



## **The Narragansett Bay Watershed Coastal Training Program Strategy Document May 2003**

### **Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve**

#### **Introduction**

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NBNERR), Rhode Island Sea Grant at the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center (RISG/CRC), and the Environmental Protection Agency Region 1 (EPA) have established a strong partnership to maintain and improve the quality of our region's natural and cultural resources within the Rhode Island and the Narragansett Bay watershed. The project team will achieve this goal through the Narragansett Bay Watershed Coastal Training Program (NBWCTP). The NBWCTP will provide coastal decision-makers within the Narragansett Bay watershed with the necessary capacity to make informed decisions about how to use and manage Narragansett Bay and its watershed. The NBWCTP will also serve as a forum to enhance coordination and communication among trainers and educators who will provide coastal decision-makers with technical support on issues relating to the Bay and its watershed.

The NBWCTP will partner with appropriate institutions to provide municipal volunteers and staff within the Narragansett Bay watershed with technical information and skills on the identified topics relating to the Bay and its watershed. Municipal volunteers are individuals serving on conservation and harbor commissions, planning, economic development and zoning boards, municipal land trusts, councils, and boards of selectmen.

Although the market analysis shows that this audience is often targeted, the needs assessment showed that there is still a great demand for accurate, useful, science-based information by municipal officials in the categories of economic development/growth, planning/management, science, and public administration. A survey of Rhode Island municipal volunteers by the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension and Grow Smart RI in 2000 identified a need for additional training and/or education, the recommendations from the Narragansett Bay Summit 2000 indicated a need to address local officials on the effects of land use on coastal resources, and although these audiences may often be targeted, the quality and usefulness of the information they are receiving can not be determined through the market analysis.

Municipal volunteers are required to make decisions that directly impact the health of Narragansett Bay and its watershed. Their decisions also ideally meet citizen needs and desires for social well-being, economic development and natural resource protection, while preserving and enhancing the unique character of the community. Municipal staff are paid employees including planners, conservation agents, town clerks and managers. Municipal staff are responsible for making decisions and providing the volunteer councils, boards and commissions with the necessary technical assistance to make educated decisions for their community.

The program presented in this strategy document contributes to achieving strategic Goals 1 (Improve coastal decision making by generating and transferring knowledge about coastal ecosystems) and Goal 3 (Increase awareness, use, and support of the reserve system and its estuarine science, education, and stewardship programs) of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System's 2003-2006 Action Plan.

## **Background**

During 2002 and 2003 the NBWCTP project team implemented a market analysis and needs assessment with the purpose of guiding future training, education and outreach efforts in Rhode Island and the Narragansett Bay watershed. The market analysis and the needs assessment included responses from both Rhode Island and Massachusetts because Narragansett Bay and its watershed are located in both of these states. In fact, sixty percent of the Narragansett Bay watershed is located in Massachusetts. The market analysis surveyed institutions that provide training, education and/or outreach to coastal decision-makers in the Narragansett Bay watershed to identify their audience, the topics they offer, methods used to provide this information, and suggested gaps in education and training for decision-makers influencing the well-being of Narragansett Bay and its watershed. The needs assessment asked municipal volunteers and staff what topics and techniques they were interested in learning about that would improve their ability to make informed decisions about how to use and manage the Bay and its watershed and how they would like the information to be presented. The findings and recommendations from these two documents are the basis of this strategy document.

## **The NBW CTP Program**

***Our Vision:*** Municipalities within the Narragansett Bay watershed are applying diverse techniques towards protecting and maintaining the quality of Narragansett Bay's natural resources.

***Our Role:*** In partnership with other institutions, provide municipal volunteers and staff with appropriate and best available science-based information, tools, and techniques to help them to better manage the natural resources of Narragansett Bay and its watershed.

**Our Issues:** Wetlands ecology, impact of invasive species, endangered species in the community, urban sprawl, recreation/tourism development (as it affects the Bay), planning town-wide greenways (as it affects the Bay), and water supply and quality are priority issues. A complete list of both priority and secondary issues can be found in attachment 1.

**Our Audience:**

Priority: Councilmen, selectmen, planning board members, and conservation commission members.

