

Sustainable Watershed Initiative For Thames River (SWIFT)

Once Pequot and Mohegan waters, thriving with life,
The Thames River, now a ribbon of strife.

In Connecticut, where the river flows,
SWIFT plunges in, to examine the woes.

With collaborative hearts, and a determined will,
We come to heal, and to instill

Salmon and sturgeon, a bounty so grand,
Fed native people, by a generous hand.

Colonists followed, drawn to the shore,
Building their cities, forevermore.

Shipyards arose, the Coast Guard took root,
Navy submarines silent, their secrets to loot.

Now shadows of industry darken the shore,
Factories spew, the river implores.

Industry boomed, a price to be paid,
Pollution's dark stain on the river displayed.

Flat Brook whispers a sorrowful tale,
Of septic spills and bacteria's trail.

Heavy metals linger, a legacy grim,
From factories' chimneys, a toxic whim.

COVANTA's breath, a toxic embrace,
Heavy metals seep, a cancerous trace.

Anadromous dreams of upstream to roam,
Hindered by concrete dams, far from their home.

Fish find no solace, their journeys blocked,
By dams that stand tall, their progress locked.

Endangered Species Act, a shield for the few,
Restoring the balance, the natural and true.

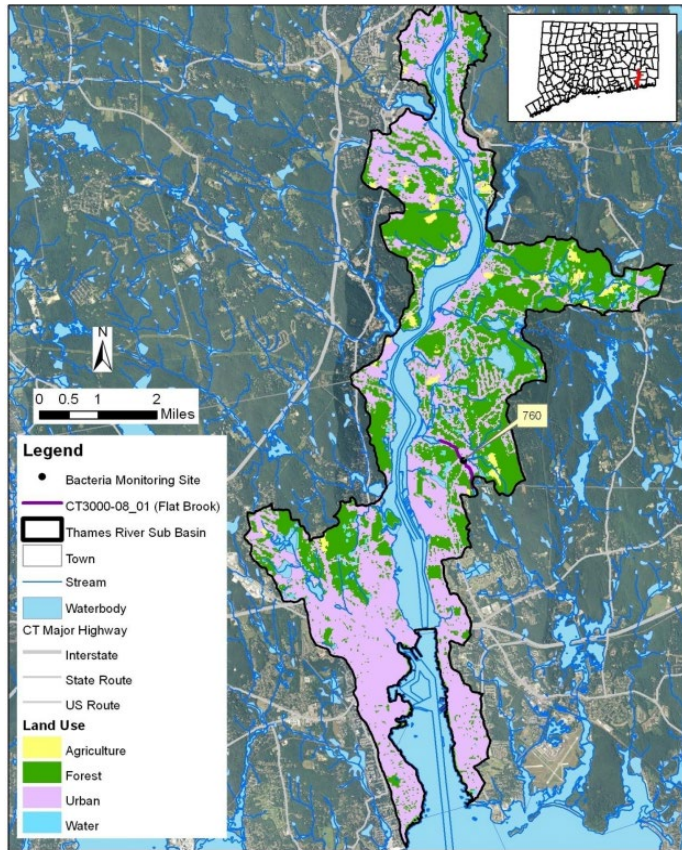
CT DEEP with wisdom to be seen,
The path to restoration, a future so green.

Regulations rise, a protective hand,
Cleaning the waters, across the land.

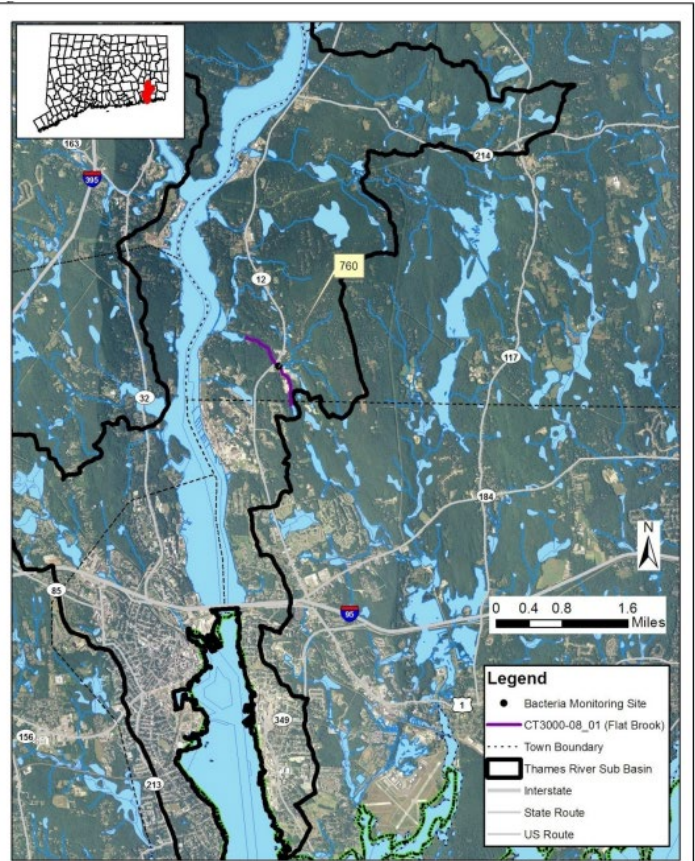
Stormwater solutions, to filter the rain,
Riparian buffers, to bring back the plain.

