



Progress Report: East Lyme's Overlook Park

R.S. De Santo, East Lyme Public Trust Foundation, Inc.

Since the last progress report you read here in November, 2011, work on the reconstruction of East Lyme's Overlook Park and coastal walkway has progressed very substantially and remains on schedule for completion in the summer of 2013. The illustration above was recently taken from the top of the new Niantic River railroad bridge control house which you can see as you cross the Route 156 highway bridge. The railroad bridge control house still had a Christmas tree on top when this report was written and which may still be there.

Environmental permits were issued to Amtrak by the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection that require 76,000 cubic yards of sand be added along the shore front in order to give a "kick start" to the natural process of beach accretion (i.e. growth). That accretion will result due to the 230 foot long groin constructed at the easterly end of the project adjacent to the Niantic River. This accretion is predicted to create at least 8-9 acres of new beach between the groin and a point more or less opposite the Niantic River Transmission Company's garage on Route 156

Illustrated above, trucks haul sand from a single Connecticut gravel pit in Canterbury to the work site. The sand is then loaded into two Volvo Articulated Haulers (A40Ds), each with a capacity of 40 cubic yards or 30 tons. They then distribute the sand to the working face of the growing beach where it is spread by a bulldozer to create an 88' wide beach at Elevation +6.0.

Also noted in this illustration is the handicapped access ramp and the Overlook walkway that runs along the top of the new sea wall, armored at its base with two courses of angular 3.4 ton trap rock brought by barge from the Tilcon Quarry in North Branford.

For more information on progress see: publictrustfoundation.org/news.htm

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