Secondary: Harbor commission, economic development, zoning board, and municipal land trust members

**Our Objectives:**

The NBWCTP training coordinator will work with existing and future partners to design, implement and evaluate the following objectives:

**1. Partner with institutions already providing information and training to municipal volunteers and staff.**

Description: According to the NBWCTP market analysis, there is a great number of institutions offering trainings, technical assistance and developing educational materials to municipal volunteers and staff on the NBWCTP issues. The NBWCTP will partner with many of these institutions to bolster these existing initiatives.

Specific Issues: Wetlands ecology, impact of invasive species, endangered species in the community, urban sprawl, recreation/tourism development (as it affects the Bay), planning town-wide greenways (as it affects the Bay), and water supply and quality are priority issues. A complete list of both priority and secondary issues can be found in attachment 1.

Audience: Councilmen, selectmen, planning board and conservation commission members

Format and Delivery: 1) Web site, 2) workshops, 3) fact sheets (preferences identified in needs assessment).

Proposed partnerships: Rhode Island Rivers Council, The Nature Conservancy, Rhode Island and Massachusetts Chapters of the American Planning Associations, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Aquidneck Island Planning Commission, Washington County Planning Council, Grow Smart Rhode Island, Audubon Society of Rhode Island. See attachment 2 for a complete list of potential partners.

**2. Partner with the Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions (RIACC) and the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) to improve conservation commission members' ability to make informed decisions about how to use and manage the natural resources within the Narragansett Bay watershed.**

*Description:* RIACC and MACC are developing training and education programs to provide technical planning and legal information on many of the preferred issues identified in the CTP needs assessment. Both organizations have built strong networks among the municipalities, particularly with the conservation commissions. NBWCTP will work with these organizations to strengthen their efforts and achieve the NBWCTP vision.

*Specific Issues:* Wetlands ecology, impact of invasive species, endangered species in the community, urban sprawl, recreation/tourism development (as it affects the Bay), planning town-wide greenways (as it affects the Bay), and water supply and quality are priority issues. A complete list of both priority and secondary issues can be found in attachment 1.

*Audience:*

*Priority:* Councilmen, selectmen, planning board members, and conservation commission members.

*Secondary:* Other Coastal decision-makers.

*Format and Delivery:* 1) Web site, 2) workshops, 3) fact sheets (highest preferences identified in needs assessment).

*Proposed partnerships:* Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions, Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions. See attachment 2 for a complete list of potential partners.

**3. Restructure the NBWCTP Advisory Committee to support and guide the NBWCTP.**

*Description:* The CTP will restructure its existing advisory committee so that it is composed of a broader coalition of agencies, university and organizations that can assist the NBWCTP identify strategic opportunities to provide municipal volunteers with training and information on the priority issues and technical skills.

*Proposed members:* Rhode Island Rivers Council, Rhode Island and Massachusetts Chapters of the American Planning Associations, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Grow Smart Rhode Island, Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions, Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Save the Bay,

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program, Roger Williams University. See attachment 2 for a complete list of potential members.

**4. Develop an interactive web site that provides coastal decision-makers and training/education institutions with relevant information to protect and manage Narragansett Bay and its watershed.**

*Description:* This web site will serve two purposes: 1) provide municipal volunteers and staff and other coastal decision-makers with up-to-date information on relevant training and educational opportunities in the state and region; and 2) provide coastal decision-makers with technical information and solutions to resolve difficult issues concerning protecting and managing the Bay and its watershed. This web site will primarily focus on technical legal and planning aspects of the priority issues identified in the NBWCTP needs assessment.

*Specific Issues:* Wetlands ecology, endangered species, impact of invasive species, and coastal development (especially recreation/tourism development and planning town-wide greenways along the water). Issues may expand depending on the success of this tool.

*Audience:* All municipal staff, boards, and commissions

*Format and Delivery:* Web site, fact sheets (down-loadable)

*Partnerships:* Roger Williams University School of Law, Rhode Island and Massachusetts Chapters of the American Planning Associations, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Grow Smart Rhode Island, Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commissions, Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Save the Bay, Narragansett Bay Estuary Program. See attachment 2 for a complete list of potential members.

## **Resources**

It is expected that partners, and in many cases participants, will contribute either financially or through in-kind services for training, education and outreach efforts.

