


Funding Nature Based Community Resilience in Southeastern Massachusetts

February 2023 Workshop Series - Program Overviews

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program
MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs



Funding amount:
At least \$20M total
\$3M per municipality, political subdivisions of the Commonwealth
\$5M for regional projects
25% Required match

Important dates:
RFR release: Mid-March 2023
RFR Q&A period ~2 weeks
Applications due: ~8 weeks after release

PROJECT TYPES

Funds
Community identified priority action to address climate change impacts

Project stages


1. Planning, Assessments, Capacity-Building, and Regulatory Updates
1. Design and Permitting
1. Construction and On-the-Ground Implementation

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Successful applications meet 9 core principles
 - emphasis on NBS, engagement, outreach, and EJ & vulnerable populations
- Must be MVP Certified
- Competitive projects have: multiple partnerships, thoughtful outreach and education, meaningful community engagement, and support building relationships in the community

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Coastal Resilience Grants



Financial and technical assistance to advance a broad range of coastal resilience and climate adaptation initiatives

-FY24 RFR anticipated in Spring
-Project funding levels TBD
-One or two-year project timelines

www.mass.gov/service-details/coastal-resilience-grant-program

PROJECT TYPES

Project Types:

- Detailed vulnerability and risk assessments
- Public outreach
- Proactive planning
- Redesigns and retrofits
- Shoreline restoration
 - Beach, berm, dune building
 - Coastal bank stabilization
 - Fringing salt marsh restoration
 - Living breakwater or sill construction

Phases funded:

- Planning/feasibility, design, permitting, construction and monitoring

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

Eligible Applicants:

- Coastal municipalities
- Nonprofits that own vulnerable coastal property that is open and accessible to the public

Program Goals:

- Address current coastal flooding and shoreline erosion issues
- Adapt to future climate conditions (sea level rise, increased precipitation)
- Protect public facilities and critical infrastructure
- Provide broad public benefits and access and engage with Environmental Justice communities

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FY24 Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program

MA Division of Ecological Restoration

Funding amount:
To be determined; past years range from \$750k - \$2.75 million


Amount of grant:
Based on need

Match
No required match, but DER will not cover full cost of project

RFR released mid-February; grants awarded July 2023. Funds available through June 30, 2024.

PROJECT TYPES

- Culvert replacement projects that meet MA Stream Crossing Standards
- Stages include data collection, engineering / design /permitting, construction
- DER seeks culvert replacements in areas of high ecological value
- Public safety benefits are also important




PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Ecological benefit and public safety benefits are both important
- Project must intend to meet the MA Stream Crossing Standards in order to achieve ecological and resilience benefits
- All project phases are eligible
- Please see details on DER's website at <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/culvert-replacement-municipal-assistance-grant-program>
- Contact Holden Sparacino, Holden.Sparacino@mass.gov

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Priority Ecological Restoration Project Program



Funding amount:
Not a grant program; this is a project selection program

Amount of grant:
Selected projects receive project management, engineering services, grant writing services, grants as funding allows

Match
No required match at time of application..

Important dates: RFR released sometime in 2023; date TBD

PROJECT TYPES

- Dam removal
- Restoration of coastal wetlands and salt marshes
- Restoration of retired cranberry bog farmland to natural wetlands
- Floodplain restoration
- Projects can be in urban and non-urban areas
- Approximately 60% of DER's projects are within a mile of an EJ neighborhood
- Some RFRs target only one project type; others are broader.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- The goal of the program is to complete high value river and wetland restoration projects across the Commonwealth
- All projects take place in partnership with the project owner, communities, agencies, and non-profit organizations
- Projects also help communities adapt to climate change, improve public safety, offer recreation opportunities, create jobs, and many other benefits
- See <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/become-a-der-priority-project>
- RFR posted on CommBuys

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Community One Stop for Growth

Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, Department of Housing and Community Development, and Mass. Development Finance Agency

