

CASSI CARPIO - ASSISTANT PROJECT COORDINATOR



ECO member Cassandra Carpio, who goes by Cassi, is serving up in Franklin County with the Friends of Northern Lake Champlain (FNLC). Over the course of the fall she was able to participate in a variety of events beginning with Lake Lessons for kids right at the beginning of the service year. She was able to water sample for one site within the Rock River for the La Rosa Partnership with the Vermont DEC. She organized two different tree plantings with 46 Bakersfield and Fairfield Middle School students and 5 faculty, planting a total of 375 trees in late October and early November. Cassi was contacted in the fall by faculty at Georgia Elementary and Middle School about a potential green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) project at the schools. The schools wanted to learn more about stormwater management in order to make decisions about installation of GSI on the properties. Cassi was able to sit down with some faculty and administration of the schools and discuss GSI techniques and applicability as well as next steps for the schools. She helped to write a grant proposal for some rain garden installation and is excited to hopefully move this project forward with Georgia Elementary and Middle schools. When things started winding down at FNLC, Cassi picked up a few projects for the Northwest Regional Planning Commission. Cassi is developing a plant resource manual for rain garden and shoreline stability use, complete with nurseries where plants are available for purchase. This resource will be of immense use to someone undergoing a rain garden or shoreline project. She has also started to organize for a stream clean up Stevens Brook in St. Albans. For the winter season at FNLC, Cassi is delving into past projects that they have done in order to outline their impact on the area over the past 17 years and highlight it through social media. For future projects, she is excitingly waiting to hear back about some grant proposals submitted late last year. Can't wait to see what the spring holds for you Cassi!