## **Evaluation**

In order to ensure that municipal boards and commissions are receiving the appropriate, up-to-date scientific information they require to make better management decisions and that this information is provided to them in the most useful format, we will evaluate each component of the NBWCTP. Performance measures will be determined based on the delivery method and targeted audience for each outreach effort and where applicable, they will relate to the performance measures identified by

the Estuarine Reserve Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Some methods of evaluation include:

- Paper surveys
- Phone interviews
- Counting website hits
- Number of participants
- Number of products (fact sheets, brochures, etc) requested
- Newspaper clippings

Attachments:

- 1) List of preferred issues for municipal volunteers and staff
- 2) List of potential partners

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National Estuarine Research Reserve System Coastal Training Program



**Needs Assessment of Municipal Officials within the Narragansett Bay Watershed  
Breakdown of Results  
May 13, 2003**

| <b>Overall</b>  | <b>RI (%)</b> | <b>MA (%)</b> |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Economic Growth Topics:</u>  |               |               |
| Planning town-wide greenways  | 53.5          | 62.3          |
| Recreation/Tourism development  | 54.2          | 39.3          |
| Urban sprawl  | 40.1          | 45.9          |
| <u>Public Administration Topics:</u>  |               |               |
| Extent of municipal authority under State enabling legislation                      | 63.6          | 56.4          |
| Environmental laws and regulations  | 63.6          | 52.7          |
| Making decisions based on comprehensive plan goals                                  | 60            | 47.3          |
| <u>Scientific Topics:</u>   |               |               |
| Wetlands ecology  | 55.6          | 63.3          |
| Impact of invasive species  | 46.7          | 53.1          |
| Endangered species in the community   | 43.7          | 46.9          |
| <u>Planning/Management Topics:</u>  |               |               |
| Analyzing Natural Features to develop and protect                                   | 53.8          | 60.4          |
| Incorporating water quality/quantity issues into planning                           | 52.4          | 57.6          |
| Techniques to ensure habitat protection and restoration plans                       | 50.3          | 54.2          |
| <b>Preferred Delivery Method identified by all three target groups:</b>             |               |               |
| Web site  | 29.4          | 13.9          |
| Workshops   | 20.2          | 22.6          |
| Fact sheets   | 18.7          | 23.8          |
| <b>Best Workshop/Program Time Identified by all three target groups:</b>            |               |               |
| 2-3 hour evening sessions, Tuesdays or Thursdays, Beginning at 6 p.m. w/ light meal |               |               |

| <b>Councilmen/Selectmen</b>    | <b>RI (%)</b> | <b>MA (%)</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>Economic Growth Topics:</u> |               |               |
| Recreation/Tourism Development | 78            | 64            |
| Integrating affordable housing | 53            | 91            |
| Planning Town-wide greenways   | 38            | 55            |
| Urban Sprawl                   | 34.4          | 45            |

Public Administration Topics:

|  |    |    |
|--|----|----|
| Extent of municipal authority under state enabling legislation | 81 | 60 |
| Environmental Laws and regulations                             | 68 | 50 |
| Making decision based on comprehensive plan goals              | 68 | 40 |

Scientific Topics:

|                            |      |      |
|----------------------------|------|------|
| Wetlands Ecology           | 42   | 56   |
| Renewable Energy           | 34.5 | 44   |
| Impact of Invasive Species | 38.7 | 33.3 |
| Riverine Ecology           | 32.3 | 44   |

Planning/Management Topics:

|   |      |      |
|---|------|------|
| Analyzing Natural Features to develop and protect         | 56   | 64   |
| Landscape design for neighborhood –knowing what to ask    | 56   | 55   |
| Incorporating water quality/quantity issues into planning | 53   | 73   |
| Stormwater management                                     | 41   | 36.4 |
| Watershed management                                      | 34.4 | 64   |

Delivery Methods

|             |      |      |
|-------------|------|------|
| Fact Sheets | 87   | 72.7 |
| Web Site    | 64.5 | 72.7 |
| Workshps    | 64.6 | 81.8 |

Times of Workshops (not identified as preferred method)

2-3 hour evening sessions

Wednesday, Thursday

Start time: 5:30 – 6:00 pm (w/ light meal)

**Planning Boards****RI (%)****MA (%)**Economic Growth Topics:

|                                |    |    |
|--------------------------------|----|----|
| Planning town-wide greenways   | 63 | 67 |
| Recreation/tourism development | 56 | 60 |
| Urban sprawl                   | 37 | 60 |
| Integrating affordable housing | 59 | 67 |

