Urban River Restoration Success
Collaborating with local communities
Restoring Long Island Sound
Restoring Long Island Sound
Restoring Long Island Sound
Habitat Restoration Program Goal

Make all of Long Island Sound healthy for fish and wildlife
How We Work
Overview – Themes

1. Political Atmosphere
2. Devolution
3. Building on Success
dev·o·lu·tion ˌdevəˈloʊSHən/
noun

The transfer of authority from a higher level government to a lower level government.
Three Unique Restoration Projects

Major Drainage Basins in Connecticut

Data Source: CT Dept of Environmental Protection
Environmental and Geographic Information Center
West River Restoration – New Haven CT
Pequonnock Apron Fishway - Bridgeport CT
Haakonsen Fishway - Wallingford CT
Quinnipiac River Rain Garden Project

Building on Success
Wallingford CT
Quinnipiac River Groundwater Recharge

- 9 rain gardens at homes in Southington, CT
- 6600 square feet of roof runoff captured

Building on Success Wallingford CT
Replaced Tide Gates
West River, New Haven
Political Atmosphere – New Haven CT
West River Restoration – New Haven CT
West River Restoration – New Haven CT

Freshwater pond  Emergent freshwater tidal marsh
Volunteers plant the newly restored tidal marsh
Edgewood Park Duck Pond is now full of native tidal wetland species.
Menhaden shoaling upstream of tide gates
Pond Lily Dam Removal – New Haven CT
Pond Lily Dam Removal – New Haven CT

- Restores riparian ecosystem
- Reduces upstream flooding
- Eliminates a public safety hazard
- Fishway will be moved
Pequonnock River Restoration – Bridgeport
Political Atmosphere – Bridgeport CT

LYIN’ CHEATIN’ BASTARDS

The Problem ▼ The Bastards ▼ Blog ▼ Special Awards ▼

General Population

Joseph Ganim

P.T. Barnum
America’s Greatest Showman

Philip B. Kunhardt, Jr., Philip B. Kunhardt III, Peter W. Kunhardt
Political Atmosphere
Bridgeport
Devolution
Bridgeport CT
Pequonnock River Restoration – Bridgeport
Pequonnock River Restoration – Bridgeport

Building on Success
Bridgeport CT
Green Infrastructure – Bridgeport CT
Lessons Learned

1. Political Atmosphere
   Be sensitive to local politics.

2. Devolution
   Projects need to benefit the environment, infrastructure, and taxpayers.

3. Building on Success
   Good relationships make all the difference

4. Finish Strong
   End projects neatly (to the best of your ability)
Thank you!