



Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game

Mary B. Griffin, Commissioner

## DIVISION of ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Tim Purinton, Director

### Ebb&Flow

*An electronic newsletter from the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration*

## *Ebb&Flow #18*

### *December, 2013*

*An electronic newsletter from the Mass. Department of Fish and Game's Division of Ecological Restoration (DER)*  
<http://www.mass.gov/der>

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*Greetings, restoration friends and colleagues:*

The holiday season is upon us, and we at DER have much to be thankful for in 2013, and a lot to look forward to in the year ahead. As we wind up another productive year working with our partners to advance common restoration goals, it is a good time to pause and reflect on recent happenings within our division.

First, the bittersweet – Jeremy Bell, DER's Wetlands Restoration Program Manager, will be taking a job with the Maine chapter of The Nature Conservancy in early 2014, as their Aquatic Habitat Restoration Program Manager. While we are very sad to see Jeremy depart, we are also thrilled that this move will help him and his family fulfill an important goal of moving to northern New England. Our loss will mean great gains for Maine aquatic habitats and The Nature Conservancy. Since joining the state back in 2005, Jeremy has led 18 projects to completion, restoring over 340 acres of wetlands. His contributions to ecological restoration in Massachusetts have been exceptional, and will be sorely missed. Jeremy's last day in the office will be December 20<sup>th</sup>. We wish Jeremy and his family all the best in this new chapter of their lives.

During this period of transition at DER, Beth Lambert will be overseeing our physical aquatic habitat restoration program. Beth has demonstrated exceptional project management and program leadership abilities over many years as the head of the River Restoration Program, and we are confident in her ability to succeed in this temporary assignment.

An important goal of this transition is to quickly restore staff capacity. Toward that end, [we have just posted a vacancy announcement for an Aquatic Habitat Restoration Specialist](#). This position will serve as a senior restoration project manager. The **deadline** for applications is **January 8, 2014**. A copy of the announcement is

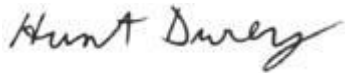
posted on the DER website [home page](#), and can also be viewed on the Commonwealth's Employment Opportunities website. Please help us spread the word to groups, lists, and individuals that might be interested.

Building on the big news theme: we learned in October that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will award approximately \$9.5 million in "Superstorm Sandy" funds to DER to support the design and construction of four DER Priority Projects in southeastern Massachusetts that restore coastal habitats and build coastal resiliency to future storms. Needless to say, DER and our partners are thrilled to receive these resources and look forward to working with USFWS to complete these projects. Click [here](#) to view the press release for more details.

Our annual **Priority Project RFR process**, soliciting new aquatic habitat restoration and revitalization project nominations, is still open. We anticipate a high number of quality proposals, and look forward to reviewing them and selecting a new group of projects to add to our Priority Project list. It's not too late to submit; the **deadline** is **Thursday, December 19**. Click [here](#) to access the RFR and related info. Contact Nick Wildman at (617) 626-1527 or [nick.wildman@state.ma.us](mailto:nick.wildman@state.ma.us) with any procedural questions.

We hope you enjoy this issue of **Ebb&Flow**, including a great lead article titled "Removing River Roadblocks" by the Ipswich River Watershed Association, and an update on our flow restoration work at Onota Lake and Pecks Brook in Pittsfield. More info about DER's work over the past year will be presented in **DER's 2013 Annual Report**, which will be issued soon. In the meantime, we wish you good health and great cheer during this holiday season and throughout the coming year. Thank you for your partnership, support, and collaboration during 2013.

Sincerely,



Hunt Durey, Acting Director

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## Feature Articles

### Removing River Roadblocks

*[This article was authored by and originally appeared on the website of the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#) (IRWA), and is reprinted here with their permission.]*



*The South Middleton Dam is one of three dams on the Ipswich River, and the only one without a fish ladder. Removing this serious roadblock to river life is a top priority for the Ipswich River Watershed Association.*

As paddlers and fishermen, swimmers and hikers, we experience the Ipswich River as a series of disconnected bodies of water, separated by dams that once served an important economic purpose, but no longer do. Few paddlers get to explore the section between the upper and middle stretches of the Ipswich River because there is no public access around the South Middleton dam. Yet more than one-fourth of the Ipswich River watershed is located upstream of the Dam. This area includes Martin's Pond and Silver Lake, coastal headwater ponds that were once major spawning and nursery areas for ocean-going alewife.

South Middleton Dam is the furthest upstream of three dams on the main branch of the river, and the only one without a fish ladder. Removing this serious roadblock to river life, and especially to the historic alewife spawning runs, is a top priority for the Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) and the State of Massachusetts. Removal will benefit people as well as fish, by greatly improving recreational access to 56 miles of the river and its tributaries in the beautiful upper watershed. Even more important, it will help restore natural river conditions in place of the half-mile-long artificial lake above the dam and open the upper river to a variety of fish species.

So it was no coincidence that IRWA held its annual meeting on September 26 at the Bostik, Inc., plant at the site of the South Middleton Dam. Before the annual meeting began, the public was given a tour of the dam. Brian Kelder, IRWA's Restoration Manager, Dan Welch, Bostik's national Environment and Sustainability Manager, and Hunt Durey, Acting Director of the Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration, all spoke about the dam removal project, in which their organizations are the principal partners.

The project partners are actively studying the engineering and ecological issues necessary to proceed with removing the dam, and searching for project funding. The larger plan is to complement dam removal with other restoration projects in the watershed. Dams aren't the only impediment to human exploration and fish migration. This year, IRWA has begun to survey the over 1,000 bridges and culverts in the watershed to identify those that represent the most serious environmental and recreational challenges. As IRWA's Executive Director, Wayne Castonguay, commented, "We would like the upper river to be as open to recreation and wildlife as the downstream stretches."

Canoers and kayakers take note: the South Middleton dam is sited on the largest vertical drop in the entire watershed. Once the dam is removed, this section of river will offer the fastest-flowing water on the Ipswich – not serious whitewater, but a fun stretch to paddle nonetheless.

Downstream, we are actively managing preliminary studies at the Ipswich Mills Dam, investigating the feasibility of restoring the river through dam removal at that site as well. That dam, furthest downstream, is sited on a natural waterfall where the river meets the ocean tides. Its removal will help restore a naturally beautiful landscape, as well as a healthy habitat for a wide range of fish and wildlife. As Wayne Castonguay also noted, though, these projects take 5 to 10 years to complete and they don't affect most people's daily lives. "That's why organizations like the Ipswich River Watershed Association exist: to take the long view and champion projects that are incredibly important, but challenging to undertake."

Please contact IRWA at [bkelder@ipswichriver.org](mailto:bkelder@ipswichriver.org) for more information on dam removal and volunteer opportunities on this and other exciting projects.

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## **Division of Ecological Restoration News and Project Updates**

### **River Instream Flow Stewards (RIFLS) Update**



## Streamflow Restoration Project, Onota Lake and Pecks Brook, Pittsfield

*By Michelle Craddock, Flow Restoration Specialist*



*RIFLS staff install a solar powered telemetry station on Pecks Brook that transmits water level data in real time.*

The Lake Onota Preservation Association, Housatonic Valley Association, Lakes and Ponds Association of Western Massachusetts, City of Pittsfield, and the Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) have worked together for several years to assess and discuss management of Onota Lake. Current drawdown and refill practices in Onota Lake affect streamflow in the reach of Pecks Brook (aka Onota Brook) below the [flow control structure \(aka dam\) at the lake's outlet](#). For example, the standard practice of drawing down the level of Lake Onota in the fall (to help control nuisance aquatic vegetation and perform infrastructure maintenance) can result in unnaturally-high streamflows. Decreasing flows out of the Lake to refill it each spring can reduce what would otherwise be naturally-occurring high flows in Pecks Brook resulting from spring snowmelt and rainfall. These alterations from natural flow patterns can be detrimental to aquatic life.

In October 2013, the City of Pittsfield (which manages the Onota Lake dam) began implementing a pilot program to change lake management, based on a guidance document developed by DER with significant partner input. This guidance will be used alongside the current Order of Conditions issued by the Pittsfield Conservation Commission, as informed by the [Generic Environmental Impact Report on Eutrophication and Aquatic Plant Management in Massachusetts](#). The pilot program will make minor adjustments to how flows are managed at Onota Lake's dam, which we expect will add some more natural variability to streamflow, while still allowing for lake drawdown, refill, and the maintenance of desired recreational lake levels.

To assist in implementing this pilot program, DER staff installed a telemetry station that records water level in Pecks Brook and transmits data in real time. Partners are able to access the data via the Internet and assess whether goals are being achieved. Prior to implementation of the pilot program, DER funded macroinvertebrate monitoring in Pecks Brook and three related locations, while the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW)'s Western Wildlife District, [UMass/Amherst's Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit](#), and USGS partners conducted fish

sampling at the same sites. Sampling will be conducted again in the future. We hope that these combined data sets will help us to better understand the ecological impacts of these changes to Pecks Brook and inform any future management changes. Please feel free to contact me [[michelle.craddock@state.ma.us](mailto:michelle.craddock@state.ma.us) or (617) 626-1544] if you have any questions or would like additional info on this project, or if you would like to discuss similar lake/pond management situations.

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## Resources and Grants

### Grant, Prize, Fellowship, Contest, Award, Fundraising, etc. Opportunities

*(presented in rough chronological order by application/ nomination/ entry deadline)*

The [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#) (NFWF) recently announced the creation of the [Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grant Program](#), which will support projects that reduce communities' vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms, sea level rise, flooding, erosion and associated threats through **strengthening natural ecosystems that also benefit fish and wildlife**. The Hurricane Sandy Coastal Resiliency Competitive Grants Program will award more than \$100 million in grants throughout the region affected by Hurricane Sandy (an area that includes all New England states except for Maine and Vermont) – the states that officially declared a natural disaster as a result of the storm event. Grants will be awarded to projects that **assess, restore, enhance or create wetlands, beaches and other natural systems** to help better protect communities and to mitigate the impacts of future storms and naturally occurring events on fish and wildlife species and habitats. The application **deadline** is **January 31, 2014**; click [here](#) for detailed info on eligible projects, application evaluation criteria, etc., and [here](#) to read the press release. A **webinar for prospective applicants** is scheduled for **December 17, 2013**; click [here](#) to register or for more info.

The U.S. EPA's [11th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet](#) is currently (until **December 17, 2013**) seeking applications from students proposing to research, develop, and design solutions to real world challenges involving the overall sustainability of human society. The competition highlights the use of scientific principles in creating innovative projects focused on sustainability. The program was developed to foster progress toward sustainability by achieving the mutual goals of improved quality of life for its people, economic prosperity, and protection of the planet, the three pillars of sustainability. Categories include [Built Environment](#), [Energy](#), [Materials and Chemicals](#), and [Water](#). Estimated funds available: \$1,050,000. Estimated grant range: up to \$75,000. Estimated number of awards: 20. Click [here](#) or contact [Todd Peterson](#) at (703) 308-7224 for more info.

The [Division of Ecological Restoration](#) (DER) of the Mass. Department of Fish and Game recently issued a Request for Responses (RFR) seeking nominations for **aquatic habitat restoration and revitalization Priority Projects**. Selected projects will be eligible to receive technical assistance from DER staff, technical services by qualified contractors paid for by DER, and/or direct grant funding. These projects will remain on the Priority Projects list and maintain eligibility for support in subsequent years until they are completed or new information warrants a revision of status. The application **deadline** is **Thursday, December 19**. Click [here](#) to access the RFR and related info. Contact Nick Wildman at (617) 626-1527 or [nick.wildman@state.ma.us](mailto:nick.wildman@state.ma.us) with any procedural questions.

The [NOAA Marine Debris Program](#) (MDP) [recently announced](#) a new funding opportunity: [Marine Debris Prevention through Outreach and Education](#). The NOAA MDP seeks to fund projects that will lead to the prevention of marine debris in the marine and coastal environments through the implementation of dedicated

education and outreach activities. Projects awarded are expected to educate the public about marine debris through activities including, but not limited to: encouraging changes in behavior to address marine debris; developing, using, and disseminating tools, products, and campaigns to improve efforts to address marine debris; and engaging the public in active, personal participation (e.g. a small-scale shoreline cleanup with students or other hands-on activities, etc.). While the anticipated range of federal funding available per award is approximately \$20,000 to \$100,000, projects typically receive between \$30,000 and \$60,000. Eligible applicants include: U.S. institutions of higher education, non-profit organizations, commercial (for-profit) organizations, and state, local and tribal governments. The **deadline** to apply is 11:59:59 pm EST on **December 20, 2013**. Click [here](#) to download the official Federal Funding Opportunity along with complete eligibility requirements, or contact Colleen Coogan at (978) 281-9181 or [colleen.coogan@noaa.gov](mailto:colleen.coogan@noaa.gov) for more info.