Public Administration Topics:

|  |    |      |
|--|----|------|
| Extent of Municipal Authority under state enabling legislation | 58 | 60   |
| Making decisions based on comprehensive plan goals             | 62 | 47   |
| Environmental Laws and Regulations                             | 62 | 27.7 |
| Commercial/industrial environmental performance standards      | 77 | 40   |

Scientific Topics:

|                                     |      |      |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|
| Wetlands ecology                    | 58.3 | 36.4 |
| Impact of invasive species          | 45.8 | 45.5 |
| Nutrient loading                    | 58.3 | 27.3 |
| Endangered species in the community | 45.8 | 36.4 |

Planning/Management Topics:

|  |      |    |
|--|------|----|
| Analyzing natural features to develop or protect           | 40.7 | 87 |
| Landscape design for neighborhood –knowing what to ask     | 40.7 | 80 |
| Incorporating water quality/quantity issues into planning  | 63   | 40 |
| Storm water management                                     | 40.7 | 60 |
| Analyzing various design options in early stages of review | 48   | 60 |

Delivery Methods

|             |      |      |
|-------------|------|------|
| Fact sheets | 74.1 | 86.7 |
| Website     | 59.3 | 73.3 |
| Workshop    | 20   | 13   |

Time of Workshops

Two-three hour evening sessions  
Tuesdays  
Start time: 6:00 pm w/ light meal

**Conservation Commissions****RI (%)****MA (%)**Economic Growth Topics:

|                              |    |      |
|------------------------------|----|------|
| Planning Town-wide Greenways | 76 | 83   |
| Urban Sprawl                 | 48 | 42   |
| Brownfields Redevelopment    | 28 | 41.7 |
| Dredging                     | 32 | 25   |

Public Administration Topics:

|   |    |    |
|---|----|----|
| Control construction and disturbance in Wetland/shoreline buffers | 80 | 50 |
| Environmental Laws and Regulations                                | 60 | 50 |
| Enforcement compliance  | 48 | 67 |
| Strengthening wellhead and groundwater protection ordinances      | 68 | 18 |
| Commercial/industrial environmental performance standards         | 44 | 50 |

Scientific Topics:

|                                     |    |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|
| Wetlands Ecology                    | 75 | 75 |
| Endangered Species in the community | 71 | 50 |
| Impact of Invasive Species          | 58 | 58 |

Planning/Management Topics:

|   |      |    |
|---|------|----|
| Techniques to ensure habitat protection and restoration plans | 80   | 75 |
| Ecological Landscaping  | 72   | 50 |
| Reducing impervious surfaces in a design                      | 60   | 75 |
| Habitat Fragmentation   | 54   | 58 |
| Riverine ecology  | 37.5 | 67 |
| Beach and nearshore ecology                                   | 58   | -  |

Delivery Methods

|             |    |      |
|-------------|----|------|
| Fact sheets | 84 | 83.5 |
| Seminars    | 80 | 83.3 |
| Workshops   | 76 | 83.3 |

Time of Workshops

2-3 hour evening sessions

Tuesday

Start time – 6 p.m. (RI preferred light meal)

