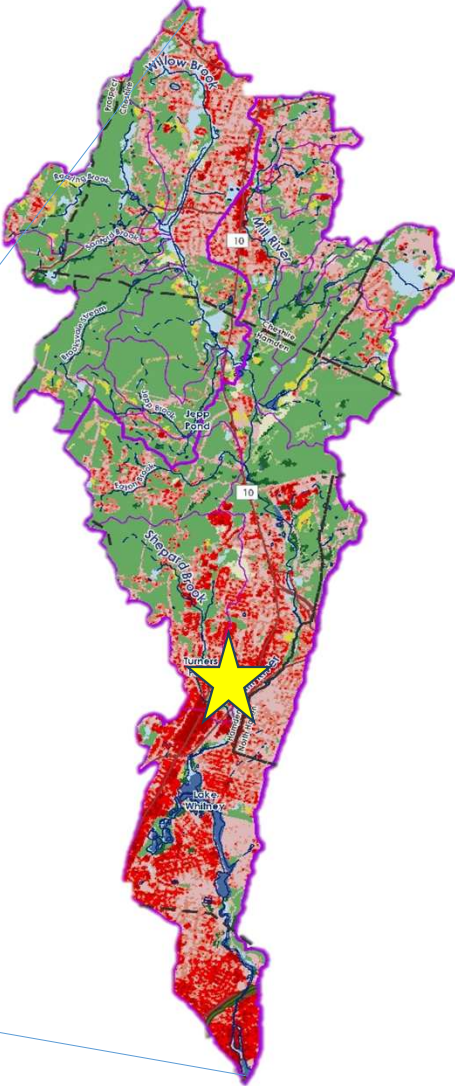
Mill River Watershed

38 SQUARE MILES

7 TRIBUTARIES

7 TOWNS

78,000
PEOPLE





Mill River Watershed Association



Mill River Watershed Based Plan

prepared by  FUSS & O'NEILL

SEPTEMBER 2018



Completed 2018

Our Motto
"Do unto Those downstream as
you would have those upstream
do unto you"
-Wendell Berry



