



Connecticut Fund
for the Environment

Save the Sound®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 11, 2017

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MONDAY: Save the Sound to break ground, start construction on new green infrastructure projects at Beardsley Zoo

New rain-loving gardens and porous pavement will filter stormwater before it pollutes the Pequonnock River, Long Island Sound

Bridgeport, Conn. – Save the Sound, a bi-state program of Connecticut Fund for the Environment, will break ground on Monday for the construction of two new bioretention gardens and the installation of new porous pavement at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo. The rain-loving gardens and porous walkway will help capture and filter polluted stormwater runoff from the zoo's parking lot to prevent it from flowing into the nearby Pequonnock River and Long Island Sound.

The Beardsley Zoo green infrastructure project, a partnership between CFE/Save the Sound and Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo, was launched in April 2016 with the installation of one rain garden and a small segment of a porous walkway. This latest phase of the project will increase the amount of stormwater that can be captured from the parking lot and allowed to percolate in the soil before releasing clean water into the Pequonnock River. The rain garden and walkway's prominent location in a highly-trafficked Connecticut tourism destination serves as a learning laboratory and public education site for visitors to the zoo.

On Wednesday, October 18, Save the Sound will co-host a green stormwater infrastructure workshop with the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) at the Beardsley Zoo as part of the new construction phase. Participants will learn the fundamentals of green stormwater infrastructure from an in-depth presentation with NOFA accredited professional Trevor Smith and gain hands-on experience working with porous pavers at the green infrastructure construction site.

Phase two of the Beardsley Zoo green infrastructure project is generously supported by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Long Island Sound Futures Fund, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation, Jeniam Foundation, and Newman's Own Foundation.

What: Construction of rain gardens and porous walkway

Where: Beardsley Zoo
1875 Noble Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06610

When: Monday, October 16, 2017
8:30 a.m. groundbreaking

Wednesday, October 18, 2017
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. workshop

Who: Anna Marshall, Save the Sound green projects associate
Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo
Northeast Organic Farming Association

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