



Issue 13, Winter 2023

[View this email in your browser](#)

Welcome to the thirteenth quarterly issue of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program Newsletter. The MVP grant program provides support for communities in Massachusetts to begin the process of planning for climate change resiliency and implementing priority projects. The Commonwealth awards communities with funding to complete vulnerability assessments and develop action-oriented resiliency plans. Communities who complete the MVP Planning Grant program become certified as an MVP community and are eligible for MVP Action Grant funding and other opportunities.

Announcements

Register Now! FY24 MVP Action Grant Pre-Request for Responses Webinars

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs' (EEA) Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program team is anticipating the release of its

next Request for Response (RFR) for MVP Action Grants in late March 2023. To prepare for this release, the MVP team will be hosting two informational sessions to give an overview of the program, review anticipated changes to this round's application, and answer questions.

Below are the two sessions we have planned that will be hosted on Zoom. **In order to register, you will need to follow the link to the session you would like to attend. Please only register for one session, as the sessions will review exactly the same content.**

- Monday, March 13, 2023, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. – [Register here](#)
- Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. – [Register here](#)

If you cannot make it to either webinar or you would just like to watch on your own time, we will be posting the recording to our website resilientma.org/mvp in the "Stay Up-to-Date" section after the events.

If you have any questions, please reach out to marissa.robertson2@mass.gov.

MVP 2.0 Pilot

We are excited to pilot a new MVP planning program starting this Spring! The new MVP 2.0 program will provide communities with guidance and funding to:

- Expand their Core Team membership to center community members who will be most impacted by climate change.
- Receive innovative virtual training on climate resilience best practices, equity, and environmental justice.
- Reset priorities in their current MVP plans based on this new knowledge and engagement.
- Receive technical assistance and guaranteed funding to develop and implement an action project.

Indicate interest by contacting your [MVP Regional Coordinator](#). Your RC will be happy to talk to you more about the opportunity and let you know when the application for the pilot round is open (expected April 2023).

Introducing our new Deputy Director

Marissa started with the MVP program in January of 2023. She comes from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), where she focused on coordinating federal public assistance funding to Massachusetts cities and towns for disaster recovery.

Marissa attended The Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University ('21), where she obtained her Social Impact MBA in Non-Profit Management and an MA in Sustainable Development with a concentration in environmental conservation.

Our new deputy will focus on improving the program's grant processes and administration, as well as assisting with the roll out of MVP 2.0. She will also be leading an update to ResilientMA.mass.gov and associated resources. Please contact Marissa at marissa.robertson2@mass.gov with any questions or just to say hello!



New MVP Resources

MVP Winter Webinar Series Recordings Posted Online

If you missed our Winter Webinar series, you can now access the recordings online!

- Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment - [View now](#)
- Heat Waves in a Changed Climate - [View now](#)
- Community-Based Problem Solving - [View now](#)



MVP Transferable Tools Webpage



This [webpage](#) features deliverables from MVP Action Grant projects that can be useful tools, templates, and examples for municipalities to use and adapt. The tools are organized by themes:

- Project identification tools
- Regulatory guidelines
- Green infrastructure best practices
- Public outreach resources
- Education resources

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Opportunities

Want to share details of your event or other related climate opportunities in our upcoming MVP newsletters? Submit to marissa.robertson2@mass.gov

Webinars and Events

- **February 28 - MAPC Accelerating Climate Resilience - Resilience Hubs:** Register [here](#).
- **February 28 - March 9 - Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commission's (MACC) Virtual Annual Environmental Conference:** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **March 2 - Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment: Applying Regional Findings Webinar:** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **March 9 or 14 - Massachusetts Broadband Institute: Digital Equity Fellowship Host Opportunity Webinar:** Learn more about hosting a fellow [here](#).
 - [March 9 Webinar Registration](#)
 - [March 14 Webinar Registration](#)
- **March 14 - April 28 - Massachusetts Land Conservation Conference:** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **April 26-28 - Stone Living Lab - Nature-Based Coastal Resilience in Urban Settings:** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **May 3 - Mass ECAN Watershed Scale Climate Collaboration Conference:** Learn more and register [here](#).
- **May 16-17 - Antioch University Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience presents 2023 Local Solutions: Climate Migration:** Learn more and register [here](#).