River Advocates of SCC



Plan Implementation



Open Space Preservation



Green Infrastructure
Projects



Pollinator Pathway
programs

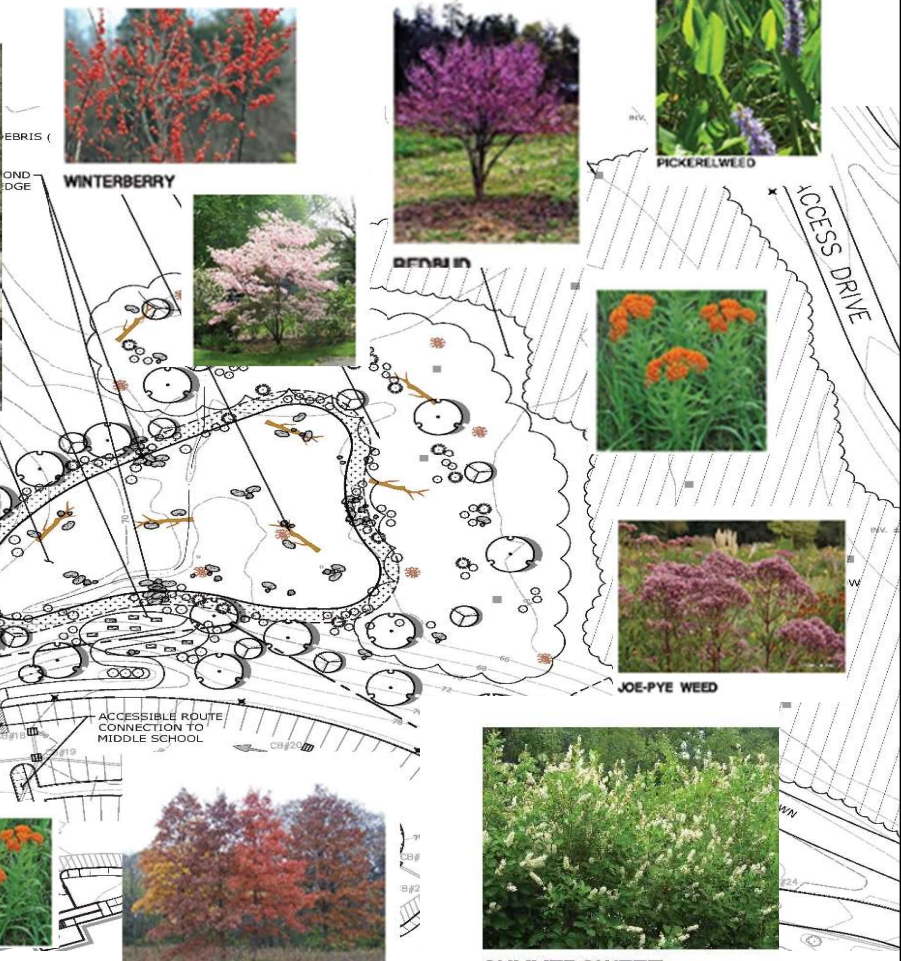


Community Outreach and
Steward Ship





Hamden Town Center Park Stormwater Project



SWAMP WHITE OAK
BLUE FLAG IRIS



BLUE FLAG IRIS
SWAMP WHITE OAK
VARIETY
JOE-PYE WEED



Sept- Watershed Plan Completed

Dec. 31 project contract signed

March – Global Pandemic Town Shuts Down



Dec – Town Engineer Position Vacant

March – Project Design finalized

May– Project Redesigned to address space concerns

April– Work Begins

Aug– Earth Work Completed

Knotweed Management & Stewardship

May- 319 proposal submitted

Feb 319 Awarded

Feb – Project Kick off & Draft Designs

Nov – New Administration Elected

Feb – New Engineer Hired

April– Permits Finalized construction planned for Summer

Sept– Redesign Requested by Park Commission

June- Work paused to address knotweed issues

Sept – Planting & Fishing Work

2026 – Final Planting!