[TD Bank](#) and the [Arbor Day Foundation](#) are accepting applications to the [TD Green Streets Grant Program](#), which will offer ten grants of \$20,000 each in support of **innovative urban forestry initiatives in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods**. Funding is intended to support the purchase of trees, tree planting and maintenance, and educational activities. Up to 50 percent of the proposed funding can be used to purchase new trees. To be eligible for a TD Green Streets grant, qualified municipalities must be a current [Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA-designated community](#) that is also [served by TD Bank](#) (that includes at least fifty cities and towns in Massachusetts). Municipalities are encouraged to apply in partnership with community partners such as nonprofit organizations, schools, businesses, etc. The application **deadline** is **December 20, 2013**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

The [Celebrate Urban Birds Mini-Grant Program](#), an initiative of the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#), supports community organizations, educators, and youth throughout the U.S. that host neighborhood events **that introduce the public and youth to birds found in urban areas**. Funded events should feature activities involving birds, community service, art, greening, and/or science. Examples of eligible events include bird-activity days at local museums, libraries, or community centers, as well as art and gardening activities at clubs, schools, or senior centers. Mini-grants ranging from \$100 to \$500 are provided. Organizations working with underserved communities are strongly encouraged to apply. The application **deadline** is **December 31, 2013**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

[Project Orange Thumb](#), sponsored by Fiskars, is dedicated to supporting the community garden movement throughout the U.S. and Canada. Support is provided for local projects that will make differences in their communities through unique community garden initiatives while demonstrating how a small group of people can make changes that affect the entire community. Ten winners will receive \$5,000 in cash and Fiskars garden tools to help support their goals of neighborhood beautification and horticulture education, and one applicant will receive a complete garden makeover. Project Orange Thumb is intended to promote new garden spaces and garden expansions. Nonprofit organizations, public schools, and municipalities in the U.S. and Canada are eligible to apply. The application **deadline** is **December 31, 2013**. Visit [Fiskars.com/projectorangelthumb](http://Fiskars.com/projectorangelthumb) to submit an online application.

Since 2002, the [American Canoe Association](#) (ACA) has partnered with L.L. Bean to sponsor the [Club Fostered Stewardship \(CFS\) Program](#), which provides funding to local and regional paddling clubs that undertake stewardship projects on waterways in their area. The purpose of the program is to **encourage paddling clubs to take an active role in protecting and improving the nation's rivers, lakes and coastlines**. It is not mandatory to be a paddling club to apply. In the past, grants have been awarded to conservation organizations and watershed groups. However, applications that incorporate paddling or cooperation with local paddling organizations will be given priority. Grant amounts range from \$100-\$1,000. 2014 CFS Grant Application Packets will be available in **January**, and funds are awarded on a rolling basis. Click [here](#) for more info.

**What would it be like if your organization suddenly had the resources of 8-10 enthusiastic, hard-working, and professional young adults serving full-time for up to eight weeks?** The mission of [AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps](#) (NCCC), a full-time, team-based service program for men and women aged 18-24, is to strengthen communities and develop leaders through direct, team-based national and community



service. In partnership with nonprofit organizations, state and local agencies, schools, state and national parks, Indian Tribes, and faith-based and other community organizations, members complete a variety of service projects. These young adults help communities prepare and respond to disasters, improve infrastructure such as low-income housing and **public parks, restore streams or wildlife habitats to help protect the environment**, conserve energy through weatherization projects or recycling programs, and contribute to urban and rural development by supporting services to seniors, youth, or homeless individuals. The application **deadline** for filling out and submitting the short Concept Form in response to the NCC's 2014 RFP is **January 3, 2014**. Click [here](#), [here](#) or contact NCCC regional coordinator Thea Becton [(410) 642-2411 ext. 6869, [tebecton@cns.gov](mailto:tebecton@cns.gov)] to see the RFP, obtain a blank Concept Form, or more info.

The [Massachusetts Service Alliance](#) (MSA) recently released a [Request for Proposals \(RFP\) for National Volunteer Week 2014 projects](#). The MSA seeks to award grants up to \$4,500 to support projects that engage volunteers to meet an identified community need during **National Volunteer Week, April 6-13, 2014**. The **deadline** to apply is 12:00 Noon on **January 3, 2014**; click [here](#) to download the RFP, or click [here](#) or contact Shana Lothrop [(617) 542-2544 ext. 214, [slothrop@mass-service.org](mailto:slothrop@mass-service.org)] for more info.

The [Local Sustainability Matching Fund](#), an initiative of the [Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities](#) and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network, supports partnerships between local government (city or county) sustainability directors and local, place-based foundations in the U.S. and Canada to advance important community-based urban sustainability initiatives. The Fund will provide **matching grants to build partnerships to advance sustainability initiatives that demonstrate broad-based community support and engagement**. Grants will primarily be between \$25,000 and \$75,000, with a **1:1 match required by one or more local, place-based foundations**. Proposals for two-year support, with an award range of \$50,000 to \$150,000, will also be considered. The application **deadline** is **January 8, 2014**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

The U.S. Department of Defense's (DoD) [Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program](#) (SERDP) [recently announced](#) that it is seeking to fund environmental research and development in the **Resource Conservation and Climate Change program** area. SERDP invests across the broad spectrum of basic and applied research, as well as advanced technology development. The development and application of innovative environmental technologies will reduce the costs, environmental risks, and time required to resolve environmental problems while, at the same time, enhancing and sustaining military readiness. SERDP is currently requesting proposals that respond to the following two focused Statements of Need (SON) in Resource Conservation and Climate Change:

- **New Paradigms for Managing Species and Ecosystems in a Non-Stationary World**
- **Adapting to Changes in the Hydrologic Cycle under Non-Stationary Climate Conditions**

Proposals responding to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 SONs will be selected through a competitive process. All pre-proposals are **due** to SERDP by **Thursday, January 9, 2014**. The SONs and detailed instructions are available on the SERDP web site at [www.serdp-estcp.org/Funding-Opportunities/SERDP-Solicitations](http://www.serdp-estcp.org/Funding-Opportunities/SERDP-Solicitations).

The [Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation](#) recently announced that it is inviting applications for the **2014 Switzer Environmental Fellowships**. Switzer Fellowships provide one year of financial academic support, as well as **long-term career and professional development** support, for **graduate students in New England** and California. Past Switzer Fellows are recognized environmental leaders working in the non-profit, public policy, academic and business communities (check out [Switzer Network News](#) to see the breadth of issues and caliber of work that Switzer Fellows are doing). You are invited to review the [information about the Fellowship program](#) on our website, and the [Call for Applications](#), which describe the Fellowship program and its requirements. Contact any of the Switzer Foundation staff [[Erin Lloyd](#), Program Officer; [Lissa Widoff](#), Executive Director; or [Don Brackett](#), Administrative Director], by e-mail or phone [(207) 338-5654 (office hours 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)] if you have any questions about the Fellowship guidelines or the application process. The **deadline** for applications is **January 10, 2014**. [Organizations, agencies, etc. interested in tapping the expertise and problem-solving skills of the Switzer Fellows Network are encouraged to contact Lissa or Erin.]

The [Harvard University Center for the Environment](#)'s [Environmental Fellows Program](#) enables recent doctorate recipients to use and expand Harvard's resources to tackle complex environmental problems. The Environmental Fellows will work for two years with Harvard faculty members in any school or department to create new knowledge while also strengthening connections across the University's academic disciplines. The Fellowship provides an annual stipend of \$60,000 plus health insurance, a \$2,500 annual allowance for travel and professional expenses, and other employee benefits. The application **deadline** for 2014 Fellows is **January 15, 2014**; click [here](#) to apply and [here](#) for more info.

The [National Endowment for the Arts](#) (NEA)'s "[Our Town](#)" [Grants Program](#) seeks to promote [Creative Placemaking](#): where partners from public, private, nonprofit, and community sectors strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, city, or region around arts and cultural activities. Grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000 are available to support creative placemaking projects that animate public and private spaces, rejuvenate structures and streetscapes, improve local business viability and public safety, and bring diverse people together to celebrate, inspire, and be inspired. The application **deadline** is **January 13, 2014**; click [here](#) for more info and [here](#) for some ideas worth considering for incorporating into your proposal.

The [BoatUS Foundation](#) is seeking applications for its **2014 Grassroots Grants**. Up to \$10,000 is available to local volunteer organizations to promote education on safe and clean boating. The winning eligible proposals are selected through an online public voting process, which will take place in the spring. Applications are **due** by **January 15, 2014**; click [here](#) and [here](#) for more info.

The urgency of dealing with climate change, unsustainable consumption, and loss of biodiversity are the overall themes for the [V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation](#) (VKRF). Current funding priority categories are: **Ecosystems Resilience, Protection and Restoration; Framework of Ecological Stability; and Communication and Leadership**. Every year VKRF has two open submission deadlines for a Letter of Inquiry (LOI). The next LOI **deadline** is **January 15, 2014**, at midnight Pacific Time. Please carefully review "[What We Fund](#)", "[What We Do Not Fund](#)", as well as the "[Guidelines for Submitting Letters of Inquiry](#)" before sending in your LOI to [grants@vkrf.org](mailto:grants@vkrf.org). Based on the Board's evaluation of incoming LOIs, a very limited number of applicants will be invited to send in a full proposal.

The **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)**'s [Community Forest Program](#) (CFP) protects forests that are important for people and the places they call home. Community forests provide many benefits such as places to recreate and enjoy nature; they protect habitat, water quality and other environmental benefits, and they can provide economic benefits through timber resources. Community Forests have also long been sites for environmental and cultural education. [The USFS on August 27 issued a Request for Applications for the next round of funding under the Community Forest and Open Space Program](#), a competitive grant program whereby local governments, qualified nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grants to establish community forests through fee simple (not CR) acquisition of private forest land from a willing seller. The purpose of the Program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits such as sustainable forest management, environmental benefits including clean air, water, and wildlife habitat; benefits from forest-based educational programs; benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship; and recreational benefits secured with public access. While the total amount of funding for the next grant round is expected to be \$4 million, individual grant applications may not exceed \$400,000. Applications are **due** to the State Forester [for Massachusetts, that is Peter Church, DCR, 251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114, (617) 626-1461, (617) 626-1449, [peter.church@state.ma.us](mailto:peter.church@state.ma.us)] by **January 15, 2014**. Click on these links for more info: [FAQ page](#); [Sample Community Forest Program Application template](#); [FY12 Community Forest Program Funded Projects list](#); [FY12 Community Forest Programs Funded Projects Press Release](#); or contact Mike Fleming at DCR [(508) 792-7715 ext. 114 or [mike.fleming@state.ma.us](mailto:mike.fleming@state.ma.us)] for more info.

**Do you own or manage farmland or forest land in Massachusetts?** Would you like help addressing natural resource concerns on your land? If so, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) encourages



you to get in touch with your [local NRCS office](#) by **January 17, 2014** to apply for federal conservation programs that can provide financial and technical assistance. [These programs include the [Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program](#) (WHIP); the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP); and the [Wetlands Reserve Program](#) (WRP)]. “Land owners and managers who have a [conservation plan](#), which is the required first step to participating in federal conservation programs, and submit a program application by January 17th will be ready for this next round of federal funding through the [Farm Bill](#) when it’s available,” said Christine Clarke, Massachusetts State Conservationist for the NRCS. Click [here](#), [here](#) or [here](#) to apply for more info, and [here](#) to read a recent [wetland restoration success story](#) from western Mass.

[EPA’s Brownfields Program](#) and the related [Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response](#) (OSWER) provide funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and non profits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse Brownfields sites. EPA provides Brownfields funding for [three types of grants](#): [Brownfields Assessment Grants](#), [Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund \(RLF\) Grants](#), and [Brownfields Cleanup Grants](#). The application **deadline** for each of these three programs is **January 22, 2014**. Click [here](#) and scroll down to access and download more details about each of these grant programs.

The Bellingham, WA-based [Kinship Conservation Fellows Program](#) is “a ground-breaking [environmental leadership program](#) that emphasizes [market-based solutions](#) to environmental problems. Kinship's dynamic global network of [191 Fellows](#) in 47 countries and 6 continents is collaborative, entrepreneurial, and dedicated to effective conservation.” The Program is looking for conservation leaders with five years of experience, who are deeply committed to conservation, to apply to be part of the 2014 class of Fellows. A proposed project describing an environmental issue related to your work and your plans for developing a solution using market approaches will be a key part of your application. Successful applicants will be familiar with business and economic principles and be in a work environment where these principles can be integrated with conservation work. Eighteen applicants will be selected to participate. Click [here](#) to learn more about the program and [here](#) to apply; the application **deadline** is **January 27, 2014**.

[Action For Nature](#) (AFN) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to **encourage young people to take personal action for nature and to protect a healthy environment** on which all life depends. AFN created the [International Young Eco-Hero Awards](#) to recognize and reward the successful individual environmental initiatives of young people aged 8 to 16 from around the world. The awards honor individual young people for their self-initiated projects. Winners are chosen by a team of independent judges with experience in environmental issues. The applications are judged according to several criteria, including, but not limited to, originality, difficulty, organization, length of time devoted to the project, influencing/educating others, use of outside resources (e.g. library, experts, media, community leaders), degree of success in reaching goals, and the impact on the environment. Click [here](#) to read additional guidelines and to access the application form; the **deadline** to apply is **January 31, 2014**. Read [AFN’s Youth Blog](#) for more info.

