



2021 SNEP Watershed Grants Summary of Selected Awards 1 September 2021

Restore America's Estuaries (RAE), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has selected 14 local organizations for \$1.75 million in new federal funding under the 2021 round of Southeast New England Program (SNEP) Watershed Grants. The recipients were selected through a competitive process; nearly 40 applications were submitted, totaling \$7.65 million in requests. The 14 projects selected for funding are:

Rhode Island Grants

Bristol County Water Authority | Restoring the Ecological Resiliency of the Kickemuit River Estuary | \$80,000

Design and permitting to remove two dams on the Kickemuit River in Warren, R.I. The dam removals will restore a tidal estuary, create habitat for estuarine species, facilitate marsh migration, improve the river's water quality by increasing tidal flushing, and increase community resiliency by restoring the flood plain and reducing road flooding. Although the dams are in Rhode Island, the project will restore the river in both Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

City of Woonsocket | Truman Drive Green Infrastructure Parkway | \$187,500

This project will transform an underutilized public road into a linear park providing co-benefits to the City's residents and businesses. The project removes 1.5 travel lanes and converts them into landscape elements that treat stormwater. The City invested in a concept design and is now advancing to the design/permitting stage.

Town of Middletown | Maidford River and Floodplain Restoration Phase 2 | \$121,800

Using both nature-based and infrastructure-based solutions to realign and restore the Maidford River in Middletown, RI, this project will reduce flooding, restore ecosystems, manage nutrients, and improve drinking water quality. Funding will bring the concept from a 30% design to final design and permitting with future implementation planned.

Groundwork Rhode Island | Private Property Green Infrastructure Maintenance Assessment and Support | \$238,274

Groundwork Rhode Island will work with the Narragansett Bay Commission and other non-profit partners to install improve stormwater management on private property through outreach, assessment, training and on-the-ground support.



Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation | Planning a Ghost Gear Removal Program for Rhode Island | \$17,385

This project develops a sustainable plan for removing abandoned fishing gear from Rhode Island waters. A planning document will detail how to finance, locate, remove, and dispose of ghost gear. An expert and stakeholder workshop will review the plan. Community meetings will share the plan.

City of Cranston | Urban Green Infrastructure Construction Projects, Spectacle Pond Watershed | \$150,000

Spectacle Pond is an urban pond with a phosphorous impairment that is the cause of algal blooms. Restoring water quality will improve its ecological value to the adjacent urban neighborhoods. This project will continue Cranston's work in constructing green infrastructure within the watershed, building on past successes.

Clean Ocean Access | Land to Sea Speaker Series | \$15,000

Multi-month series of community building peer-to-peer learning events meant to build partnerships within the communities of Newport County and foster a multi-generational conversation and sense of collaboration regarding watershed stewardship. Speakers will present on past, present, and future work funded by SNEP and include panel discussion with stakeholders and practitioners.

Town of Tiverton | Tiverton Fogland Beach and Conservation Area Phase 1 Resiliency Project | \$34,700

Complete design and permitting to manage and treat stormwater runoff and improve coastal resiliency at Tiverton's Fogland Beach and Conservation Area. This area is extremely vulnerable to storm surge and environmental quality degradation.

City of Pawtucket | Tidewater Landing | \$300,000

The Tidewater Landing project is an exciting public-private partnership that will transform Pawtucket's waterfront through construction of a soccer stadium, public park and walkway, and mixed-use development. This funding will support large-scale stormwater improvements, complementing the \$284 million in private funding and \$46 million in public funding for the larger project.

Massachusetts Grants

Groundwork Southcoast | Developing the North End (of New Bedford) Resilience District | \$100,000

Groundwork Southcoast will work with an environmental justice community in New Bedford to create a master plan for the North End Resilience District, in order to improve open space and environmental quality for the community and improve



water quality in the Acushnet River and Buzzards Bay. The project will include pilot installations, stormwater mitigation, outreach and peer to peer youth training.

Mass Audubon | Broad Meadow Brook Wetland and Stream Restoration | \$74,800

This grant will fund restoration design for Broad Meadow Brook at the headwaters of the Blackstone River, in order to provide ecological and social benefits to the region, including flood storage, floodplain connection, wetland habitat enhancement, and water quality improvement. Restoring the site will enhance valuable recreational and educational opportunities within an urban setting and environmental justice community.

Sheriff's Meadow Foundation | Roth Woodlands Stream Restoration Culvert Replacement | \$138,842

Sheriff's Meadow Foundation will restore ecological functions to the head waters of Mill Brook, a stream within a conservation area on Martha's Vineyard, by replacing two undersized culverts with a larger box culvert.

Harwich Conservation Trust | Hinckley's Pond - Herring River Headwaters Eco-Restoration Project | \$146,700

The grant will fund data collection, design, and permitting to restore a 174-acre watershed, including 30 acres of retired cranberry bogs, 500 feet of pond shoreline, public trails and student learning opportunities.

Association to Preserve Cape Cod | Stormwater Management at Public Boat Ramps | \$148,871

A regional assessment of public boat ramps in the SNEP region of Cape Cod to identify and prioritize sites for green infrastructure stormwater management. Concept designs will be developed for 20 top-ranked sites with 25% and 75% design plans to be developed for five installations.

The \$1.75 million in 2021 SNEP Watershed Grants will be matched by a comparable amount of non-federal funds pledged by the grant recipients and their partners, resulting in nearly \$3.6 million in new funding for local projects to improve the coastal environment of Southeast New England.

For more information about SNEP Watershed Grants, contact:

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Or visit www.snepgrants.org

For more on EPA's Southeast New England Program, see www.epa.gov/snep