23-1091 - Ledyard potential sites with maps

Draft Ledyard Proposed Projects List

APRIL 20, 2023

EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONSERVATION DISTRICT
238 West Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360

Highland Lake (goose poop issue)

639 Shewville Road, Ledyard, CT

Beach erosion is being caused by parking lot runoff. This site may benefit from 2 rain gardens. Blue arrows show the current direction of flow of stormwater runoff. Green areas demonstrate potential rain garden areas.

Garden 1 would be along the parking lot side of an existing stone wall, between the stone wall and the pavement to the opening to the beach access. An existing power pole may lead to buried utilities in the area. CBYD would need to be consulted prior to further planning this area. If this site selected, the stormwater overflow could be redirected to the eastern end of the stonewall to the grassy area. The swale can be extended to prevent any high-volume flow from being discharged onto any sandy surfaces. Curb stops may be needed to prevent cars from parking too close to the garden. (Curb stops would not be paid for by the grant.)

Garden 2 would be to the western end of an existing chain link fence to a grassy area. A grass pathway to the existing handicap picnic area would remain.

Additional recommendation for Highland Lake

Barrier fencing is a very effective method for excluding walking geese from your yard. This method consists of placing a physical barrier that geese cannot pass through between the water and the area you want to protect. Barrier fences can be purchased or constructed from woven wire, plastic construction fence, chain link, netting, wood, or boulders. Retractable fencing is also available from Lake Restoration, Inc. An effective barrier fence for walking Canada geese uses durable material with openings no larger than 3 inches by 3 inches that is at least 24 inches high. Before you build any fence, check local ordinances and subdivision covenants. However, low fences may also be a temporary solution when geese have young or are molting. For example, 5 strands of 20-pound-test monofilament fishing line, strung at 4, 8, 12, 18, and 24 inches above the ground will exclude walking geese. Flag the lines to warn people, and expect pets and wildlife to knock them awry.

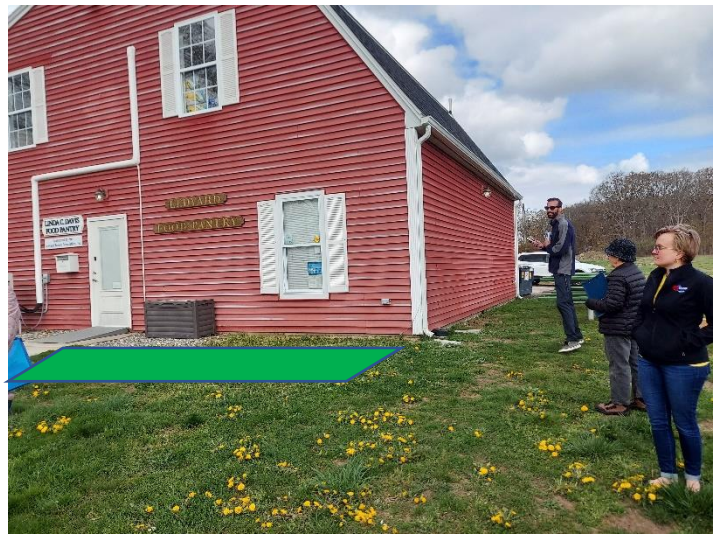
The downside of barrier fencing is that it would require staff to be on site to remove the fencing when the beach area is in use, and to close access to the beach when there is no human activity.

Signage regarding the hazards of feeding/attracting waterfowl may be available from CT Sea Grant.

Ledyard food pantry, 740 Colonel Ledyard Hwy Food by the farmers market pavilion

There are existing downspout on all building corners

The garden would be highly visible area near farmer's market.