## List of Potential Partners

| Organization  | Home State | Primary Goal, Mission or Objective   |
|---|------------|--|
| Allin's Cove Neighborhood Coalition                           | RI         | To restore as much of Allin's Cove salt marsh as possible to it's original condition and to maintain and protect it.   |
| Appalachian Mountain Club                                     | RI         | Educate about the environment, support appropriate legislation and organize/promote outdoor activities. RI has 2700 current members. Organization covers NE, NY and NJ.  |
| Applied Science Associates                                    | RI         | Develop and apply computer based solutions to environmental problems. Our computer models simulate physical, chemical and biological processes in marine and freshwater environments.  |
| Aquidneck Island Planning Commission                          | RI         | To provide a forum for coordination, communication, and consensus among Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth, the state of Rhode Island, the U.S. Navy, and other federal agencies; To identify solutions to common island-wide issues through the sharing and allocation of resources; and To facilitate the development of complementary municipal comprehensive plans that reflect a common island vision.   |
| Audubon Society of RI   | RI         | The purposes of the Audubon Society of RI are to foster conservation of wild birds and other animals and plant life, to conserve wildlife habitat and unique natural areas through acquisition or other means, to carry out a broad program of public conservation education, to focus public attention on natural resource problems, to provide leadership when action on natural resource problems is necessary....to foster better management of the natural environment for the benefit of humans and all other life |
| Biospec, Inc.   | RI         | Assisting for profit and non-profits with environmental matters  |
| Blackstone River Watershed Council                            | RI         | Enhance the environment, economy, and promote the heritage of the Blackstone River Watershed by educating stakeholders and developing community involvement that will instill commitment, responsibility, and sustainability.  |
| Blithewold Mansion, Gardens & Arboretum                       | RI         | Preservation of a historic landscape and family collection; public education in history relating to the site and ornamental horticulture; maintain a site open for public enjoyment  |
| Boy Scouts of America   | RI         | To instill values in young people while preparing them to make ethical choices over their lifetime.  |
| Brandaris Sailing Charters                                    | RI         | Operation of historic sailing vessel as U.S. Coast Guard certified passenger vessel. As an American Sail Training Association Vessel, we are involved in various types of educational programs. We are also concerned with public access to the waters of Narragansett Bay.  |
| Bryant College  | RI         | Undergraduate education  |
| Capital City Community Centers                                | RI         | To improve the quality of life and to create positive social change in our community.  |
| CEEC/URI Master Gardener                                      | RI         | CEEC/URI Master Gardener To act as an outreach agency and teach the community good organic and sustainability practices  |
| DEM Division of Law Enforcement                               | RI         | Enforce all state laws pertaining to Hunting, Fishing, shell fisheries, Marine Fisheries, protection of wild animals, endangered species, enforcement of all state laws on property under the control of the Director, DEM. Boating Safety enforcement and education.  |
| Department of Environmental Management                        | RI         | To protect the natural resources of the State of Rhode Island  |
| DEM - Fish & Wildlife   | RI         | Through management and the establishment and regulation of hunting and fishing seasons, and establishment of policies for the conservation and perpetuation of all species of fish and wildlife.   |
| Dept. of Environmental Protection - Southeast Regional Office | MA         | To protect and preserve MA natural resources, with particular emphasis on protection of drinking water, wetlands, and prevention of water pollution  |
| Early Bird Charters, Inc                                      | RI         | Sport-fishing charters   |
| Eastern RI Conservation District                              | RI         | Our mission is to help conserve and protect the natural resources of Newport & Bristol Counties.   |

|  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
| Edwards and Kelcey, Inc.   | RI | Planning and engineering consulting firm  |
| Friends of the Moshassuck  | RI | To advocate for and restore the Moshassuck River and to explore the relationship between ecology and economy in urban environments.   |
| Green Futures  | MA | Clean air, clean water, open space  |
| Grow Smart RI  | RI | To educate Rhode Islanders about the impacts of suburban sprawl and urban decay and about policies and programs to combat suburban sprawl and promote smart growth.   |
| Jones River Watershed Association  | MA | JRWA's purpose is to maintain and improve the quality of the Jones River and its ecosystem, through education, scientific research, pollution remediation, advocacy, the acquisition of sensitive riparian lands and habitat restoration. The goal is to ensure that this coastal watershed continues to be a sustainable community resource for present and future generations. JRWA's ultimate restoration goal for the Jones River is to return of the alewife to Silver Lake and the native trout species throughout the river system. Note: We are geographically related to Cape Cod Bay. We are associated with Narragansett Bay because of the interbasin transfer of our waters to the Taunton River which has led us to develop partnerships with other regional watershed groups, in particular with Save the Bay and the Taunton River Watershed Alliance. We do not develop programs for Narragansett Bay but are certainly interested in advocating for it. |
| LFR Levine Fricke  | RI | Assisting private and public entities in attaining environmental compliance, instituting best management practices and achieving knowledge to foster continuous improvement through careful planning and employee education.  |
| Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies   | MA | Long-term conservation of our natural resources through education and research.   |
| MA - Riverways Programs - Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, & Environmental Law Enforcement | MA | The mission of the MA Riverways Program is to promote the restoration and protection of the ecological integrity of the Commonwealth's watersheds: rivers, streams and adjacent lands.  |
| MA Assn of Conservation Commissions  | MA | Training, support and advocacy on behalf of Mass. Conservation commissioners  |
| MA Dept. of Public Health  | MA | Do we have a mission statement on the web.  |
| MA Dept. of Food and Agriculture   | MA | Working to keep MA agriculture safe, economically and environmentally sound   |
| Mass Office of Coastal Zone Management   | MA | The Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) is a part of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. Our mission is to balance the impacts of human activity with the protection of coastal and marine resources. As a networked program, CZM was specifically established to work with other state agencies, federal agencies, local governments, academic institutions, nonprofit groups, and the general public to promote sound management of the Massachusetts coast.   |
| Mass. D.E.P. Training Center   | MA | Training municipal officials, professionals, WWTP operators and the general public, on wastewater issues  |
| Massachusetts Adopt-A-Stream Program   | MA | To help local residents to protect and restore water quality, protect healthy stream flows, protect land along rivers and streams, improve habitat for wildlife and fish in river corridors and promote river-friendly recreation.  |
| Massachusetts Bar Association  | MA |   |
| Metacomet Land Trust, Inc.   | MA | "The Metacomet Land Trust is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the protection of open space and natural resources in the communities of South Central Massachusetts."   |
| Metro South Chamber of Commerce  | MA | To serve the interests of member businesses while providing community leadership to ensure the economic advancement of the Metro South region.  |
| Mystic Aquarium & Inst. for Exploration  | CT | To inspire people everywhere to care about and protect our oceans by exploring and sharing their biological, ecological and cultural treasures.   |