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023

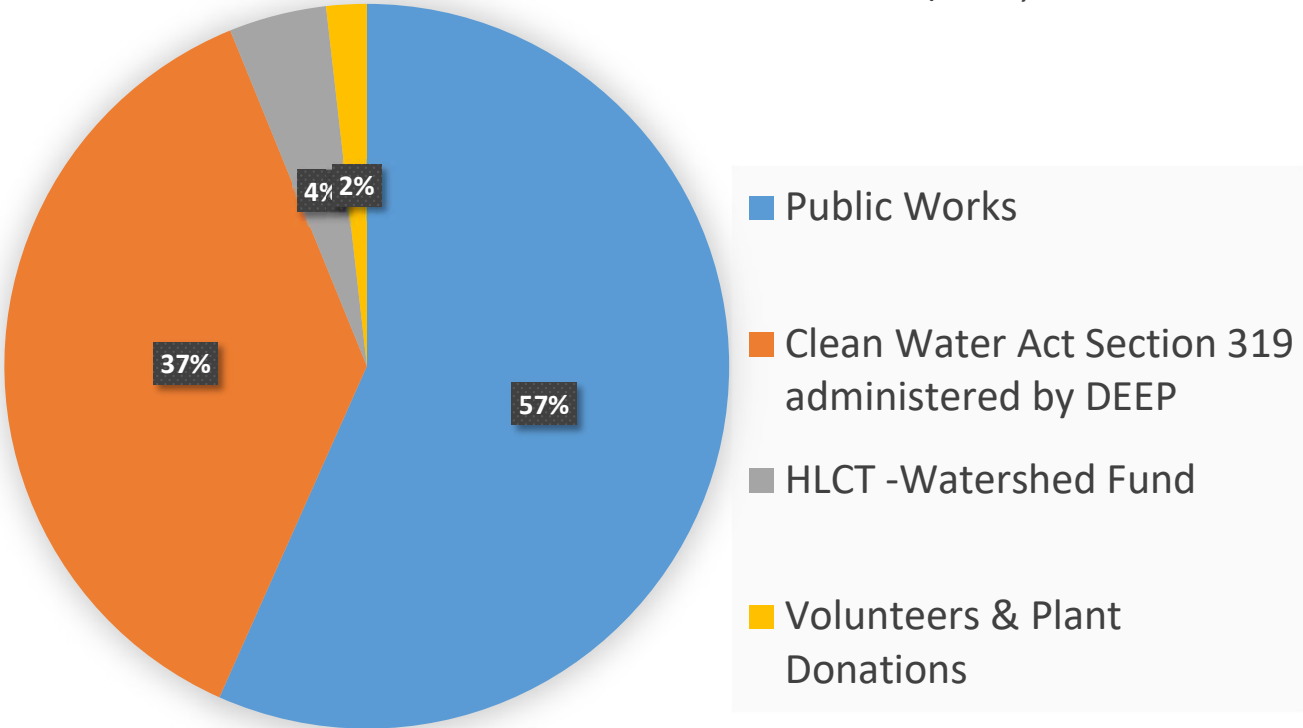
2024 - 2025

2026



Funding

Full Project Cost – \$723,000
Grant Funding - \$255,00
+ \$30,000 awarded to HLCT
In-kind Services - \$468,00



Additional Funding Awarded

DeLauro Congressional Award 2023 - \$96,000

Adaptive Management, Outreach & Stewardship 2024-2025

Blumenthal Congressional Award 2024 – \$80,000

Final Planting, Fencing & Additional Signage 2026

Hamden Middle School Teachers – 4 Benches



Hamden Town Center Park
Sunday, October 1
12 PM - 3 PM



Help us plant native
flowers, shrubs, and
grasses in our four acre
rain garden!