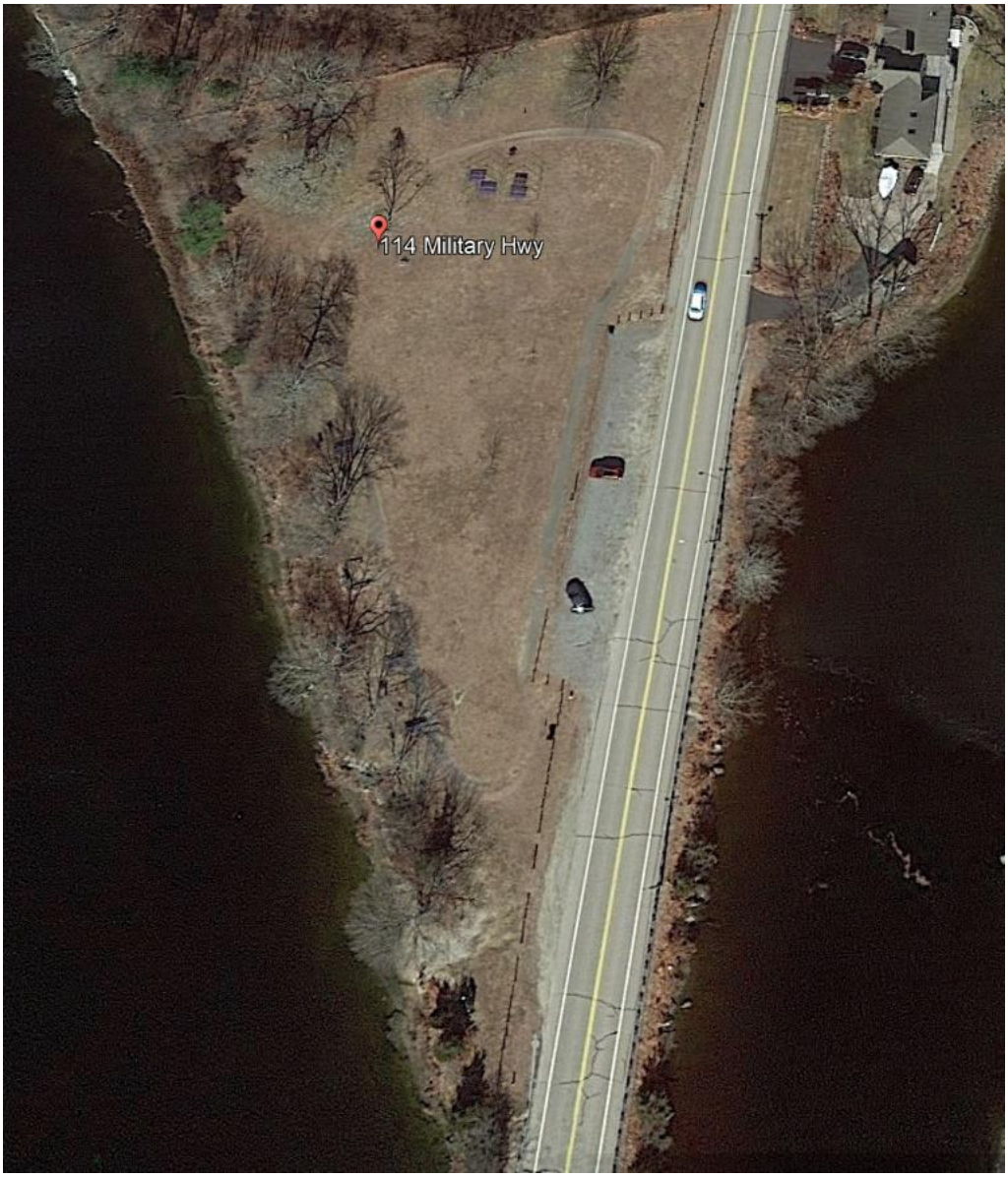
DPW planning to install a gravel strip around the building foundation. The existing outlet on the building corner would still be accessible.

In rain garden (green polygon in the above image) will be small enough to not interfere with existing uses of the area if designed to be square with the existing infrastructure.

In the above image, based on the roof area that drains to the downspout (blue polygon), the rain garden (green polygon) would be about 60 ft^2, or 6 x 10 feet.

Erikson Park Boat Launch area

114 Military Highway



This park was not reviewed.

Lantern Hill Valley Park – Enhanced riparian buffer along the lower portion of the park where a new boat launch is planned.

An existing riparian buffer in the lower section of this new park is 5 – 10 feet wide. The proposal is for volunteers to remove invasive species prior to enhancing the existing buffer to a wide of approximately 15 – 20 feet wide using native trees and shrubs. A gap will remain for car top boat access to Bush Pond.