The **Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)** recently posted a “**pre-RFR notice**” for the next round of [§604\(b\) Water Quality Management Planning Grants](#). For FFY 2014, DEP will continue to focus 604b grant funds towards watershed or subwatershed-based nonpoint source assessment and planning projects leading to the: 1) determination of the nature, extent and causes of water quality problems; 2) assessment of impacts and determination of pollutant loads reductions necessary to meet water quality standards; 3) development of green infrastructure projects that manage wet weather to maintain or restore natural hydrology; and 4) development of assessments, preliminary designs and implementation plans that will address water quality impairments in impaired watersheds. Eligible entities for 604b grants include regional planning agencies, council of governments, counties, conservation districts, cities and towns, and other substate public planning agencies and interstate agencies. To access the full pre-RFR document, go to [Comm-Pass](#), click on “Search for a Solicitation”, and then enter BRP 2014-01 into the “Keywords” box. DEP has scheduled a **pre-RFR Informational Meeting to discuss potential projects** before the FFY 14 604 RFR is issued, in or around February 2014. DEP recommends potential respondents attend this meeting to discuss your ideas for new projects. The meeting will be held in the Commissioner’s Conference Room at [MassDEPs Central Regional Office in Worcester](#) on **Tuesday, January 28,**

**2014** from 10 AM to 12:00 Noon (snow date is January 29<sup>th</sup>). Contact Gary Gonyea at (617) 556-1152 or [gary.gonyea@state.ma.us](mailto:gary.gonyea@state.ma.us) for more info.

The Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)'s [Massachusetts Recreational Trails Program](#) (RTP) makes grants to support a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects throughout the Commonwealth. DCR is assisted by the [Massachusetts Recreational Trails Advisory Board](#) (MARTAB) in the administration of the RTP. Funds are disbursed to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. While the RTP generally provides grants in the \$2,000-\$50,000 range, grant proposals seeking as much as \$100,000 may be awarded based on need, breadth and reach of the trail project. RTP grants are **reimbursement** grants, meaning grantees must apply for reimbursement after expenditures have been made and by providing the required documentation. The application **deadline** for 2014 RTP grants is **February 1, 2014**. Click [here](#) or contact RTP Coordinator Amanda Lewis at (413) 586-8706 ext. 19 or [amanda.lewis@state.ma.us](mailto:amanda.lewis@state.ma.us) for more info.

Launched in 2007, the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)'s [Blue Water Project](#) is a 10-year global charitable commitment of \$50 million to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water, now and for future generations. The project's [Community Action Grants](#) range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and are awarded to local or community-based organizations in the U.S., as well as Canada and the Caribbean. In 2013-2014, the RBC Blue Water Project will focus on supporting **initiatives that help protect and preserve water in towns, cities and urbanized areas with populations of more than 10,000 people** that focus on: Improved control and management of urban storm or rain water; Efficient and innovative use (or capture and reuse) of water in towns and cities; Protection and restoration of urban waterways; and Improved urban water quality. The application **deadline** is **February 3, 2014**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info, and [here](#) to read a recent *Gulf of Maine Times* article about RBC-funded projects in that region.

**EPA's [Environmental Education Model Grant Program](#)** works to engage communities across the country through educational projects that have a lasting impact on local watersheds and air quality. This year's competitive grants program will total \$2.77 million. Grants will be awarded from each of the ten EPA regional offices and EPA's headquarters in Washington, DC for a total of 22 to 32 grants. Each award will be an estimated \$75,000 to \$200,000. The application **deadline** is **February 4, 2014**; click [here](#) for more info, or contact Kristen Conroy U.S. EPA, Region 1, at [conroy.kristin@epa.gov](mailto:conroy.kristin@epa.gov).

The [Five Star/Urban Waters Restoration Program](#) seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships for **wetland, forest, riparian and coastal habitat restoration, management, outreach and stewardship with a particular focus on water quality, watersheds and the habitats they support**. The National Association of Counties, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC), in cooperation with the EPA's [wetland restoration](#) and [Urban Waters](#) programs, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)' [Urban Refuges Program](#), and FedEx EarthSmart Outreach (for Boston), are pleased to solicit applications for the 2014 Five Star/Urban Waters Restoration Program. In 2014, NFWF anticipates that approximately \$1,800,000 in combined total Five Star/Urban Waters funding will be available. The application **deadline** is **February 5, 2014**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

The [New England Wild Flower Society](#) (NEWFS) is currently seeking applicants for the six-month [Herbert J. Esther M. Atkinson Conservation Fellowship and Lovejoy Conservation Fellowship](#), and the three-month [Mary Lee Everett Conservation Fellowship](#). The Everett Fellow will engage in many aspects of administering NEWFS's conservation programs, including obtaining landowner permission for rare plant surveys, sending out volunteer assignments, and entering data. Atkinson/Lovejoy fellows will also assist with NEWFS's [New England Plant Conservation Program](#) (NEPCoP) and the [Plant Conservation Volunteer \(PCV\) Corps](#). Candidates for any of these fellowships should have some familiarity with the flora of New England and ecological processes, excellent speaking and writing skills, good phone skills, a willingness to call landowners, and a sense of humor. Fellows must respect and maintain the confidentiality of rare species locations. Additionally some long days in difficult situations

(hot, buggy, and wet) are required. The application **deadline** for all these positions is **February 11, 2014**; click [here](#) or contact John Burns, Plant Conservation Volunteer Coordinator, at [jburns@newenglandwild.org](mailto:jburns@newenglandwild.org) or (508) 877-7630 ext. 3204 for more info.

The [Lincoln Institute of Land Policy](#) in Cambridge, Massachusetts recently announced [its 2013-2014 call for papers](#) from undergraduate and graduate students, recent students, and young professionals **that participate in and lead projects that catalyze large landscape conservation initiatives**: novel, strategically significant, and measurably effective, that are transferable to other institutions and jurisdictions in conserving land and biodiversity across multiple jurisdictional boundaries, that involve multiple sectors (public, private, non-profit/non-governmental and academic), and potentially involving multiple fields of study. Of particular interest are initiatives in which collaborative efforts across parcel and sectoral boundaries demonstrate that the cumulative impact of the profiled initiative is “greater than the sum of the parts” in terms of **biodiversity conservation, water quality, sustainable resource production, amenity value, or some other ecosystem service**. Profiles of exemplary initiatives may be found at: [www.conservationalcatalysts.org](http://www.conservationalcatalysts.org). Authors of 4-5 selected submissions willing to further develop their work for a widely-circulated publication will be eligible to be awarded a Lincoln Travel Grant (approx. \$3,000/participant) to attend the **International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Parks Congress**, taking place in November 2014 in Sydney, Australia. All interested applicants must submit their proposals no later than **February 15, 2014** to [James Levitt](#), Fellow, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, at [studentsascatalysts@gmail.com](mailto:studentsascatalysts@gmail.com). Click [here](#) for more info.

The [New England Outdoor Writers Association](#) (NEOWA) is sponsoring a [Youth Outdoor Writing Contest](#) for school students in grades 6-12 across New England. Students are invited to submit a writing entry pertaining to any outdoor activity by **February 15, 2014**. Entries must pertain to an outdoor-oriented topic and can include: hunting, fishing, boating, archery, shooting, field trials, sporting dogs, camping, woodcraft, diving, hiking, rock climbing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, wildlife watching, natural history, conservation, ecology, and similar activities. The written work should not exceed 500 words. Massachusetts student entries must be submitted in digital format via email to, Mike Roche ([mikeroche3@msn.com](mailto:mikeroche3@msn.com)), the NEOWA Massachusetts chairperson. Division winners will receive \$125, and the two New England-wide winners will receive an additional \$150, bringing their award to \$275 each. Click [here](#) or contact Marion Larson [[marion.larson@state.ma.us](mailto:marion.larson@state.ma.us), (508) 389-6311] for more info.

The Ridgewood, NJ-based [James Rose Center for Landscape Architectural Research and Design](#) recently announced its third biennial design competition and exhibition, [Suburbia Transformed 3.0, One Garden at a Time: Exploring the Aesthetics of Landscape Experience in the Age of Sustainability](#). The goal of *Suburbia Transformed 3.0* is to promote and celebrate residential designs that go beyond “green” by explicitly using sustainable strategies, tactics, and technologies to enrich the aesthetic spatial experience of people. The emphasis is on how such sustainable landscapes can be beautiful, inspiring, perhaps profound, and serve as examples for transforming the suburban residential fabric, one garden at a time. This is an international competition for built and visionary (unbuilt) residential landscapes in professional and student categories. Entries are due before **February 18, 2014**; click [here](#) for more info.

**Interested in crafting literary writing about the environment and the natural world?** Hone your skills at the inaugural [Bread Loaf Orion Environmental Writers’ Conference](#), co-sponsored by the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, *Orion* Magazine, and Middlebury College’s Environmental Studies Program. The [Conference](#) is scheduled to take place from **June 9-15, 2014** in [Ripton, VT](#). Acceptance to the Conference is based on the strength and promise of an applicant’s submitted writing sample and the degree to which the applicant and his or her work will benefit from the Conference. While applications will be considered on a rolling basis until **April 1, 2014**, you are advised to **apply early** before all the Conference slots are filled. Click [here](#) to apply and [here](#) for more info about the Conference.

EPA is currently welcoming applications from public school teachers for the third annual [Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators](#). The award recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers and their local education agencies nationwide for excellence in integrating environmental education into their lessons and connecting



students with their communities and the natural world. Winners will receive \$2,000 to support their professional development in environmental education and each winner's school will also receive a \$2,000 award to help fund environmental education activities and programs that support the teacher. The application **deadline** is **February 28, 2014**; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

The **Robbins-de Beaumont Foundation** (no web page) supports nonprofit organizations whose goals are helping people reach their full potential as contributing members of their families, neighborhoods, and society at large. A majority of the Foundation's grants are provided to organizations in New England and New York. The focus is on the education of children and adults in the several areas, including **volunteerism** and **preservation of the environment**. Limited funds are available for unsolicited grants for new, innovative projects that address identified needs of the community served and have relatively modest operating budgets. Types of support include seed-money/start-up funds and special programs. The Foundation does not typically fund organizations whose annual operating budget exceeds \$1,000,000 or which have been in existence for over ten years. Application guidelines may be requested in writing or by phone via the contact info below. Concept papers are due by **March 1**; if invited to submit a full proposal, it is due by **June 30**. To apply or for more info, contact Mr. Joseph C. Robbins, Trustee, Robbins-de Beaumont Foundation, c/o Sullivan & Worcester LLP, One Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109. Telephone: (617) 338-2816, (617) 338-2880 (FAX).

The [Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund](#) provides capital grants to promote the **acquisition, design, repair, rehabilitation renovation, expansion, or construction of nonprofit cultural facilities in Massachusetts**. All grants from the Fund must be matched with cash contributions from the private or public sector. The fund enables two state programs (the [Massachusetts Cultural Council](#) (MCC) and [MassDevelopment](#)) to support capital projects in the arts, humanities and sciences that create jobs, educate adults and improve the quality of life in cities and towns across the state. [Governor Patrick recently announced the availability of \\$15 million in funding for the Mass. Cultural Facilities Fund in 2014](#). The MCC and MassDevelopment are currently finalizing the application guidelines and timeline for the next round of grants. It is anticipated that guidelines will be released and info sessions held in January, 2014, with the **deadline** to apply in **March 2014**, and the successful grant awards announced in June. If you've never completed a Cultural Facilities Fund application before, it is very important that you attend one of the January info sessions. In the meantime, to receive email notifications about the Cultural Facilities Fund, the release date of the application, and information sessions, [join MCC's email list](#), or click [here](#) to read the FAQ page.

The Pomfret, CT-based [1772 Foundation recently announced](#) the availability of funding for **Northeast Land Trusts Engaged in Farmland Protection**. The purpose of this grant program is to support sustainable regional food systems through the protection of critical farmland in the New York and Boston foodsheds. Applicants who have matching funds are most favorably considered. Requests of up to \$50,000 for farmland acquisition (acquisition capital costs as well as transaction-related costs) will be considered from land trusts meeting the following criteria: Have a primary interest in farmland protection; Protect farmland within a 100-mile radius of Boston or New York City (i.e., all of Massachusetts east of Berkshire County); and Have adopted the [Land Trust Alliance's Standards and Practices](#). The application **deadline** is **March 7, 2014**; click [here](#) or contact Kevin Case [[kcase@lta.org](mailto:kcase@lta.org), (860) 324-6825] for more info.

The [RSF Seed Fund](#) [part of [RSF Social Finance](#) (formerly known as the Rudolph Steiner Foundation), which [provides loans to nonprofits](#)] provides small gifts (between \$500 and \$5,000) to seed new initiatives that fall within RSF's mission statement. Successful grantees offer innovative solutions to furthering the field of social finance, or address issues in one of RSF's three focus areas (Food & Agriculture, Education & the Arts, and **Ecological Stewardship**). Grantees should demonstrate capacity for growth, and plans to reach financial independence. If you would like to submit a grant proposal to the RSF Seed Fund, please [review the Eligibility & Application Process](#). For more information on this program, please contact Catherine Covington at (415) 561-6151 or [catherine.covington@rsfsocialfinance.org](mailto:catherine.covington@rsfsocialfinance.org); the annual application **deadline** for the RSF Seed Fund is **March 15**.