Town Center Park Rain Garden

Before





Credit – Chris Bresky January 10, 2024



Challenges: Stormwater Runoff

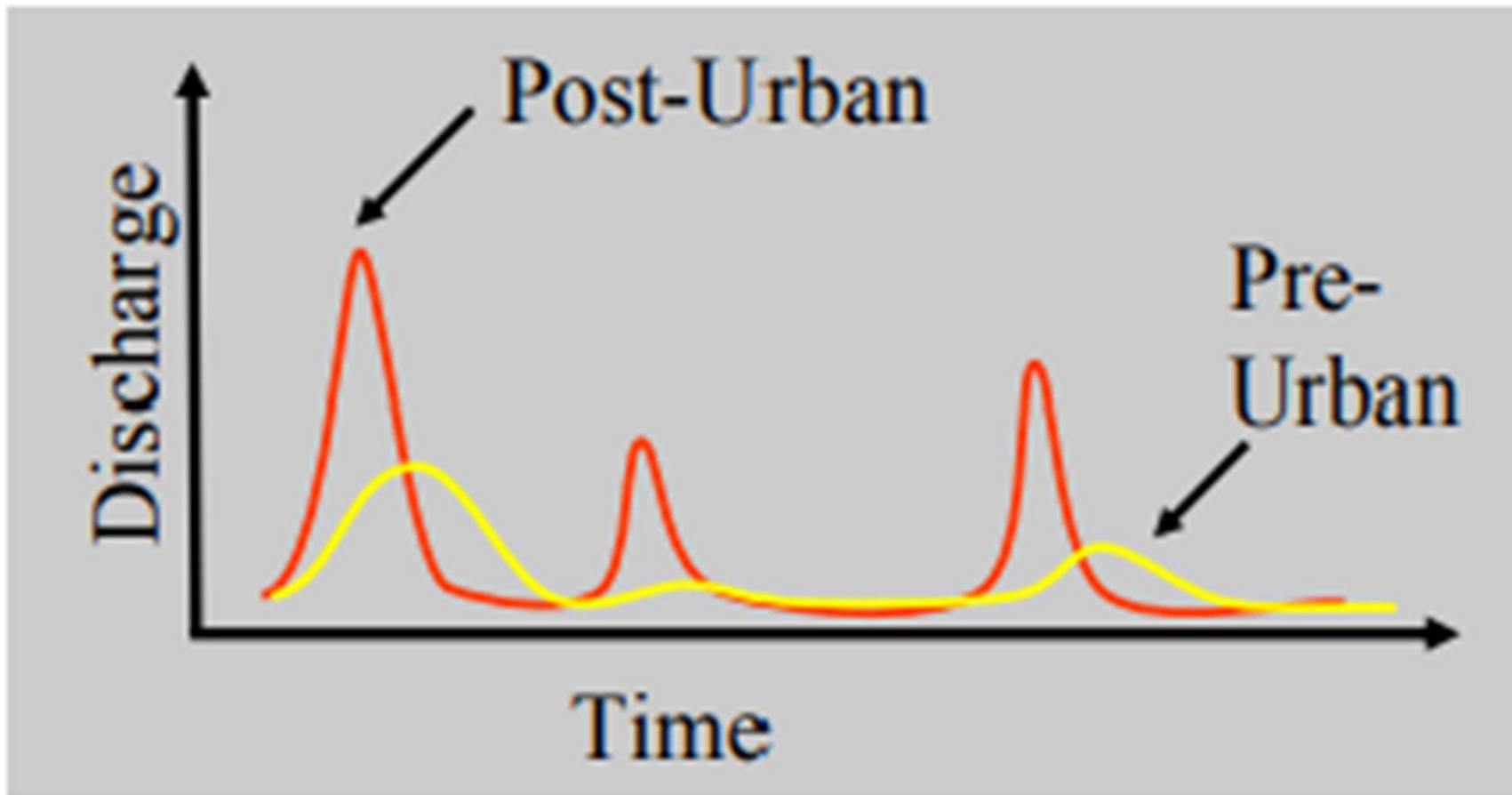


- Water pollution & trash
- Warmer stream temps
- Increased nutrients & sediment
- Localized flooding
- Erosion



