

QUINNIPIAC RIVER FUND FINAL REPORT- 2019

Please complete and submit completed form via e-mail to dcanning@cfgnh.org at The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven by March 31, 2020 (or as otherwise stated on the terms of grant).

Date: March 31, 2020

Group/Organization Name: Quinnipiac University

Address: 275 Mount Carmel Ave

City, State, & Zip: 275 Mount Carmel Ave, Hamden, CT, 06518

Telephone #: 203-582-6420

Project Name: Monitoring, Identifying and Quantifying known pollutants from industrial outflows along the Quinnipiac River, specifically industrial areas in Wallingford and North Haven.

Grant Number: 20191534

Name & title of person completing this form: Courtney McGinnis, Associate Professor of Biology

E-mail address: Courtney.mcginnis@qu.edu

Please respond to the following statements:

1. List the specific objectives/outcomes of the project and tell how they were met during the grant period. Also, provide an update on any special conditions of the grant (if applicable).
 - A. Collect and analyze water from the Quinnipiac River at the industrial discharge points at Toelles Road, and at other predetermined locations in Wallingford, North Haven and the River's tidal marshes, in order to identify the presence of chemical pollutants.
 - o Water samples were collected nine different times over the course of the year at the predetermined sampling sites in Wallingford and North Haven. The main findings include several different hydrocarbons, bisphenol A, and trifluoroacetic acid.

B. Measure water quality and climatic parameters, primarily water temperature, at sample sites during collection.

- Water temperatures were taken during each collection, at each site.

C. Communication to the community-at-large, our results will be disseminated by the Public Relations Department at Quinnipiac University to local newspapers like the New Haven Independent.

- The research was presented at the Quinnipiac University Biology Poster Session, December 2019 and we had been scheduled to present our findings at the Society of Toxicology conference March 14-18th but the conference was canceled because of COVID-19.

2. Please share your successes, challenges and any lessons learned through the implementation of your project. Were there any unintended consequences or lessons learned that may affect how you operate your program moving forward?

We were able to get out into the field on many times, but we have learned that weather and depth of the river is important to take into account for our findings. While weather is not always predictable or stable, we attempted to complete collections on dry days where rain had not occurred within the last 48 hours. Several times we had planned on collecting but due to rainfall, our plans had to be modified. Additionally, in April Hamden reported to have received 8 inches of rain and another 6 inches in May, so when we began our collections the rivers were very high. Moving forward we will collect on days that a rain event has not occurred for 72 hours.

3. What are the opportunities and needs of your organization as it continues to move forward with its work to positively impact the Quinnipiac River?

We need to be able to continuously monitor the river for point source and non-point source pollutants. This will provide us with a comprehensive understanding of chemical components in the river will allow us to work with municipalities or engineers at Quinnipiac to implement best practices to have a positive impact on the Quinnipiac River.

Also, please email a photo or image that can be uploaded along with your report to The Quinnipiac River Fund website to dcanning@cfgnh.org.