Funding:
Approx. \$125 million through 12 grant programs
Two of the programs require match (however, match is welcomed by all programs)

Important dates:
Expression of Interest Deadline - 3/17/2023
Full Application Deadline - 6/2/2023

Programs available through the Community One Stop Application:

Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development

- [Mass Works Infrastructure Program](#)
- [Urban Agenda Grant Program](#)

Department of Housing and Community Development

- [Housing Choice Grant Program](#)
- [Massachusetts Downtown Initiative](#)
- [Community Planning Grant Program](#)
- [Rural and Small Town Development Fund](#)

MassDevelopment

- [Brownfields Redevelopment Fund](#)
- [Site Readiness Program](#)
- [Underutilized Properties Program](#)
- [Commonwealth Places Program](#)
- [Collaborative Workspace Program](#)
- [Real Estate Services Technical Assistance](#)


Project Types Supported:

- Community Activation & Placemaking
- Planning and Zoning
- Site Preparation
- Building Construction
- Infrastructure Construction

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

The One Stop is a single application portal and collaborative review process that allows applicants to access a series of grant programs that support community economic development. EOHED partners with the DHCD and MassDevelopment, to make targeted grant investments based on a Development Continuum.


This continuum separates economic development activities into two broad categories. The first, "Preparing for Growth," includes the initial steps that typically need to occur before specific development projects can move forward, as well as community activation focused economic development activities. The second, "Catalyzing Specific Projects," covers various forms of project-specific activities, particularly for projects that have private development identified.



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SNEP Watershed Implementation Grants

Restore America's Estuaries



PROJECT TYPES

- Fund partnerships, projects and programs to restore ecosystems and foster sustainable communities throughout SE New England
- Clean water, habitat restoration, urban restoration, innovative technologies, policy initiatives, etc.
- Fund all stages: planning, permitting, design, construction, monitoring, etc.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

2023 themes:

- Small Cities & Urban Environments;
- Rural and Natural Landscapes;
- Innovate to Improve WQ
- Promote Environmental Justice and Equity;
- Address Environmental Change;
- Build & Sustain Local and Regional Partnerships; and
- Foster Regional Learning.

Competitive applications are those which present a clear vision for effecting positive change in the real world, and which raise the practice of restoration both locally and regionally.


\$2.8 M total in 2023
Grants typically \$100 – \$350k
Max. \$500k
Some smaller grants (\$20 - \$50k)
Match 33% of award; waivers possible

RFP Release: Feb. 21
Letter of Intent Deadline: Apr. 7
Awards final Sept. / Oct.

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National Coastal Resilience Fund

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation



PROJECT TYPES

- Nature based solutions (e.g. living shorelines, wetland buffers, etc) for reducing impacts from coastal hazards and enhancing habitat for fish and wildlife
- Project categories include
 - Community capacity building and planning
 - Site Assessment and Preliminary Design
 - Final Design and Permitting
 - Restoration Implementation

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Must include nature based solutions (NBS)
- Projects should provide coastal community resilience benefits (e.g. flood reduction, erosion control, etc) and
- Fish and wildlife habitat benefits
- Other priorities include projects that benefit or engage underserved communities, and projects that advance innovative, transferable, and/or sustainable solutions

Funding amount:
~140M total as of 2023
~100K-1M on average* for planning and design
~1M-10M on average* for implementation
* There is no maximum award amount


Important dates:

- RFP release Mid-late Feb, 2023
- Pre-Proposals due April, 2023

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Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants

MassDEP



PROJECT TYPES

- **Implementation Projects:**
 - Installation of BMPs to restore impaired waters
 - Final planning and implementation stages are eligible for funding
- **Non-implementation Projects:**
 - NPS Capacity Building
 - **Regional NPS Coordinators**
 - **Environmental Justice Coordinators**
 - **Outreach and Education**
 - **Municipal/Regional**

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Any Massachusetts public or private organization is eligible.
- Restoration of impaired waters.
- Projects that benefit Environmental Justice communities.
- Projects that involve active and inclusive community engagement.
- All projects must include an education & outreach component.
- Implementation projects require a Watershed-based Plan.
- Competitive applications will be clear and concise, propose comprehensive and feasible solutions to address an impairment, and provide substantial pollutant load reductions.