[Western Massachusetts Electric Company](#) (WMECo) [Community Investment Grants](#) are made to local

organizations undertaking projects in the priority areas of economic and community development, education and workforce development, and **environmental leadership and stewardship** (“programs that promote environmental education, alternative and renewable energy, and environmental conservation projects, as well as those that protect or improve the environment and preserve natural habitats” – click [here](#) to read about a recently-funded project in Amherst). Applications for Community Investments grants are reviewed twice a year; applications for the first round must be postmarked by **April 15**, and for the second round by October 15. Award recipients will be notified in June and December respectively. Click [here](#) to download the application form for funding requests totaling up to \$1500 (click [here](#) to see a sample completed application). For funding requests totaling greater than \$1500, you’ll need to complete the full [grant application](#) (click [here](#) to see a sample completed application). To submit an application (short or full), please send an email, with your application attached, to [Edgar Alejandro](#), or click [here](#) for more info. [See also WMECo parent company **Northeast Utilities** (NU)’s new [NU Land Trust](#) and [Land Management](#) programs].

The [Exelon Corporate Contribution Program](#) strives to improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in the company’s service territories (which includes **Massachusetts** - click [here](#) for specific info). The company provides grants to nonprofit organizations that demonstrate a proven track record in addressing key community needs. Funding priorities include education, **the environment**, arts and culture, and neighborhood development. Program, event, and sponsorship support are provided. Online applications may be submitted throughout the year; click [here](#) to apply or for more info.

The [Whole Foods Market Community Giving Program](#) supports local nonprofit and educational organizations that are important to [each community in the U.S. where stores are located](#). Several times each year, Whole Foods Market stores hold community giving days (otherwise known as “5% Days”) where five percent of that day’s net sales are donated to a local nonprofit or educational organization. Each year Whole Foods Market gives a minimum of 5% of its net profits to nonprofit and educational organizations in the [locations where the company has stores](#). Examples of the types of organizations supported include: **education**: school support organizations, after-school organizations, etc.; **community and culture**: arts organizations, museums, parks, etc.; **human interest**: elder care, children and youth, homeless assistance, etc.; and **environmental issues**: organic food and farming, natural wildlife protection, green living, etc. Last but not least, team members are constantly volunteering their time and expertise to an assortment of local non-profits. If you have questions about Whole Foods’ donation policy or have a nonprofit or educational organization you would like the company to support, please contact the Marketing Director at your local store or fill out a [donation request form](#).

Grants made by Boston-based [Cedar Tree Foundation](#) typically go to projects that relate to **Environmental Education, Environmental Health or Sustainable Agriculture** (click [here](#) to see a listing of past grant recipients and amounts). The Foundation gives particular consideration to **proposals demonstrating strong elements of environmental justice and/or conservation** within the program areas listed above. While the Foundation does not accept uninvited proposals, it welcomes letters of inquiry in a prescribed format (click [here](#) for more details).

The mission of the Bethesda, MD-based [Cornell-Douglas Foundation](#) is “to provide small grants to organizations which promote the vision of the foundation: **advocating for environmental health and justice, encouraging stewardship of the environment, and furthering respect for sustainability of resources**”. Groups seeking funding should click [here](#) to read more about the Foundation’s priorities (which include **watershed protection and land conservation**) and guidelines; applications are accepted throughout the year. This foundation also provides a [helpful check list](#) with **useful advice for prospective grant seekers**, worth looking at even if you won’t be applying to this particular foundation.

The [Kresge Foundation’s Healthy Environments Grant Program](#) seeks to **improve the health and well-being of vulnerable populations by making the places they live, learn, work and play safe and conducive to overall good health**. The Healthy Homes Initiative supports innovative efforts to address the impacts of housing on health. The Transportation and the Built Environment initiative addresses the health effects of freight transport, especially on vulnerable communities and workers, as well as efforts to **re-examine aspects of the built**

**environment that create barriers to physical activity, air and water quality, and safety.** The Healthy Food initiative strives to improve food system policies, especially those that provide better access to healthful foods, fruits, and vegetables and reduce the emphasis on products without positive nutritional benefits. Online [preliminary applications](#) may be submitted at any time. Click [here](#) to review the application guidelines and for additional details.

The NYC-based [Norman Foundation](#) supports “efforts that strengthen the ability of communities to determine their own economic, environmental and social well-being, and that help people control those forces that affect their lives. These efforts may: promote economic justice and development through community organizing, coalition building and policy reform efforts; work to prevent the disposal of toxics in communities, and to link environmental issues with economic and social justice; or link community-based economic and environmental justice organizing to national and international reform efforts.” Priority is given to organizations with annual budgets of under \$1 million. Prospective grantees should initiate the application process by sending a short two or three page letter of inquiry to the Program Director. There are no set deadlines, and letters of inquiry are reviewed throughout the year. The Foundation only accepts full proposals upon positive response to the letter of inquiry. Click [here](#) to read the guidelines and [here](#) on how to apply for funding.

The NJ-based [F.M. Kirby Foundation](#) makes grants “to a wide range of nonprofit organizations in education, health and medicine, the arts and humanities, civic and public affairs, as well as religious, welfare and youth organizations”. Organizations not previously invited to submit proposals to the Foundation should submit a letter of inquiry instead; click [here](#) for more info.

One of the program areas of the NYC-based [Mertz-Gilmore Foundation](#) is [solutions to climate change](#), including projects that increase public support for taking action on climate change. The foundation is particularly interested in projects that: engage new constituencies, on a broad scale, in a meaningful effort to push for strong and binding national policy; test new approaches to fostering leadership and motivating action, on a broad scale, to reduce global warming pollution; and generate broader grassroots civic engagement and catalyze volunteer activism. While the Foundation does not accept unsolicited grant applications, it invites grant seekers to submit an inquiry letter of no more than three pages describing the mission of the organization and the purpose of the request. Prospective grant seekers should also click [here](#) to read the Foundations FAQ page about funding priorities and processes.

The [Max and Anna Levinson Foundation](#) “makes grants to nonprofit organizations committed to developing a more just, caring, ecological and resilient world. We seek people and organizations that combine idealism, dedication and genuine concern with rigorous analysis and strategic plans, and that foster a sense of social connection, mutual recognition and solidarity”. One of the Foundation’s three categories of giving, **Environment**, includes: Protection of Ecosystems and Biological Diversity; Fossil Fuel Resistance and Alternative Energy; Sustainable Agriculture and Local Green Economic Development; Climate Change; and the Development of Environmental Movements. Grants are typically in the \$30,000 range. While the Foundation accepts grant proposals by invitation only, prospective grant seekers can fill out an [online letter of inquiry](#) to help the Foundation determine your organization and project’s eligibility for a grant. If you are deemed to be eligible, then you may receive an invitation to submit a proposal.

The **Mattina R. Proctor Foundation** (no web page) makes grants for cultural, health, conservation and other purposes, primarily in Massachusetts and Maine. Grants are in the \$1,000-\$50,000 range (occasionally larger), and a total of about \$600,000 is distributed annually. Organizations seeking funding should do so in the form of a letter including a description of the charitable organization seeking funding and the purpose for which the funds are sought, accompanied by proof of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Send it to: Mr. Jeffrey Hutchins, Trustee, Mattina R. Proctor Foundation, c/o Broude & Hochberg, LLP, 75 Federal Street, Suite 1310, Boston, MA 02110 Telephone: (617) 748-5100; (617) 748-5115 (FAX). There are no specified forms or deadlines.

The **Fuller Family Charitable Trust** (no web page) makes grants (generally in the \$1-5,000 range) to health, social and animal welfare, and conservation-related organizations, in coastal RI and CT, and elsewhere. Organizations



seeking grants may do so in the form of a written letter addressed to: Fuller Family Charitable Trust, c/o Rogean B. Makowski, The Washington Trust Company, 23 Broad St., Westerly, RI 02891. Telephone: (401) 348-1265. There are no specified application forms or deadlines.

The **Knapp Foundation** (no web page) primarily supports nonprofit organizations and educational institutions on the East Coast. While majority of the Foundation's grant awards are for college and university library acquisitions of collections, computer equipment, and resource materials, the Foundation also offers **equipment grants for wildlife conservation education programs**. Interested applicants should submit a written request stating the project goals and needs, plus other funding commitments (the Foundation works on a matching grant basis), accompanied by a copy of the organization's tax-exempt certificate and most recent annual report. Send it to: Ms. Antoinette Vojvoda, President, Knapp Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box O, St. Michaels, MD 21663. Telephone: (410) 745-5660.

The **Virginia S. Warner Foundation** (no web page) makes grants to educational and conservation organizations, primarily in Virginia and Massachusetts. Groups wishing to apply for funding from the Foundation should request an application form at any time by writing to: The Board of Directors of the Virginia S. Warner Foundation, Inc., c/o W. Henry, 1990 M. St., N.W., Suite 250, Washington, DC 20036.

The **Lebensfeld Foundation** (no web page) primarily supports nonprofit organizations in the Mid-Atlantic and New England areas. The Foundation's areas of interest include health, education, civic affairs, children and youth, and arts and culture. Types of support include general operating and project support. Typical grant size is in the \$2,500 – 10,000 range. Groups seeking funding should do so in the form of a letter describing the organization and the purpose for which funds are being requested. Applicants should also include a copy of the IRS letter establishing tax-exempt status. Send it to: Mr. Robert J. Giuffra, Jr., Vice President, Lebensfeld Foundation, c/o Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, 125 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004-2498. Telephone: (212) 558-3121.

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## Calendar

*(sorted chronologically by date of event, submission deadline, etc. Descriptive text for events provided below is obtained from the events' web pages.)*

While, over the past 100 years or so, more than 1,100 dams have been removed from rivers across the U.S., the majority of these structures have been removed in the last fourteen years. **Dam removal stories** range from tiny, three-foot weirs, to clearing out of the remains of failed, dilapidated, abandoned dams, to the removal of a 1,200-foot long earthen behemoth. Methods of removal vary almost as much as the size and type of dam removed, ranging from dams that were removed by hand in ecologically sensitive areas, to using dynamite to blow up large concrete structures.. In [Navigating State Regulatory Arenas: Differing Approaches for Permitting River Restoration](#), a free webinar scheduled for **Wednesday, December 18, 2013**, and part of a [Restoration Webinar Series](#) co-hosted by NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Serena McClain of American Rivers will lead a discussion that will look at the reasons for this variability, focusing on the affect the regulatory environment can have on project implementation. To do this, we will examine state and federal regulatory environments and the common challenges faced when trying to get a restoration project permitted (while examples will focus on dam removal, both issues and advice apply to a broader category of river restoration). We will also examine what works and the states where regulatory agencies have developed tools and/or practices that foster successful restoration projects. The discussion will end with the top five tips for improving your state's regulatory process. Click [here](#) to register for the December 18 webinar, [here](#) for more info on this and related webinars in the Restoration Series, and [here](#) to view archived webinars in the series.

[Mass. Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary](#) is now accepting proposals for presentations to be made at the [19th Annual Cape Cod Natural History Conference](#), scheduled to take place on **Saturday, March 15, 2014**. Click [here](#) or contact Melissa Lowe [(508) 349-2615 ext. 107 or [m Lowe@massaudubon.org](mailto:m Lowe@massaudubon.org)] to obtain a submission form or for more info; the **deadline** for submissions is **January 1**.

A two-day conference entitled [New Directions in the American Landscape's 25th Anniversary Program: Assessing and Reassessing Ecological Design](#), is scheduled to take place on **January 9-10 (Thurs-Fri.), 2014** at Connecticut College in New London, CT. Click [here](#) to download the conference program and registration form.

The [Community Preservation Coalition](#) (CPC) will be hosting the [3rd Annual Robert Kuehn Community Preservation Awards](#) on **Tuesday, January 14, 2014** from 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in the Great Hall of the Massachusetts State House. “Come celebrate ten community preservation heroes who have helped preserve the unique character of their communities through CPA-funded affordable housing, historic preservation, open space conservation, and outdoor recreation initiatives.” Click [here](#) for more info.

Biodiversity can provide “insurance” for ecosystems, because diverse communities are more likely to contain a species capable of surviving and recovering from a particular stress or disturbance. Diversity is not limited to differences among species, however, and even differences among individuals of the same species can strongly affect the ability of ecosystems to withstand disturbance. When and where may diversity affect coastal systems such as seagrasses and salt marshes? These and other questions will be addresses in a Public Lecture entitled [Biodiversity in Salt Marshes and Seagrass: Does it Matter?](#), scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, January 14** from 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM at the Nahant Village Church, 27 Cliff Street in Nahant. The presentation is by A. Randall Hughes, Assistant Professor of Marine and Environmental Sciences, and the event is sponsored by Northeastern University's Marine Science Center. Click [here](#) for more info.