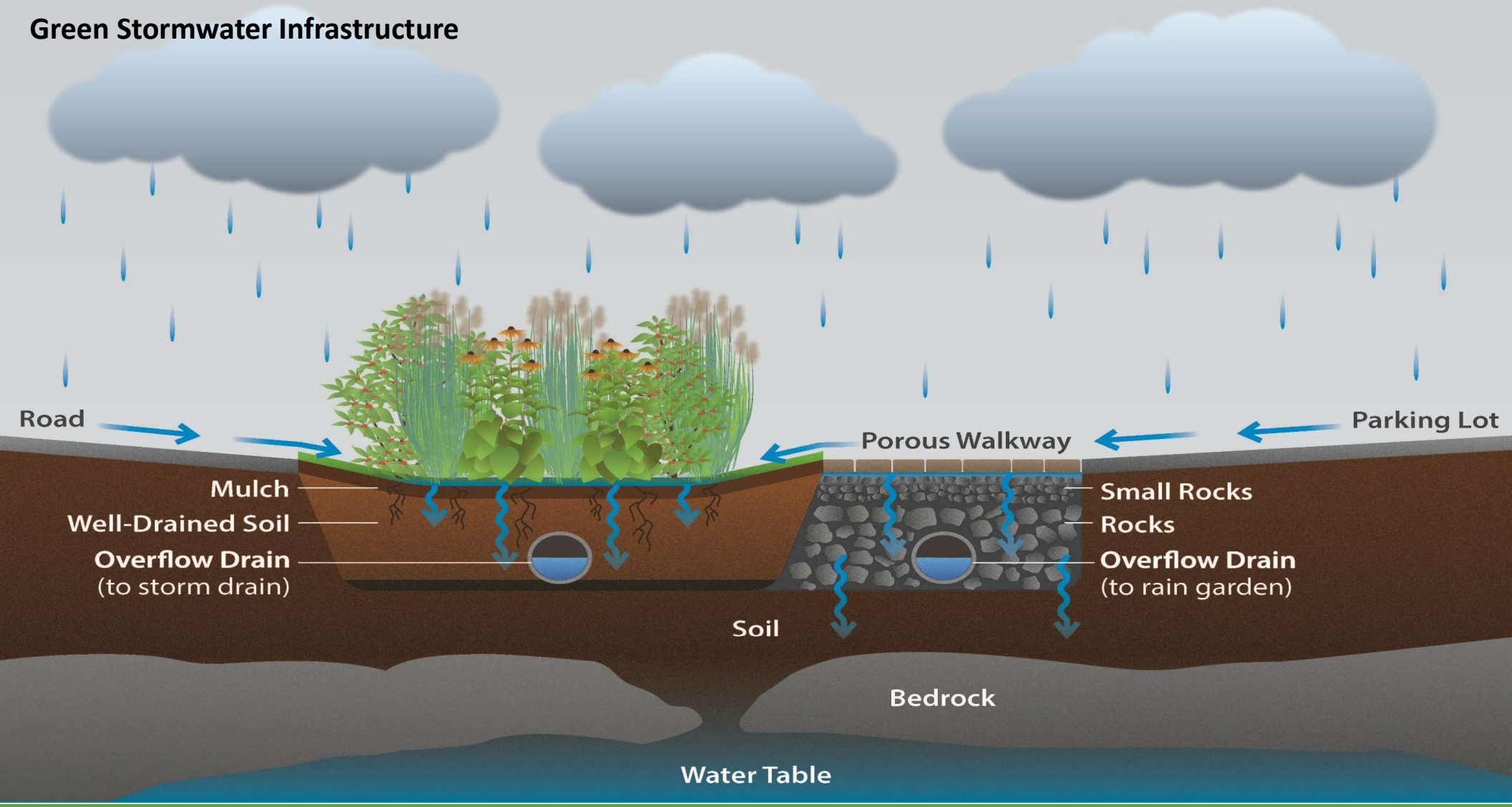


Challenges: Stormwater Runoff



Source: Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program Hydromodification Management Plan, 2005

Green Stormwater Infrastructure



Road

Parking Lot

Porous Walkway

Mulch
Well-Drained Soil
Overflow Drain
(to storm drain)

Small Rocks
Rocks
Overflow Drain
(to rain garden)

Soil

Bedrock

Water Table



Town Center Park Rain Garden Summer '24





Town Center Park Rain Garden Summer '24





MANAGING STORMWATER RAIN GARDENS & NATIVE PLANTS

December 5, 2024

Nicole Davis & Jim Sirch



The Hamden Land Conservation Trust



Our Mission:

The mission of the Hamden Land Conservation Trust is to protect and preserve open space in Hamden, and to educate the public about conservation issues.



The Claire C. Bennitt Watershed Fund, Inc.

REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY









for 50 Campaign

Wild Women

Ha
Co
Cele

rs



The Plants

- STS and HLCT Planted over 2,000 native plants – trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses
- Plants purchased from:
 - Rewild Native Plant Nursery, Canton, CT
 - Urbanscapes Native Plant Nursery, New Haven, CT
 - Earth Tones Native Plant Nursery, Woodbury, CT
 - North Central Conservation District Plant Sale
 - Long Island Natives, Eastport, NY