|  |    |   |
|--|----|---|
| Narragansett Bay Estuary Program                             | RI | Protect and Restore Narragansett Bay and its watersheds through collaborative action, sound science and public involvement.   |
| Newport County Chamber of Commerce                           | RI | To enhance the civic, cultural and business quality of life of Newport County, Rhode Island   |
| NMFS/FSO   | RI | The Northeast Regional Operations Office is responsible for planning, organizing and implementing programs for fishery management, resource allocations, and habitat and protected species (endangered and threatened species and marine mammals) conservation. The Office administers grants and cooperative agreement programs; analyzes trade and economic conditions and related opportunities and impacts associated with fishery management activities; implements programs to maintain robust habitats and stocks of living marine resources; coordinates state/Federal cooperative programs with and among the states, fishery management councils, marine fisheries commissions, and other Federal agencies; and provides administrative and technical support to Regional Fishery Management Councils.  |
| Norman Bird Sanctuary  | RI | To preserve diverse habitats on the Sanctuary's lands for the benefit of wildlife, and to provide access for the education and enjoyment of the public  |
| North and South Rivers Watershed Association                 | MA | To protect, restore and educate people regarding the North and South Rivers.  |
| Northern RI Conservation District                            | RI | Protection and conservation of water and soil resources.  |
| Ocean View Foundation  | RI | Our primary mission is environmental education, which we view very broadly.   |
| Pawtuxet River Watershed Council                             | RI | To preserve the remaining open space in the upper watershed, with focus to protect source waters for the public drinking water supply i.e. Scituate Reserve and to restore all likely habitat in the lower watershed  |
| RI Association of Conservation Commissions                   | RI | Devoted to fostering cooperation and coordination of municipal conservation commissions on a regional and statewide basis.  |
| R.I. Marine Trade Association                                | RI | Promote the marine industry for the benefit of Rhode Island, creating JOBS and economic growth! help our members in all areas of their business.  |
| Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife                   | RI | To Study and Manage the Marine Resources of the State of Rhode Island.  |
| Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission | RI |   |
| Rhode Island Natural History Survey                          | RI | The Rhode Island Natural History Survey is a consortium of organizations and individuals seeking to advance knowledge and understanding of Rhode Island's biology, geology, and ecosystems. With representation on our Boards from governmental agencies, academic institutions, non-profit organizations, professional organizations, and private companies, we serve as the umbrella organization for ecological information in Rhode Island. Rhode Island Natural History Survey seeks to: 1) Facilitate and coordinate the gathering and dissemination of information on Rhode Island's biota, ecological communities, and geological systems; 2) Enhance communication among Rhode Island's natural scientists, educators, and decision makers; 3) Provide sound scientific data that can be used to help make informed management decisions; 4) Foster the preservation of Rhode Island's natural history collections; and 5) Provide educational outreach. |
| Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association                   | RI | The Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association is a non-profit organization, representing over 3,000 anglers and 17 affiliated clubs, created to provide a forum for recreational saltwater anglers; to provide education to members concerning fishing techniques, improved catches, and overall enjoyment of fishing; to foster sportsmanship; to support marine conservation and sound management of fisheries resources; and provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and the future of recreational fishing in Rhode Island.   |
| RI - DEM   | RI | Overall supervision, protection, conservation & regulation of the RI environment.   |
| RI Association of Wetland Scientists                         | RI | To promote and advance the practice of wetland science.   |
| RI Sea Grant   | RI | Promote the sustainable utilization of coastal and marine resources and environments through  |