[You are invited](#) to share your projects and presentations with the audience at the [70th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference](#) (aka NEAFWA Conference), taking place on **Sunday, April 13 - Tuesday, April 15, 2014** in Portland, ME. Presentations are being sought for one or more of the following topics: Wildlife; Fisheries; Information & Education; and Law Enforcement. You may submit a proposal for either: a 20 minute presentation to be combined with other like topics; or a Poster display. The **deadline** for submissions is **January 15, 2014**. Click [here](#) to submit a presentation or [here](#) for more info.

A symposium entitled [Managing Large-Scale Landscapes Sustainably](#), co-sponsored by the [Ecological Landscaping Association](#) (ELA) and Wellesley College, will be taking place on **Thursday, January 16, 2014** (Snow Date Jan. 17) from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM at the Wellesley College Science Center. The symposium will focus on the establishment and maintenance of large-scale landscapes that utilize fewer inputs, are designed and maintained with the environment in mind, and become more sustainable over time. Topics presented include *Runoff as Resource: Large Scale Stormwater Solutions* and *Managing Semi-Wild Landscapes*. Click [here](#) to register or contact the ELA at [ela.info@comcast.net](mailto:ela.info@comcast.net) or (617) 436-5838 for more info.

The **need statement** is arguably the most important part of a grant proposal. Understanding the most effective methods for documenting a need, and then using that info to engage the reader, is the key to submitting a powerful grant application. In [What IS Your Problem? Writing a Compelling Statement of Need](#), a [GrantStation](#)-sponsored, 90-minute webinar scheduled for **Wednesday, January 22, 2014** at 2:00 PM, GrantStation CEO Cynthia Adams will talk through not only how to find good information to build the need statement, but also how to grow the reader's interest, and create a sense of urgency around the issue to be addressed. This webinar is full of ideas, examples, and new ways to deliver your message so that the problem you are addressing is a need the grantmaker feels compelled to support! All levels of grantwriters are encouraged to attend. Click [here](#) to register.

The [Merrimack River Watershed Council](#) (MRWC) will be hosting its [2014 Annual Meeting](#) on **Saturday, January 25** from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the [Greater Lawrence Community Boathouse, 1 Eaton St. in Lawrence](#). “Come and enjoy brunch, meet other members, find out what we've been up to, and listen to a talk on *Connections*:

*The Surprising Links Between Us and Other Animals* by your Executive Director, Dr. Caroly Shumway. Please let us know if you are coming by emailing [info@merrimack.org](mailto:info@merrimack.org) by Jan 10th. For further info, contact: Caroly Shumway at (978) 655-4742.”

The [Mass. Coalition of Lake and Pond Associations](#) (MACOLAP) will be hosting its **27th Winter Workshop on Lake and Pond Management and Restoration** on **Saturday, January 25, 2014** from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM at Worcester State University (snow date Jan. 26). Presentations will be made on such subjects as dam management during large storms, flooding mitigation and preparedness, and watershed mapping to identify potential runoff problems. Contact Carol Hildreth, MACOLAP Winter Workshop Coordinator, [info@macolap.org](mailto:info@macolap.org) or [hildreth@comcast.net](mailto:hildreth@comcast.net), for more info.

Recent water issues, increasing populations worldwide, and variations in climate have impacted our water supply, creating questions and issues we’ve never been challenged with before. [\*\*\*Water, Civilization, and Nature: Addressing Water Challenges of the 21st Century\*\*\*](#), the title of a free “MOOC” (massive open online course) being offered at Colorado State University, will offer an in-depth look at these issues. MOOCs feature instructor-driven content with a heavy emphasis on student participation. This student-to-student communication creates knowledge and discoveries that enrich the course with a social aspect and shared experiences. The Water, Civilization, and Nature MOOC is divided into 13 modules (such as: Water Quality and Public Health; Governance, Dams, and Democracy; Aquatic Invasive Species; Headwater Streams; Instream Flows; and Wetland and Stream Restoration). You have the ability to move through all of them to complete the course in full, or pick and choose which individual modules most interest you, and complete only those. The course sessions begin on **January 27, 2014** and end on **March 23, 2014**. Click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

The [New England Wild Flower Society](#) (NEWFS) and the [Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions](#) (MACC) are co-sponsoring a class entitled [\*\*\*Wetland Shrubs in Winter\*\*\*](#), taught by [Roland “Boot” Bootwell](#), scheduled to take place on **February 5, 2014** from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at NEWFS’s Garden in the Woods in Framingham. Use a combination of branching patterns, bud and bark characteristics, habitat, persistent fruits, galls and marcescent (withered but still attached to the plant) leaves for the winter identification of wetland shrubs. With a pond, a stream, and a bog, the Garden provides an excellent field site for growth in and around wetlands. The class begins with a short session indoors, then will head into the Garden for a close look at 15-20 native New England shrubs (plus a non-native invasive or two) that grow in and around wetlands. The class also includes some fun and interesting natural history. Participants should bring lunch and a hand lens if you have one, and dress for the weather. Click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

In [\*\*\*Technical, cultural, and legal challenges associated with implementing four barrier removal projects on a high priority tributary to the Taunton River in Taunton, Massachusetts\*\*\*](#), a free webinar scheduled for **Tuesday, February 11, 2014** and part of a [Restoration Webinar Series](#) co-hosted by NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Beth Lambert of the Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) and Cathy Bozek of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will present the project objectives, highlight major challenges/solutions and share preliminary results of the [Mill River Restoration](#) initiative. Click [here](#) for more info on this and related webinars in the Restoration Series, and [here](#) to view archived webinars in the series.

Many projects designed to control and eliminate invasive species meet with initial success, only to find that an unintended consequence of that effort may result in new infestations and unexpected problems. [\*\*\*Invasive Plants: What Follows Success\*\*\*](#), a free webinar scheduled to take place on **Wednesday, February 19, 2014** from 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM, reviews the concepts and strategies that are used to deal with the successful removal of invasive species and the prevention of the establishment and spread of new species that arise when necessary actions that follow success are not taken into consideration prior to control efforts. Click [here](#) to register or for more info.

The **Ecological Landscape Alliance** ([ELA, recently re-named from the Ecological Landscaping Association](#)) will be hosting the [\*\*\*20th Annual ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace: Sustaining the Living Landscape\*\*\*](#) on **February 26 and 27 (Wed-Thurs), 2014** at the MassMutual Center in Springfield. Making the keynote presentation



on the evening of Wed. Feb. 26 is [Dr. John Todd](#), of [John Todd Ecological Design](#). Click [here](#) to register, [here](#) for more info, click [here](#) to view some of the sessions and accompanying materials presented at the 2013 ELA Conference, and [here](#) to view a video about one of John Todd's recent projects. [You might also want to read one or more of these articles recently appearing in the ELA's newsletter: [Floodplain Forest Restoration along the Housatonic River](#); [The Spicket River Greenway: Habitat Creation at Manchester Street Park](#) ; or [Practical Application of Tree Filter Systems](#).]

Coastal restoration and management go hand-in-hand by providing services and benefits via natural and built environments. They are pivotal for creating a pathway for sustainable job creation and economic growth, both of which are particularly critical at this time. [Restore America's Estuaries](#) and [The Coastal Society](#) are collaborating on and are soliciting presentations for [Inspiring Action, Creating Resilience: the 7th National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and 24th Biennial Meeting of The Coastal Society](#), scheduled to take place from November 1-5, 2014 at the Gaylord National Convention Center, just outside Washington, DC. The Summit Program Committee invites you to submit a proposal to present at the Summit which, for the first time, will address all aspects of coastal and estuarine restoration and management, in all habitats, at all scales, and all regions. The Program emphasizes lessons learned and best practices in every aspect of coastal and estuarine restoration and management. All proposals are due **February 28, 2014**; click [here](#) for more info and [here](#) to download the Call for Proposals document.

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## Online Resources

*(Descriptive text provided is obtained from the web pages themselves.)*

[Case Studies Analyzing the Economic Benefits of Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure](#), a 142-page technical report recently released by the U.S. EPA, helps **utilities, state and other municipal agencies, and other stormwater professionals understand the potential benefits of low impact development and green infrastructure (LID/GI) programs**. The report highlights 13 case studies of selected public entities throughout the U.S. that have conducted economic evaluations of their LID/GI programs. The objective of the report is to highlight different evaluation methods that have been successfully applied and also to demonstrate cases where LID/GI projects and programs have been shown to be economically beneficial. It is also hoped that the document will promote the use of LID/GI, where appropriate, to supplement grey stormwater infrastructure. Click [here](#) to download the report and/or to access related info.

[Archived versions](#) of recent **EPA Watershed Academy webinars** are now available online. Topics include: [Integrating Wetlands into Watershed Planning](#); [Using Social Indicators in Watershed Management Projects](#); the [National Stormwater Calculator](#), a new EPA tool designed to enable property owners, developers, landscapers and urban planners decide which stormwater management practices to install; and four recent webinars on [Harmful Algal Blooms](#) (aka "HABs", which includes [cyanobacteria](#)), a worsening environmental problem and public health threat (click [here](#) to download presentations about cyanobacteria made at a regional conference in 2010 sponsored by [NEIWPC](#)). Soon to be posted will be an archived version of the [Re-engaging Your Volunteer Monitoring Organization](#) webinar, which took place on November 19.

[EPA's Office of Water](#) recently released a [draft Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan](#) for public comment. The impacts of a changing climate - including increased extreme weather, floods, and droughts - affect EPA's work to protect clean water. Click [here](#) for more info on and to access the Office of Water's draft document, along with over a dozen other draft Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plans for other aspects of EPA's operations (including one for [EPA Region 1 – New England](#)). The public comment period for all of these drafts closes on **January 3, 2014**.

The EPA recently released [BASINS 4.1](#), an enhanced version of its environmental model **BASINS (Better Assessment Science Integrating point and Nonpoint Sources)**. BASINS version 4.1 includes numerous enhancements in the underlying GIS software, such as use of TauDEM software to better sketch watershed boundaries from topographic information, use of DFLOW to better estimate stream flow, and updated data management and analysis tools. BASINS was developed by EPA to assist states, local governments, and watershed groups in their efforts to manage their watersheds and develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). It does this by integrating environmental data, analysis tools, and watershed and water quality models. Click [here](#) to access BASINS 4.1 and for related info.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture** (USDA) and the **EPA** [recently announced](#) an expanded partnership to support **water quality trading** and other market-based approaches that provide benefits to the environment and economy. “New water quality trading markets hold incredible potential to benefit rural America by providing new income opportunities and enhancing conservation of water and wildlife habitat,” Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said. “Additionally, these efforts will strengthen businesses across the nation by providing a new pathway to comply with regulatory requirements.” “EPA is committed to finding collaborative solutions that protect and restore our nation’s waterways and the health of the communities that depend on them,” said EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. “We’re excited about partnering with USDA to expand support for water quality trading, which shows that environmental improvements can mean a better bottom line for farmers and ranchers.”

Water quality trading provides a cost-effective approach for regulated entities to comply with EPA Clean Water Act requirements, including water quality-based effluent limits in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits. **Trading would allow regulated entities to purchase and use pollutant reduction credits generated by other sources in a watershed.** Cost savings and other economic incentives are key motivators for parties engaged in trading. Water quality trading can also provide additional environmental and economic benefits, such as air quality improvements, enhanced wildlife habitat, carbon capture and storage, and new income and employment opportunities for rural America. Click [here](#) to access the press release in its entirety.

The [National Atlas of the United States](#), a periodic publication of a federal partnership led by the U.S. Geological Survey, contains a wealth of data and maps to “capture and depict the patterns, conditions, and trends of American life.” Earlier this summer, this partnership [posted a press release](#) about [Streamer](#), **an interactive mapping tool that lets you follow any major river or stream in America upstream to its headwaters or downstream to the ocean.** Streamer enables you to see where the water in a river or stream is coming from and going to. Click [here](#) to access the tool and [here](#) to read a blog posting about Streamer and its potential value for safeguarding headwater streams in the [Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership](#) (TRCP)’s website.

The [Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program](#) (BBNEP) recently launched [Storm Smart Planning and Climate Ready Assessments for Buzzards Bay](#), a website established to consolidate information, data, and assessments undertaken by the BBNEP and others about the potential impacts of storms, shifting shorelines, rising sea levels, and changes in climate and precipitation on Buzzards Bay and its watershed. Through links to technical information on floodplain expansion, migrating salt marshes, king tides, and other topics, the website also offers potential strategies to adapt to climate change issues. The following BBNEP resources are available through the website:

- [Interactive floodplain maps](#) that show the differences between new federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), older FIRMs, and BBNEP baseline maps.
- [Floodplain expansion maps](#) that provide projections of how the floodplain may expand with sea level rise under 1-, 2-, and 4-foot scenarios, along with reports for each town quantifying the value of structures within those flood zones.
- [Interactive tidal elevation maps](#) that show real-world elevations of mean high water.
- [Study of salt marsh expansion with sea level rise](#) that will map the effect of migrating salt marshes under 1-, 2-, and 4-foot increases in sea level.
- [New Bedford Harbor climate ready estuary and storm smart planning study](#) that will assess the vulnerabilities of the area’s stormwater, sewer, and other infrastructure.

