

## *Section II: Ecological and Hydrological Context*

*“Praise be, my Lord, for Sister Water.  
Who is most useful, humble, precious  
and chaste.”*

*– St. Francis of Assisi*

Planning and implementing urban, wetland restoration requires an understanding of the biophysical context. Development throughout the watershed, pollution, and physical impediments to water flow all constrain potential restoration alternatives and goals. The three papers in this section describe some of the ways in which the landscape sets the context for salt marsh restoration in New Haven’s West River.