Funding amount:
\$2,000,000
Awards: \$50,000 - \$500,000
Required match: 40% of total project cost (non-federal)


Important dates:
Pre-RFP meeting: early spring 2023
RFP release: spring 2023
RFP deadline: late spring 2023

More Info:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality/section-319-nonpoint-source-competitive-grants-program>

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Section 604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grant

MassDEP



Funding amount:
~\$400,000-\$600,000 total
~\$50,000 per application
No match required

Important dates: RFR release date: Summer 2023

PROJECT TYPES

- Assessment
- Monitoring
- Planning
- Design
- Outreach and Education
- Watershed-based plans

Implementation is not eligible

- Eligible entities include regional planning agencies, councils of governments, counties, conservation districts, tribes, and cities and towns

More Info:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality>


PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Projects should focus on identifying water quality issues and developing solutions
- Equity and climate resiliency
- Watershed based approach
- Ideally deliverables lead to the 319 program for implementation
- Match can make a proposal more competitive

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MS4 Municipal Assistance Program

MassDEP



Funding amount:
\$ 300,000 total
~\$ 50,000 per application
No match required

Important dates:
RFR release: Aug 2023
RFR deadline: Sept 2023

PROJECT TYPES

- Projects that meet MS4 permit requirements
 - planning
 - resource sharing
 - education/outreach
 - implementation
- All project stages are eligible for funding
- Projects must benefit multiple municipalities

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Must meet MS4 permit requirements
- Proposals must come from groups of municipalities (2 or more)
- Projects must be completed within the SFY
- Preference is given to projects that directly assist the greatest number of municipalities

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Habitat Restoration Project Planning in the Narragansett Bay Region

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program


**NARRAGANSETT BAY
ESTUARY PROGRAM**

Funding amount:
\$675,000 total
\$50K - \$200K per application
Required match: 25%


Important dates:
RFP for full proposals (no LOI) spring 2023

PROJECT TYPES & PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Watershed habitat restoration with a focus on publicly accessible spaces
- Project steps targeted by this RFP: stakeholder engagement, studies, assessments, concepts, plans, designs, and permitting
- Federal subawards; all funds reimbursable
- Projects taking place in environmental justice areas (as defined by the NBEP Environmental Justice Tool) receive additional points




Is your project location eligible?
Scan QR code for a searchable map of the NBEP Region



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Buzzards Bay Watershed Infrastructure & CCMP Support Grants

Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program



Funding amount:
~700,000 available
\$375k per application; no limit on # of applications
Two proposals/\$400k total award limit per municipality
No match required

Important dates:
Next RFP expected Spring 2023

PROJECT TYPES

Eligible Projects: Design/construction of stormwater facilities; MS4 compliance; Nitrogen removal from WWTPs; Habitat restoration; Boat pump-out facilities; Reporting systems for I/A septic systems; Restoration of coastal waters/freshwater impaired by pollution; Habitat protection; Other activities in support of Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).

Eligible applicants: Municipalities in Buzzards Bay watershed but municipalities can partner with other entities. Projects must be located in the Buzzards Bay watershed.


Funding Source: Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds. Funds awarded on a reimbursement basis.

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Protect/restore water quality in Buzzards Bay & surrounding watershed.
- Investing public \$\$ efficiently/equitably.
- Building climate resilient infrastructure.
- Investing in disadvantaged communities.
- The most competitive proposals will be for projects that meet BIL, climate resiliency, environmental justice, and CCMP goals.

For more information, including a map of the Buzzards Bay watershed, visit: <https://buzzardsbay.org/our-program/funding/>

Or scan our QR code



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