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April 1, 2014

RE: Hatch Pond Watershed Based Plan  
Watershed Planning Committee Invitation  
Kick-off Meeting on April 11, 2014 at 7:00 pm

The South Kent School was recently awarded a grant from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to draft a Watershed Based Plan for the Hatch Pond Watershed. Hatch Pond is an extremely important resource for our local area residents as we look to our pond as a place where we can come together to boat, swim and meet others to develop a cohesive community spirit. We hope you will consider an invitation to be part of the Watershed Planning Committee. As a part of this planning committee, we will have the opportunity to discuss how we can integrate all of our actions on our land and in our waters for a stronger and more sustainable future.

This project will be led by South Kent School, Fuss & O'Neill and Water Resource Services with support from the Northwest Conservation District. The Hatch Pond Watershed Based Plan will become a comprehensive planning document that will assess, summarize and plan to address water quality in our watershed. Over many years, our community has had the great fortune to have many interested town officials and residents, land trusts and non-profit groups working to understand the history of the use of Hatch Pond and the property in the watershed. We now have the opportunity to develop a broad plan that consolidates past work on our watershed, assesses current conditions and proposes future projects for improved water quality.

The primary goals for developing this watershed based plan are:

- Characterize existing pond and watershed conditions by incorporating current data and information available on the Hatch Pond Watershed
- Identify and assess current water quality problems and issues in the watershed
- Investigate regional land and water issues
- Integrate how we look at water quality, stream flow, pond health, aquatic and riparian habitat and local land use,
- Propose projects to address stormwater and non-point sources of pollution with a focus on sustainable agricultural practices and land development
- Prioritize those projects to reduce pollutants to the watershed and ultimately improve water quality in the Hatch Pond watershed.

The Hatch Pond Watershed Based Plan will incorporate the nine watershed management planning elements required by EPA and DEEP for future funding of plan recommendations



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through the 319 Non-point Source Pollution and similar state and federal grant programs. Briefly states, these elements are:

1. Identify causes of pollution
2. Estimate pollutant loading into the watershed and expected load reductions
3. Describe management measures
4. Estimate amount of technical and financial assistance and authorities to implement the plan
5. Develop information outreach and education about the plan and implementation
6. Develop an initial project schedule
7. Describe measurable milestones
8. Identify indicators to measure progress
9. Develop a monitoring component

We hope you will accept this invitation to be part of the Watershed Planning Committee. It will be an open and fluid group that will include representatives from South Kent School, DEEP, Fuss & O'Neill, Water Resource Services, municipal representatives from the watershed communities, government organizations, non-profit organizations and other interested partners who live and work in the watershed.

Planning Committee members are invited to attend all meetings, review and provide comments on draft documents at key stages in the plan revision process and attend ongoing workshops related to overall environmental health and sustainability in CT.

We also hope that Planning Committee members will invite additional members of the community to learn about the Hatch Pond watershed and to participate in not only the development of the plan, but the implementation of the actions that will one day restore Hatch Pond Watershed back to the original beauty.

With receipt of this email invitation, please consider attending the kickoff meeting on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 7:00 at South Kent School. You can decide if or how you would like to be a part of this project. If you are available and would like to attend, please email confirmation to [haverstockm@southkentschool.org](mailto:haverstockm@southkentschool.org) with your name and any additional members of our community that may like to attend with you. Please place "Hatch Pond WBP" in the subject line of your email. We look forward to a very exciting project in our watershed.

Sincerely,  
Richard Chavka, Associate Head of School  
Director, Center of Innovation