Mugwort and Japanese knotweed are the dominant invasive plants in the lower area, with mugwort being established along the existing buffer and the Japanese knotweed more in the open area intended to be developed into a small parking area. Multiflora rose, garlic mustard and autumn olive were also noted in lesser amounts.

Measures to remove the mugwort would be recommended prior to planting native plants in the proposed enhanced riparian buffer area. Additional plantings could be established to prevent erosion in the upper section of this park.

Col Ledyard Park behind pavilion

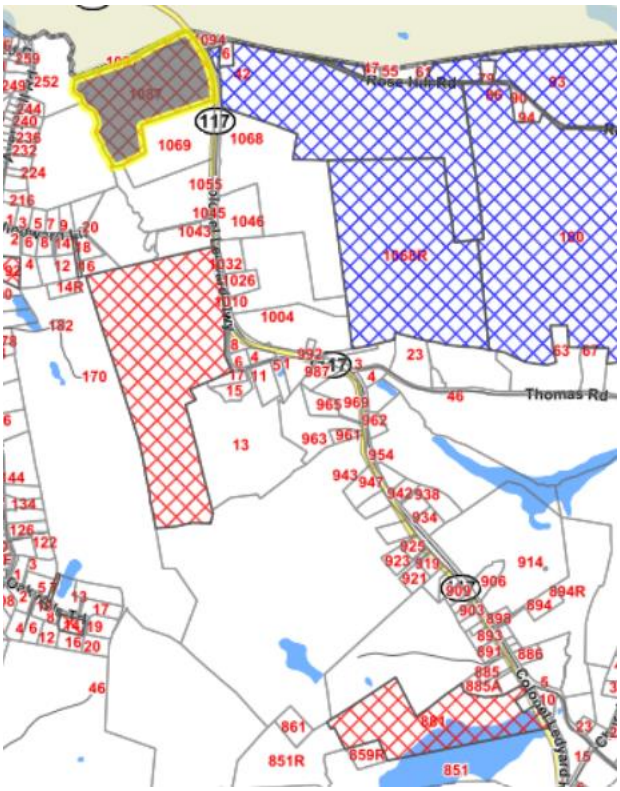
The pavilion roof has gutters but no downspouts.

There soil appeared compacted and rocky. A sizable patch of invasive mugwort was near the proposed site.

There was no nearby water resource for maintaining the rain garden as it is becoming established.

This site may not be suitable for installation of a rain garden.

Town of Ledyard Tri Town Trail Trailhead across from Preston Community Park



Northeast Utilties will be improving the parking area at this location within the next two months. There may be possible to request them to excavate a rain garden during that parking lot construction.

The existing land cover is an old farm field dominated by a type of golden rod. The site, as is, is already pollinator friendly. Golden rod is an aggressive grower and will likely take over the rain garden without a lot of intervention.

There is no onsite water resource for watering the rain garden.

This site was not favorable for the installation of a rain garden.

Sawmill Park, Iron Street

Old mill site, parking lot runoff drained to the pond.

The parking lot is upslope of Sawmill Pond. The main drainage path from the parking area is paved. Additional foot traffic from the parking area to the grassy area next to the pond has created substantial erosion.

Recommendation 1: install a rain garden planted with pollinator species in the area to the left of the paved parking lot leak off.

Recommendation 2: (not covered by the grant) discourage foot traffic on the fragile slope or install an appropriate reinforced walkway or stairs to the lower grassy areas where erosion is evident.

There is a natural low spot to the west, northwest of the paved leak off from the parking area. This area is in front of the stone retaining wall. If this area meets the perk test requirement, it would make a good location for a rain/pollinator garden.

The size of this garden will depend on the area of the upslope drainage.

Pfizer's Field
212 Stoddard Wharf Road
Gales Ferry

Proposed by UCONN Climate Corp students
Details not available at this time.
Drains towards Billings Avery Brook

Joe Clark Brook Riparian Buffer
Proposed by the UCONN Avery Point Climate Corp Students

Details not available at this time

Invasive species control

During our site visits, several invasive species were noted. The Connecticut Invasive Species Working Group created this calendar for invasive species management for several of the species we noted. https://cipwg.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/244/2022/11/CT-Invasive-Plant-List-2018_Common-Name-1.pdf

Individual fact sheets on invasive plant species can be downloaded at this website https://ipm.cahnr.uconn.edu/invasive-species-publications/