|   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
|   |    | linked investments in science, extension, communications, and outreach   |
| RI Shellfishermen's Assn  | RI | protecting RI shellfishing industry  |
| RIDEM   | RI | Restore, preserve, and enhance the quality of surface waters and to protect the waters from point source discharges of pollutants so that the waters shall be available for all beneficial uses and thus protect public health, welfare, and the environment   |
| RIDEM   | RI | Protect, manage, restore the quality of Rhode Island's environment   |
| RIDEM   | RI | Environmental protection/natural resource stewardship  |
| RISG/CRC/RIRivers Council   | RI | Coordinate programs and policies to enhance Rhode Island's rivers and their watersheds and to empower local watershed organizations to participate as full partners.   |
| Roger William University  | RI | Undergraduate Education with a strong program in Marine Biology. Development of Marine and Maritime Industry through the RWU Center for Economic and Environmental Development.  |
| Roger Williams Park Zoo   | RI | Conservation, education, animal care, recreation   |
| Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation   | RI | To preserve the historic and environmental integrity of Rose Island, to maintain and operate its lighthouse, and to provide education and public access for all people.  |
| Salt Ponds Coalition  | RI | Preservation of the Salt Ponds of Southern Rhode Island  |
| SeaWeb/The Ocean Project  | RI | Ocean conservation(see websites for more info)   |
| Southern RI Conservation Commission   | RI | To promote and achieve a healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources for the people of Kent & Washington Counties and the State of Rhode Island, now and for the future, by coordinating partners to provide technical, educational and financial resources.  |
| Statewide Planning Program  | RI |  |
| Taunton Area Chamber of Commerce  | MA | To promote a better life in business and the community.  |
| The Newport Institute   | RI | We are a public policy forum for the illumination of issues not yet or emerging upon the public consciousness.   |
| URI   | RI | Education and research   |
| URI Coastal Institute   | RI | Creating multidisciplinary partnerships to solve environmental problems in coastal ecosystems  |
| URI Cooperative Extension, NRS Department   | RI | Training and technical support on land use and water resource management   |
| URI Environmental Education Center, W. Alton Jones Campus                         | RI | To provide youth with exciting learning experiences in the natural environment which lead to a heightened sense of responsibility towards improving the quality of all life on our planet.   |
| URI watershed Watch   | RI | Monitoring water quality on all watersheds in Rhode Island and some in Connecticut.  |
| USEPA   | MA | Protection of human health and the environment   |
| USGS Patuxent Wildlife Rsch. Ctr.   | RI | The mission of the USGS Coastal Field Station of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center is to conduct scientific research in coastal areas, especially federal lands (e.g., national parks) with the objective of applying research findings to protection of natural resources and mitigation of resource impacts. We also provide technical assistance to federal land management agencies on coastal resource protection issues. |
| Water Supply Citizens Advisory committee  | MA | our mission is to support the delivery of the highest quality water supply and the protection of its sources, which we consider to be essential for maintaining their high quality. we also advocate for legislation such as the Rivers Protection Act and Mass water management act   |
| Waypoysset Trust, Open Space Commission, Economic Redevelopment Authority Bristol | RI | Waypoysset Trust- open space open space commission- secure open land redevelopment authority- improve blighted areas boy scouts- education   |
| Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association  | RI | To promote and protect the integrity of the lands and waters of the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed.  |
| Woonasquatucket River   | RI | To restore, preserve, and promote the natural, historical, recreational and economic resources   |

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| Watershed Council |  | of the Woonasquatucket River and its watershed communities. |
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