The website also offers links to the Mass. Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)'s [StormSmart Coasts website](#), relevant documents and publications, weather-related websites, and hot topics for being storm smart and climate ready in Buzzards Bay.

[\*\*\*Sea Level Rise: Understanding and Applying Trends and Future Scenarios for Analysis and Planning\*\*\*](#), a new guidance document by the [Mass. Office of Coastal Zone Management](#), is intended to help coastal communities and others plan for and address potential sea level rise effects on residential and commercial development, infrastructure and critical facilities, and natural resources and ecosystems. The document includes background information on local and global sea level rise trends, summarizes the best available sea level rise projections, and provides general guidance in the selection and application of sea level rise scenarios for coastal vulnerability assessments, planning, and decision making for areas that may be at present or future risk from the effects of sea level rise. The document is intended to be updated as new science and information becomes available.

The [Great Marsh Coalition](#), made up of [ten federal, state and nonprofit partners](#), recently held the **Great Marsh Symposium 2013: *The Value of Natural Systems in Protecting Great Marsh Communities***. The full-day event invited coastal decision makers and interested local citizens from the region to discuss the value of natural systems in mitigating sea level rise impacts in the Great Marsh, the largest continuous stretch of salt marsh in New England. Click [here](#) to access and view the 2013 (as well as the 2013) Great Marsh Symposium presentations.

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## Non-government On-line Resources

*(in rough alphabetical order – the following are offered for information purposes only and are not an endorsement of the items listed below. Descriptive text provided is obtained from the web pages themselves.)*

### Avenza PDF Maps

<http://www.pdf-maps.com>

PDF Maps is a mobile map application that enables you to download maps for offline use on your Apple iOS or Android smartphone or tablet. Use your device's built-in GPS to track your location on the map. Plot and record information about locations, import and export placemarks, measure distance and area, and even plot photos. You can easily browse and purchase maps from all over the world using the convenient, in-app Avenza Map Store. (Many maps can be downloaded for free or for a very modest fee.) Maps currently available via this platform include: the [Taunton, MA USGS 7.5' Quadrangle map](#); the [Massachusetts Bay, North River](#) and many other NOAA nautical charts; a [map of the Discover Hamilton Trail](#) (an 8-mile loop trail that passes through numerous natural treasures in the Town of Hamilton, Massachusetts, including Harvard Forest, Bradley Palmer State Park, Appleton Farms Grass Rides, and Pingree Reservation); and the [Ipswich River Paddling Map](#), recently produced by the [Ipswich River Watershed Association](#) (IRWA). [The IRWA paddling map is also available in hard copy – click [here](#) for more info.]

### BeCause Water

<https://www.facebook.com/BeCauseWater>

Lack of public awareness for water sustainability is resulting in water pollution, water inefficiency, and the absence of corporate accountability. Established by [Matt Thomas](#) in 2011, BeCause Water's mission is to leverage the power of community-based activism to educate, empower, and incentivize sustainable water solutions. One of BeCause Water's objectives is to **reduce the purchase of bottled water in single-serving containers**, a practice it views as [unnecessary, wasteful and expensive](#). In support of that objective, BeCause Water recently launched [Drop In](#), a network of partnering businesses (currently limited to Greater Boston, but plans are to expand to a national network) that offer people a convenient, healthy, and environmentally responsible alternative to bottled water. The

Drop In smartphone app provides the location of businesses welcoming you to ‘Drop In’, fill up with their drinking water, and hydrate on the go either using your bottle or their cups. The app also provides a database of public drinking fountains, giving you anytime access to tap water in your area. Go to [BeCause Water’s Drop In campaign on Indiegogo](#) to learn how you can participate in this initiative.

### **Brewers for Clean Water**

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/brewers-for-clean-water>

For centuries, brewers have depended on clean, plentiful water supplies to craft the world’s greatest beers. Furthermore, clean water sources are critical for public health and the health of a wide range of industries. The recently-established Brewers for Clean Water, a partnership between the **Natural Resources Defense Council** (NRDC) and craft brewing companies, advocates on behalf of clean water and the Clean Water Act, and for responsible regulations that fight pollution and protect drinking water at its source by keeping small streams and wetlands healthy. Click [here](#) to see info about the participating breweries in this campaign, and [here](#) to read an article about the campaign appearing in the January, 2014 issue of *All About Beer Magazine*.

### **Chideo**

<http://www.chideo.com>

Derived from combination of the words Charity + Video, the recently-established Chideo (still in beta mode) was created to better enable nonprofits to raise money by combining cutting-edge technology, the spirit of giving and the power of entertainment. This “donate to watch” video platform enables celebrities, industry and thought-leaders to raise money for their selected charities by offering exclusive content to fans and followers who may, in turn, pose questions of their own, rally support or donate to watch exclusive Chideo content. Local organizations participating in Chideo include the [Walden Woods Project](#). Click [here](#) for more info.

### **Coastal Resilience 2.0**

<http://www.coastalresilience.org>

Recently launched by [The Nature Conservancy](#), the Coastal Resilience 2.0 website offers a suite of tools that enables decision makers to assess risk and identify **nature-based solutions** to reduce socio-economic vulnerability to coastal hazards. The site’s [mapping tools](#) allow users to interactively examine storm surge, sea level rise, natural resources, vulnerable communities, and assets and to develop risk reduction and restoration solutions. Click [here](#) for more info.

### **Conservation Gateway**

<http://www.conservationgateway.org>

Set up and maintained by [The Nature Conservancy](#) (TNC), the purpose of the Gateway is to share info that is of potential use to the conservation practitioner, scientist and decision-maker. The website is divided into three sections: [Conservation Planning](#); [Conservation Practices](#) (which covers topics like **Ecosystem Services** and **Freshwater Conservation**); and [Conservation by Geography](#). Resources on this page include [Language of Conservation 2013: Updated Recommendations on How to Communicate Effectively to Build Support for Conservation](#), the third iteration of a TNC-commissioned memorandum, providing sound advice on how conservation organizations and initiatives can most effectively communicate to and build support from the public for their missions and activities.

### **Foundation Directory Online (FDO) Free**

<http://fdo.foundationcenter.org>

Recently launched by the [Foundation Center](#), the FDO Free online tool dramatically expands public access to the Center’s authoritative collection of foundation information and gives nonprofits a powerful new fundraising tool.



At no cost, users can search the basic profiles and IRS Forms 990-PF of nearly 90,000 grantmakers. Click [here](#) to read the press release and [here](#) to begin your free search. (More advanced/broader searches of funders, along with other tools, are available for a fee; click [here](#) for more info.)

### Google One Today

<http://www.google.com/onetoday>

One Today is a mobile app (currently available only to Android users in the U.S.) that **lets people learn about different nonprofits every day, donate to projects that inspire them, and amplify their impact by matching their friends' donations.** [Nonprofits](#) wishing to be eligible to receive donations through Google One Today need to first be registered at [Google Nonprofits](#). [Taking part in Google Nonprofits might be a good idea for your group anyway, regardless of whether or not you take part in One Today, as it enables you to gain free access to many Google products, including [Google Analytics](#), which can provide valuable insights into your website activity: understand how people find your website, where they spend the most time on your site, and more.] Nonprofit organizations seeking to enlist in One Today should click [here](#) to register, or click [here](#) for the FAQ page and [here](#) for the support page. [Click [here](#) to access a recent [Network for Good](#)-sponsored [webinar on Google One Today](#).]

### Hands-on Tech Boston

<http://www.handsontechboston.org/>

A national collaboration among the [Corporation For National and Community Service](#) (CNCS), [Google](#), and [The Points of Light Foundation](#), and hosted locally by [Common Impact](#), HandsOn Tech Boston engages [skills-based volunteers](#) to help local non-profits build their capacity through [pro bono technology assistance](#) and [free technology trainings](#), with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for local communities. While Hands-on Tech is particularly interested in assisting groups serving low-income populations, many of its services are available to (and can benefit) any nonprofit organization. Resources at this website include [videos](#) of recent trainings where experts presented tips for [how nonprofits can more effectively use social networking to advance their missions](#). [See also the slides for a recent Hands-on Tech Boston training entitled [Strategic Website Planning for Nonprofits](#), by [Jen Kramer](#).]

### Maximum Performance (MaP)

<http://www.map-testing.com>

A “Consumer Reports” of sorts for **toilets**, developed a decade ago in response to many complaints about the poor performance of some of the models of the lower-flow toilets available at that time, MaP is a Maximum Performance scale that rates toilet efficiency and flush performance, plus gives detailed info on individual toilet characteristics. The result is [up-to-date, independently verified, comprehensive toilet information](#). The recently-updated MaP website includes more searchable toilets than ever before, an easy-to-use interface for homeowners as well as plumbers and other professionals, and enhanced reports search functionality. [Click [here](#) to learn about an innovative [“sink in toilet” design](#) that can take water conservation one step further.]

### MetroQuest

<http://metroquest.com>

A **public engagement tool**, MetroQuest software enables the public to learn about proposed projects and provide meaningful feedback using a variety of fun and visual screens. It’s easy to mix and match screens to accomplish the engagement goals for each phase of the project, from identifying and ranking priorities, to rating scenarios or strategies, to adding comments on maps and much more. To ensure the broadest participation, MetroQuest can be accessed on the web or mobile devices, at touchscreen kiosks and in engaging “town hall”-style workshops. Click [here](#) to view a brief introductory video about how MetroQuest works, and/or [here](#) to learn about and sign up for a [free webinar about MetroQuest](#), scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, December 17, 2013** from 1:00 - 2:00 PM.

## Outdoors Rx

<http://www.outdoors.org/about/newsroom/outdoorsrx.cfm>

A recently-launched collaboration between the [Appalachian Mountain Club](#) (AMC) and [Mass. General Hospital for Children](#) (MGH/C), Outdoors Rx is an innovative program that gives healthcare professionals the dedicated resources for **prescribing regular outdoor physical activity to children**. This partnership combines AMC's expertise in getting children and families outside and active with the medical expertise of MGH/C and the local healthcare practitioner community to combat the sedentary lifestyles of overstressed and overscheduled families. Info at this page includes a [press release](#) announcing the program, an [FAQ page](#), and info on the two pilot Outdoors Rx communities of [Waltham](#) and [Framingham](#). Call (617) 391-6598 for more info. [See/hear recent coverage of Outdoors Rx on radio station [WBUR](#) and the [Boston Globe](#), and click [here](#) to read about [DC Park Rx](#), a similar initiative in Washington, DC.]

## Perkle

<https://perkle.org>

Perkle is a recent addition to the online platforms that enable **nonprofit causes to raise funds from online shopping activity** (see [IGive](#) for another example). For example: shoppers wishing to support Perkle participant [Alliance for Water Efficiency](#) (AWE) click on <http://prkl.it/a4we>, then click on "SHOP, SAVE, SUPPORT" at the top of the page to see a list of participating retailers, many of which offer additional "perks" (deals) through the website. Then, if an online purchase is made, the retailer makes a donation to AWE. Other nonprofit groups that might want to do fundraising via Perkle should click [here](#) to sign up or for more info.

## River Network

[www.rivernetwork.org](http://www.rivernetwork.org)

Resources at this website include [Rivermaps.org](#), River Networks recently-updated, **interactive online map**, which enables anyone to locate a river/watershed group active in their vicinity, or for another area they are curious about, a river they plan a paddling trip to, etc., as well as access real-time streamflow gage data from the USGS. Also posted here is a [recent edition \(Number 2-2013\) of River Network's River Voices newsletter](#), which contains many interesting and useful articles (mostly on the theme of **urban river revitalization**), including one on the Charles River Watershed Association's [Blue Cities® Initiative](#) (see pp. 17-19); see also [River Network's Habitat Blog](#).

## Scoop.it

<http://www.scoop.it>

"Curation" is a when a person, organization or other entity "curates" (previews, evaluates and interprets) online content on a specific topic and then makes the curated info easily accessible to those interested in that particular topic. Ideally, content curation compiles the "cream of the crop" of the info web surfers are seeking, be it in the form of audio, video, articles or more. Scoop.it, a free **publishing-by-curation platform**, enables anyone to curate online info on any topic for any audience and present it in an online, magazine-type format. The staff at [River Network](#), for example, use Scoop.it to provide quick links to stories they think are important for watershed and river advocates (the two current categories are the [Clean Water Act](#) and [River and Wetland Restoration](#)). Click [here](#) to see a brief video on how Scoop.it works, and [here](#) to read an article summarizing Scoop.it and similar content curation platform products.