Wastewater treatment, a future more bright,
For the river's revival, a collaborative fight

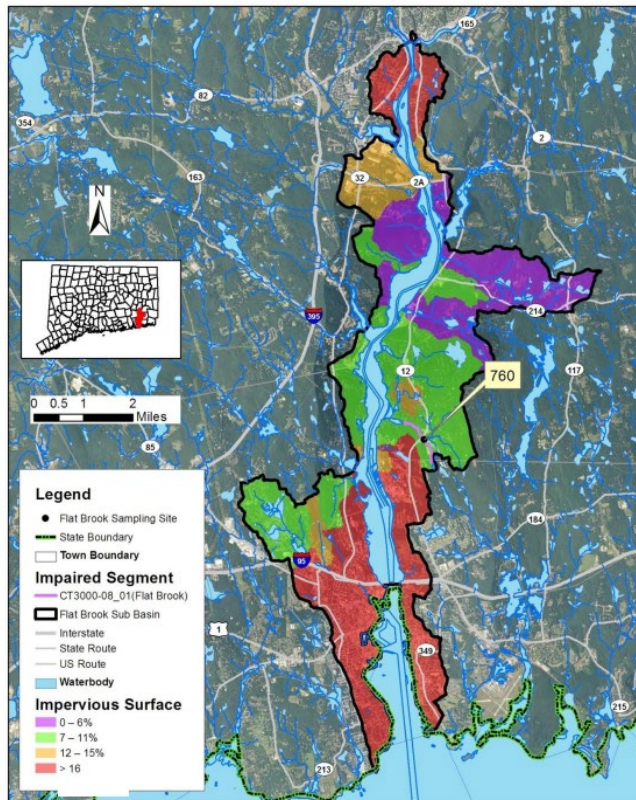
For the legacy lives, for those who came first,
To value the river, and bring back its thirst.



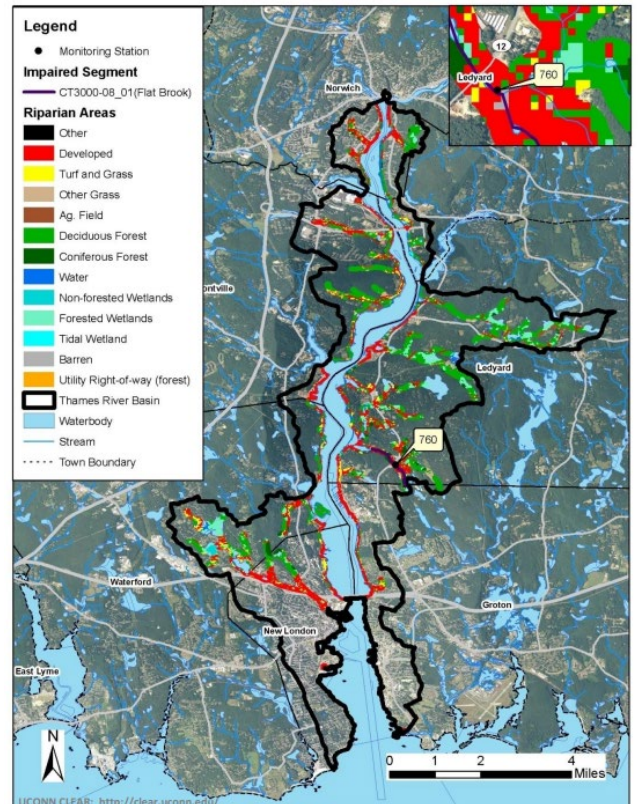
Thames River Sub-Regional Basin Land Use Map
Created October 2011 MAP Data: DEEP



Bacteria Impairments In The Thames River Sub Regional Basin
Map Data: DEEP Map Created: December 2011



Impervious Surfaces In The Thames Sub Regional Basin
Created October 2011 MAP Data: CT DEEP



Riparian Areas In The Thames River Sub - Regional Basin
Map Data: DEEP/UConn CLEAR Map Created: January 2012