Joshua Mayer, CC BY-SA 2.0







Jason Hollinger CC BY 2.0



Pslawinski CC BY 4.0

Golden Alexanders *Zizia aurea*



Fritzflohreynolds, CC BY-SA 3.0

Black Swallowtail *Papilio polyxenes*



Photo by and (c)2009 Derek Ramsey (Ram-Man), GFDL 1.2



D. Gordon E. Robertson, CC BY-SA 3.0

Beach Plum *Prunus maritima*



AWINCH1001, CCO





Little Bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*



David J. Stang CC BY SA-4.0



Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*



Curt Kaiser CCO

Sweet Fern *Comptonia peregrina*



Krzysztof Ziarnek, Kenraiz, CC BY-SA 4.0

Swamp Milkweed *Asclepias incarnata*



© 2007 Derek Ramsey



Derek Ramsey



Helen's Flower *Helenium autumnale*



Agnieszka Kwiecien, Nova, CC BY-SA 4.0



Blue Flag Iris *Iris versicolor*

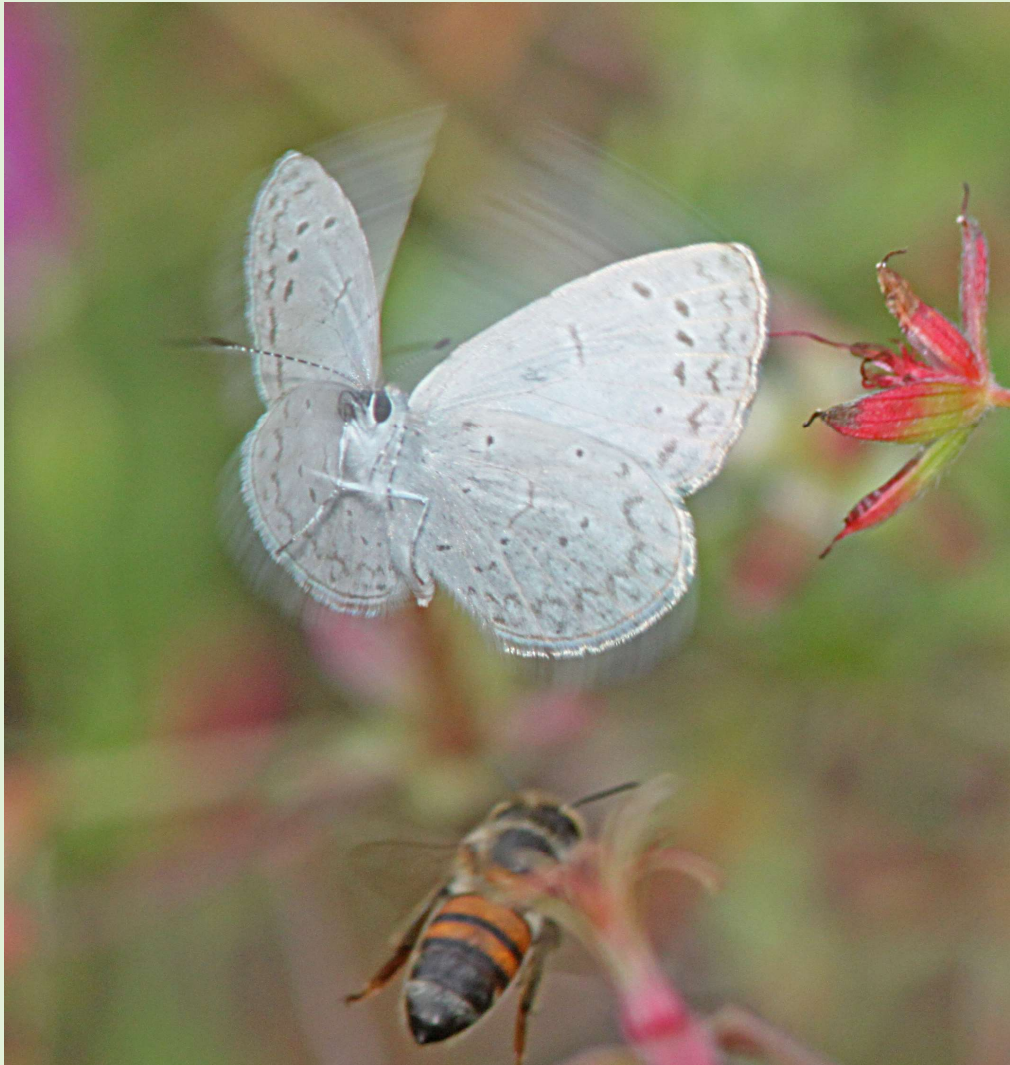


NasserHalaweh, CC BY-SA 4.0

Arrowwood *Viburnum dentatum*



Famartin, CC BY-SA 4.0





Rough-stemmed Goldenrod *Solidago rugosa*



Cephas, CC BY-SA 4.0

New England Aster *Symphyotricum novae-angliae*



Syrio, CC BY-SA 4.0





What's Next for the Town Center Park Rain Garden?



Now through 2026:

- Planting & Stewardship events throughout 2025
www.Savethesound.org
www.hlct.org
- Planting the large Rain Garden Pool in 2026
- Final Celebration Event in 2026!





Thank You!

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