## Sea Run Brook Trout Coalition (SRBTC)

<http://www.searunbrookie.org>

**How many people know that there are wild brook trout in southeastern Massachusetts**, or know that they may be passing over a brook trout stream on their way to and from work? Most people from the South Shore suburbs of Boston, Cape Cod, or the South Coast cities of Fall River and New Bedford would be surprised to learn that southeastern Massachusetts was once a popular trout fishing destination. Before the Industrial Revolution,

there were hundreds of rivers and streams from Long Island to Maine with populations of [sea-run brook trout](#). Prized for their flavor, size and strength, “salter” brook trout became the focus of America’s first sport fishery. By the turn of the (20<sup>th</sup>) century, however, dam building and habitat degradation precipitated the decline of the fishery, and salter populations were reduced to a remnant of their former abundance. Today’s salter populations are hanging on in a relatively few tidal creeks and rivers, for the most part unnoticed. Yet, given a chance, with stream habitat restoration and the removal of dams and other barriers, salter populations can rebound quickly. That is the primary mission of the SRBTC, “a science-based, grassroots alliance of academics, fishery biologists, ecologists, non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), and private citizens whose goal is the preservation and restoration of wild, native coastal brook trout in their historic range”. Resources at this page include the [current \(Summer 2013\)](#) and [inaugural \(Spring 2013\)](#) editions of *The Salter*, the SRBTC’s newsletter, both well worth reading.

### Statistics for Action (SfA)

<http://sfa.terc.edu>

A collaboration between the Cambridge-based Technical Education Research Centers (better known by its acronym, [TERC](#)) and [environmental advocacy organizations](#), SfA was established to help people in communities affected by environmental contamination. SfA can help people:

- Understand terms, units, and concepts in environmental data.
- Analyze data to help communities strategize
- Assess risks to health from environmental contamination
- Communicate key data to decision-makers and the community

Resources on SfA’s web page includes pages specifically geared to [environmental/community organizers](#), [environmental professionals](#) and [journalists](#), as well as [Water Quality Guide: Read Before You Drink](#), a 20-page guide produced earlier this year with the assistance of [River Network](#). [See also [Investigating Science Outdoors](#), a new “ebook” from TERC, which encourages teachers and students to open the door, go outside, and explore.]

### TickDiseases.org

<http://www.tickdiseases.org>

Set up by the [Laboratory of Medical Zoology \(LMZ\) at UMass/Amherst](#), the TickDiseases.org website provides detailed information on ticks and the many pathogens they may carry, as well as an opportunity to [submit a tick for testing](#), which (depending on the results, which arrive in less than a week) might help better inform you and/or your doctor about what (if anything) to do next. The website also [compiles statistics on all ticks tested](#), with locational data as well as what % of ticks tested were found to harbor which specific pathogens. Click [here](#) to read the press release, [here](#) to see a video about tick testing, and [here](#) for info about ticks and tickborne diseases from the **Mass. Dept. of Public Health**.

### Urban Land Institute (ULI)’s Building Healthy Places Initiative

<http://www.uli.org/research/centers-initiatives/building-healthy-places-initiative>

Around the world, communities face pressing health challenges related to the built environment. For many years, ULI and its members have been active players in discussions and projects that make the link between human health and development; we know that health is a core component of thriving communities. Launched this past summer, ULI’s Building Healthy Places Initiative utilizes research and publications, convenings, and advisory activities to shape projects and places in ways that improve the health of people and communities. Resources at this web page include two new publications available via free download: [Ten Principles for Building Healthy Places](#) and [Intersections: Health and the Built Environment](#).

### Weebly

<http://www.weebly.com>

Founded in 2007, Weebly is an online platform that **enables anyone to create a site, blog and/or online store**

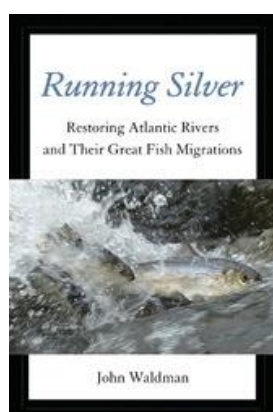
that works effectively on computers, phones and tablets. Weebly utilizes a simple “drag and drop” system to flesh out content (like text, photos, maps, and videos) onto many choices of templates (called “[themes](#)”) to create a powerful, professional website without any technical skills required. Text is edited just like in a word processor. Building your website is done in real time, right from within your web browser. There’s absolutely nothing to install and no upgrades to worry about. Websites utilizing Weebly include the [Mass. Center for Native American Awareness](#). Pricing starts at \$0 (free) for basic services (including free web hosting). Click [here](#) for more info.

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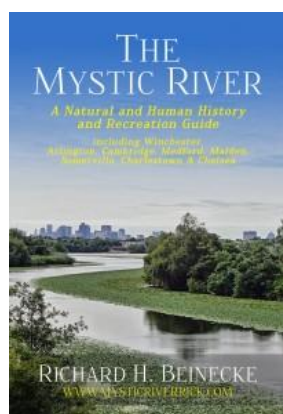


## Publications, Videos, etc.

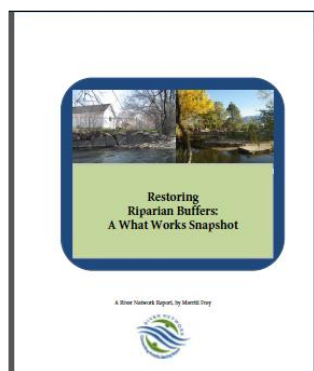
*(the following are offered for information purposes only and are not an endorsement of the items listed below. Descriptive text provided is obtained from the web pages themselves.)*



That one could “walk drishod on the backs” of schools of salmon, shad, and other fishes moving up Atlantic coast rivers was a not uncommon kind of description of their migratory runs during early Colonial times. Accounts tell of awe-inspiring numbers of spawners pushing their way upriver, the waters “running silver,” to complete life cycles that once replenished marine fisheries along the Eastern Seaboard. Over the centuries, these stocks were so stressed that virtually all are now severely depressed, with many extinct, and some simply forgotten. The recently-published book [Running Silver: Restoring Atlantic Rivers and Their Great Fish Migrations](#), by [John Waldman](#), is an important and fascinating look at the fish whose history, life-cycles and conservation challenges are so poorly understood. Drawing on the author's thirty-year career as scientist and educator, the book tells the story of the past, present and future of these sea-river fish through research, historical accounts, personal anecdotes, interviews, and images. *Running Silver* details the enormous legacy that has already been lost, and tries to inspire efforts to save what remains. [See also [Blocked Migration: Fish Ladders On U.S. Dams Are Not Effective](#), an article by Waldman appearing this past April in [Yale Environment 360](#).]



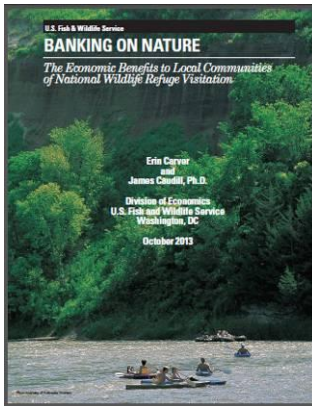
[The Mystic River – A Natural and Human History and Recreation Guide – including Winchester, Arlington, Cambridge, Medford, Malden, Somerville, Charlestown, and Chelsea](#), written and recently published by [Rick Beinecke](#), includes detailed information on the Mystic, its tributaries and other waterways located within the [76-square mile watershed](#). Beinecke, a professor at Suffolk University, moved to Arlington in 2011 and noticed that there was not a paddling guide to the Mystic River. An avid paddler and outdoorsman, he began to explore the river and became engrossed with its rich natural and cultural history. He then contacted the [Mystic River Watershed Association](#), who provided key contacts to get him started. What began as a small paddling guide soon expanded to include much, much more. Click [here](#) to order the book in hard copy or electronic format, [here](#) for a summary of the book, and [here](#) to view a video where Beinecke shares some of his favorite spots in the Mystic River watershed.



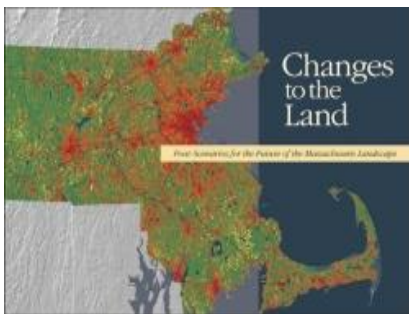
Have you been pondering tackling restoration of the riparian buffers along your local creek? Been working on this type of restoration for years and always wondered how other organizations tackled similar problems? [Restoring Riparian Buffers: A What Works Snapshot](#), recently released by [River Network](#), describes how river and watershed groups across the U.S. are breathing life back into our rivers and streams through projects focused on restoring a [riparian buffer](#) along the water's edge. *Restoring Riparian Buffers* presents a summary of the results of a short, national survey of organizations involved in riparian buffer restoration as well as a selection of case studies



documenting projects in various watershed situations. Hopefully you can learn from the creative ideas, successes, challenges and even failures described here, and use that learning to design and implement even better projects in your home watershed. Click [here](#) to download the document, or contact Ms. Merritt Frey, River Habitat Program Director, at (801) 486-1224 or [mfrey@rivernetwork.org](mailto:mfrey@rivernetwork.org) for more info.



America's national wildlife refuges continue to be strong economic engines for local communities across the country, pumping \$2.4 billion into the economy and supporting more than 35,000 jobs, according to [\*\*\*Banking on Nature: the Economic Benefits to Local Communities of National Wildlife Refuge Visitation\*\*\*](#), recently released by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. This report comes on the heels of Jewell's [major speech](#) outlining her conservation vision for the country and unveiling an ambitious youth initiative. "Our National Wildlife Refuge System is the world's greatest network of lands dedicated to wildlife conservation, but it is also a powerful economic engine for local communities across the country, attracting more than 46 million visitors from around the world who support local restaurants, hotels, and other businesses," said Jewell. "In addition to conserving and protecting public lands for future generations, the report shows that every dollar we invest in our Refuge System generates huge economic dividends for our country." The peer-reviewed report found that refuges contributed an average \$4.87 in total economic output for every \$1 appropriated in Fiscal Year 2011. Click [here](#) to download the report and [here](#) to read the press release.

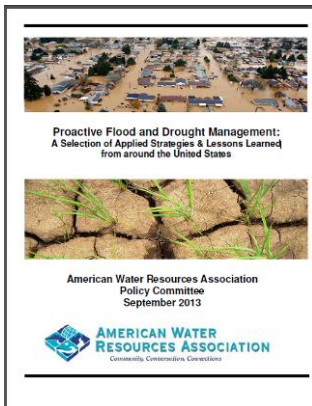


[\*\*\*Changes to the Land: Four Scenarios for the Future of the Massachusetts Landscape\*\*\*](#), a recently-released, ground-breaking report by Harvard University's Harvard Forest and the Smithsonian Institution, reveals that, if left unchecked, recent development trends will undermine significant land conservation gains in Massachusetts, jeopardize water quality, and limit the natural landscape's ability to protect against climate change. The report is based on a study that used sophisticated computer models to conduct a detailed, acre-by-acre analysis of four different land-use scenarios for the entire forested landscape of the Commonwealth. The good news is that the research shows alternatives exist for

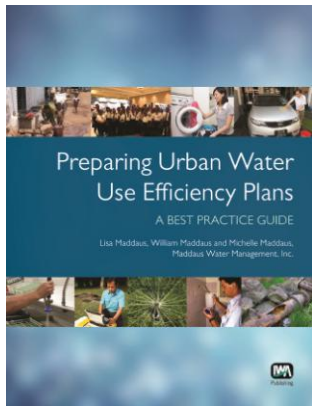
protecting and enhancing vital forest benefits for people and nature. Click [here](#) to download the report and for related info, and [here](#) to hear an interview about the report that recently aired on radio station WBUR in Boston.



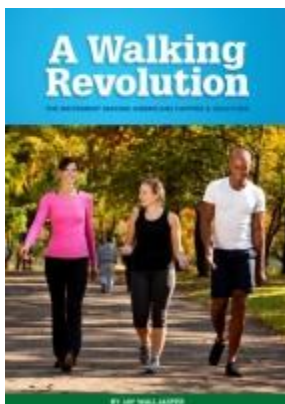
Aging water infrastructure, increasing demand, continued land use change, and increasingly extreme weather events are driving the costs of water management higher in the United States. Investing in integrated water management strategies that combine engineered solutions with **natural infrastructure** (like **forested watersheds**) can reduce costs, enhance services, and provide a suite of co-benefits for communities and the environment. [\*\*\*Natural Infrastructure: Investing in Forested Landscapes for Source Water Protection in the United States\*\*\*](#), by [Todd Gartner](#), James Mulligan, Rowan Schmidt and John Gunn, published this past October by the [World Resources Institute](#), offers comprehensive guidance on the economics, science, partnerships, and finance mechanisms underlying successful efforts to secure the water-related functions of networks of forests and other ecosystems. Click [here](#) to download the book, [here](#) to read the press release, and [here](#) to read a related blog posting.



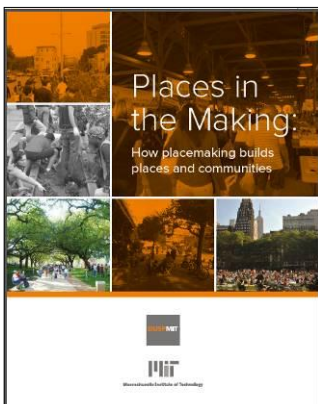
More than ever, proactive and collaborative management of flood and drought is necessary to prepare for likely events and to keep communities resilient in future disasters. The case studies collected in [\*Proactive Flood and Drought Management: A Selection of Applied Strategies and Lessons Learned from Throughout the U.S.\*](#), recently published by the [American Water Resources Association](#) (AWRA), are both unusual and outstanding in their success at integrating flood control or drought mitigation with other water resources objectives. Case studies included involve: (for flood management) the Chehalis River Basin (WA); the Miami Conservancy District (OH); Easton, PA and Nashville, TN; and (for drought management) the San Antonio Water System (SAWS, TX), the State of Hawaii's Drought Plan, and the Lone Chimney Water Association (OK). Click [here](#) to download the report and [here](#) for related info.



Many communities are facing water scarcity, and ongoing research studies are documenting how changes in our climate is raising the potential for worsening shortages in the future. Meeting future needs for potable water will, in many cases, rely heavily on using existing water resources more efficiently. The new document [\*Preparing Urban Water Use Efficiency Plans: A Best Practice Guide\*](#) provides detailed approaches to developing and implementing a water conservation plan, including achieving more efficiency from residential domestic uses, commercial and governmental facilities use, industrial uses, pricing and water loss control programs. The steps in the *Guide* clearly outline and provide sample calculations to aid determining which water use efficiency activities are financially justifiable to undertake. The end result is a plan that policy decision makers can adopt and fund, and that water service provider staff can implement to help increase their community's water reliability. It includes numerous case studies and a Microsoft Excel based software tool to allow planners to evaluate the business case for implementing various water conservation activities. Click [here](#) to order the document or for more info.



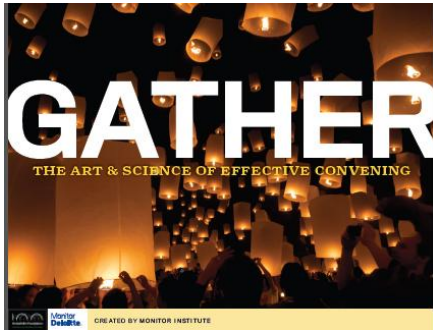
Our cities were once designed on a human scale. As more and more people took to the roads, the suburbs quickly became the new frontier. The result: urban sprawl so expansive it could not be walked in a single day. The impact on the human body has been devastating. Our days are spent sitting at our desk, in our cars and on the couch. We were not made to sit around all day. After 75 years of planning that produces a sedentary lifestyle, a radical redesign of our cities and open space has begun. **Parks and paths are making a comeback to create truly walkable communities through partnerships between local residents, businesses, developers, municipalities, urban planners and health care providers.** The health benefits of walking and walkable communities are extolled in [\*The Walking Revolution\*](#), a new 30-minute documentary by [Everybody Walk: The Campaign to Get America Moving](#). Click [here](#) to play or download the film or the accompanying [Dialogue and Resource Guide](#), and click [here](#) for related info.



Public places play a key role in building community, and placemaking can empower local communities to create a sense of "belonging" through place. **Placemaking** is an innovative approach to transforming communities **by creating and revitalizing open, public spaces around the needs and desires of the community.** By engaging in the deliberative and communal processes of shaping public spaces, citizens are connecting with each other, forging relationships, building social capital and engaging with a diverse cast of individuals, institutions and organizations. [\*Places in the Making: How placemaking builds places and communities\*](#), a recently-published report by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)'s [Department of Urban Studies and Planning](#)

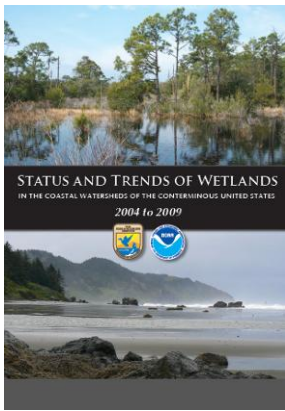


[Planning](#) (DUSP)'s research team, led by [Susan Silberberg](#), examines the interactions between placemaking, community participation, and the expanding ways communities are collaborating to make great public places. Click [here](#) to read the press release and [here](#) to download a free copy of this publication.



Earlier this year, [Rockefeller Foundation](#) and [Monitor Institute](#) released [\*GATHER: The Art and Science of Effective Convening\*](#), a hands-on guidebook for all convening designers and social change leaders who want to tap into a group's collective intelligence and make substantial progress on a shared challenge. *GATHER* provides simple frameworks for the questions that are often ignored: whether convening is the right tool to use to advance a strategic agenda, and how a convening can be used to achieve a specific purpose. It then helps you understand how to customize the design to fit that purpose, laying out a clear series of steps for what is a naturally chaotic workflow. It then offers principles to use for each of the many tactical choices

involved. *GATHER* and its accompanying workshop materials are designed for you to use in your own work, with a team, and with larger groups both inside and outside an organization. Click [here](#) to purchase a hard copy of *GATHER*, or [here](#) to download a free copy and access the companion materials.



**The U.S. is losing wetlands in coastal watersheds at a significant rate** according to a new report released by USFWS and NOAA. The report, [\*Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Coastal Watersheds of the Conterminous United States 2004 to 2009\*](#), tracked wetland loss on the Pacific, Atlantic, Gulf, and Great Lakes coasts. It concludes that more than 80,000 acres of coastal wetlands are being lost on average each year, an increase from the previous study. EPA initiated a federal Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup in response to the losses identified in the [previous report](#), with the goal of reducing coastal wetland losses. The agencies are collaborating to better understand how wetland trends are affected by land use practices and other factors, and how federal, state, and local programs can better address threats to coastal wetlands. Click [here](#) to read the press release and [here](#) to download the report and for related info.

**Cape Cod's sole source aquifer, ponds and embayments are under siege** from a host of pollutants and threats. It is estimated that 80% of the Cape's nutrient loading problem is attributable to on-site septic systems. In response, the [Association to Preserve Cape Cod](#) and [UnderCurrent Productions](#) recently released [\*Saving Paradise: Cape Cod's Water at Risk\*](#), the first of a planned series of short videos on Cape Cod's water resources. The goal of this first film is to explain the personal connection each individual on Cape Cod has to the Cape's ponds, bays, and drinking water, and how nutrient pollution from septic systems, fertilizers, and stormwater runoff directly impacts the quality of life on the Cape. Click [here](#) to view the video and [here](#) for related info.

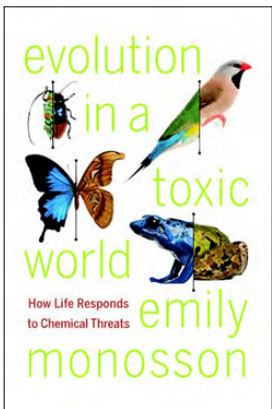


The [Mass. Association of Conservation Commissioners](#) (MACC) recently announced the availability of the completely updated and revised 10th edition of the [\*Environmental Handbook for Massachusetts Conservation Commissioners\*](#). The *Handbook* is an indispensable resource for conservation commissioners as well as **those working with and appearing before conservation commissions**. Unlike past paper editions, the 10th edition of the *Handbook* is **online and interactive**, providing readers with the newest information, word search capabilities, pop-up definitions of terms, active internal and external links, and the ability to make and keep notes in the electronic text for future reference. The electronic nature of the Handbook also enables it to be updated easily by the MACC, assuring that it can stay current as laws, regulations, and policies change. Click [here](#) to order the *Handbook* or for more info, and [here](#) to read the FAQ page.

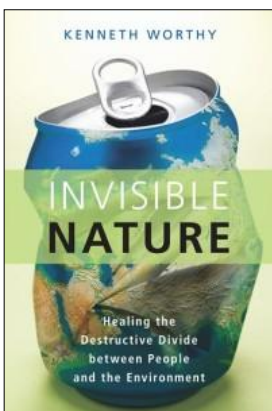


**Invasive plants** (like Glossy Buckthorn, Black Swallowwort and Asiatic Bittersweet) are a growing threat to our region's landscapes, adversely affecting native plants and wildlife. And they don't go away on their own. For those who choose to take action, the recently-published book [\*How to Eradicate Invasive Plants\*](#), by [Teri Dunn Chace](#), may be of some use. The comprehensive guide includes all types of invasive plants: water and bog plants; annuals, biennials, and tropical perennials; herbaceous perennials; grasses and bamboos; and vines, shrubs, and trees. The book shows you how to identify each species and offers eradication options – from simple, organic approaches to the safest and most responsible ways to use chemicals. [Note, though, that **the book includes some species of plants that are native** to our region, like Virginia Creeper, which some homeowners might nevertheless view as “invasive” because it is spreading to a place in their yard where they don't want it.] Click [here](#) to order the book from its publisher, Timber Press, and [here](#) for info on other books by Chace, who divides her time between upstate NY and the Cape Ann area of

Massachusetts.



With BPA in baby bottles, mercury in fish, and lead in computer monitors, the world has become a toxic place. But as [Emily Monosson](#) demonstrates in her groundbreaking 2012 book, [\*Evolution in a Toxic World: How Life Responds to Chemical Threats\*](#), it has always been toxic. When oxygen first developed in Earth's atmosphere, it threatened the very existence of life: now we literally can't live without it. According to Monosson, examining how life adapted to such early threats can teach us a great deal about today's (and tomorrow's) most dangerous contaminants. While the study of evolution has advanced many other sciences, from conservation biology to medicine, the field of toxicology has yet to embrace this critical approach. Click [here](#) to order the book; [here](#) to read a related WordPress blog; [here](#) to read an interview of Monosson about her book appearing in the *Harvard University Gazette*; and [here](#) to read the “Field Notes” blog put out by the book's publisher, Island Press.



Amidst all the wondrous luxuries of the modern world – smartphones, fast intercontinental travel, Internet movies, fully-stocked refrigerators – flies an unnerving fact, one even more unsettling than all the environmental and social costs of this lifestyle. The fragmentation of our lives, our disconnections from nature and from the consequences of our actions, makes it difficult to follow our own values and ethics, so we can no longer be truly ethical beings. When we buy a computer or a hamburger, our impacts ripple across the globe, and, dissociated from them, we can't quite respond. Our personal and professional choices result in damages ranging from radioactive landscapes to disappearing rainforests, but we can't quite see how. In the recently-published book [\*Invisible Nature: Healing the Destructive Divide between People and the Environment\*](#), environmental scholar [Kenneth Worthy](#) traces the broken pathways between consumers and clean-room worker illnesses, superfund sites in Silicon Valley, and massively contaminated landscapes in rural

Asian villages. His groundbreaking, psychologically based explanation confirms that our disconnections make us more destructive and that we must bear witness to nature and our consequences. *Invisible Nature* shows the way forward to a healthier, more connected world. Click [here](#) to purchase the book and [here](#) for more info.



The environmental movement is plagued by pessimism. And that's not unreasonable: with so many complicated, seemingly intractable problems facing the planet. But that paints an unbalanced – and overly disheartening – picture. There are success stories, however, and the recently-published book [\*Our Once and Future Planet: Restoring the World in the Climate Change Century\*](#) delivers a fascinating account of the **rise of ecological restoration**. Author Paddy Woodworth talked to scientists, politicians, and ordinary citizens, who are working on the front lines of the battle against environmental degradation,





*Last but not least :*



The [Massachusetts Environmental Trust](#) (MET) provides funding to many river, wetland and other water resources protection and restoration projects throughout the Commonwealth. A major source of MET's funding comes from the sale of [environmental license plates](#). Besides the "Right Whale and Roseate Tern" plate (click [here](#), see p. 13), sales of the "Fish and Wildlife" plate (click [here](#), see p.12), depicting a Brook Trout, and the Blackstone Valley plates (click [here](#), see p.10) help fund MET's grant-making programs. (By the way, these three are the only Mass. specialty license plates that exclusively fund environmental programs). Getting an environmental plate is easy and can be done on-line by clicking [here](#), or in person at [your local Registry of Motor Vehicles office](#).

Does [your](#) car have an environmental license plate?

*Division of Ecological Restoration Staff:*

**Tim Purinton, Director** (*on leave to attend graduate school*)

**Hunt Durey, Acting Director**

**Carrie Banks, Stream Team and Westfield River Wild and Scenic Committee Coordinator**

**Jeremy Bell, Wetland Restoration Program Manager**

**Russell Cohen, Rivers Advocate**

**Michelle Craddock, Flow Restoration Specialist**

**Cindy Delpapa, Stream Ecologist**

**Eileen Goldberg, Assistant Director**

**Alex Hackman, Project Manager**

**Franz Ingelfinger, Restoration Ecologist**

**Georgeann Keer, Wetland Scientist and Project Manager**

**Beth Lambert, River Restoration Program Manager**

**Laila Parker, Flow Restoration Program Manager**

**Megan Sampson, Program Administrator**

**Nick Wildman, Priority Projects Coordinator**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**Deval L. Patrick, Governor**

**Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Secretary, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs**

**Mary B. Griffin, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Game**

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