Grant Opportunities

- **EEA's Division of Conservation Services Upcoming Grant Opportunities:**
 - [The Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program's](#) (DWSP) FY23 Grant Round is now open. The DWSP grant program provides financial assistance to public water systems and municipal water departments for the purchase of land or interests in land for the protection of existing DEP-approved public drinking water supplies, protection of planned future public drinking water supplies, or groundwater recharge. The grant deadline is March 10, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. For more information, contact vanessa.farny@mass.gov.
 - [The Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity \(LAND\) Grant Program's](#) and [the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities \(PARC\)](#) FY24 Grant Rounds are now open.

The LAND Grant Program is for municipal conservation commissions looking to protect conservation land. The PARC Grant Program is for municipalities looking to acquire parkland, renovate an existing park, or develop a new park. The application deadline is Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

- In-Person LAND & PARC Grants Information Session (DFW Field Headquarters, Westborough, MA): Thursday, May 4, 2023 @ 11:00 a.m.
- Virtual LAND & PARC Grants Information Session: Tuesday, May 9, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m.
 - Please email Melissa Cryan at melissa.cryan@mass.gov to RSVP for either session if you are interested in applying for a PARC grant. Please email Vanessa Farny at vanessa.farny@mass.gov to RSVP for either session if you are interested in applying for a LAND grant.
- The [Massachusetts Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Program's](#) FY23 Grant Round is now open. The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development, and renovation of parks, trails, and conservation areas. Any questions should be directed to Melissa Cryan, LWCF Stateside Coordinator, at SCORP.2022@mass.gov.
- The [Conservation Partnership Grant Program](#) is seeking FY24 grant applications. Conservation Partnership grants are for 501(c)(3) organizations looking for assistance in acquiring land in free or a conservation restriction, as well as assistance with due diligence costs associated with gifts. Questions on the grant program can be directed to Melissa Cryan at melissa.cryan@mass.gov. The application deadline is Monday, July 17, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
- **EEA's Division of Ecological Restoration Upcoming Grant Opportunities:** [DER's Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Grant Program](#) anticipates the release of its FY24 Request for Responses in mid-February, 2023. This program assists municipalities with replacing an undersized, perched, and/or degraded culvert located in an area of high ecological value. Please see the [Notice of Upcoming Grant Opportunity](#) posted to COMMBUYS ahead of the next CRMA Request for Responses (RFR) for more information.
- **EEA's Office of Coastal Zone Management Upcoming Grant Opportunities:** CZM anticipates the release of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Request for Responses (RFR) for the [Coastal Resilience Grant Program](#) in the spring. Coastal Resilience Grants provide funding and technical assistance to coastal communities and eligible nonprofit organizations to reduce risks associated with coastal storms, flooding, erosion, and sea level rise through innovative and transferable local projects. The following CZM support is available for this grant program:
 - **Direct Support** - Up until the RFR is released, CZM can discuss project ideas and eligibility for the grants with potential applicants. See the contact information at the bottom of the [Coastal Resilience Grant page](#) to connect with CZM.
 - **Coastal Resilience Pre-RFR Grant Program Webinar** - On March 16 from 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m., CZM will host an informational webinar on the next Coastal Resilience Grant opportunity. The webinar will highlight a variety of successful projects supported by CZM, along with grant program goals, requirements, expected funding levels, timeline, and tips for developing competitive proposals. There will be time for questions and discussion of potential project ideas. Please email patricia.bowie@mass.gov to register and receive the Zoom meeting details. A recording of the presentation will be linked from the [Coastal Resilience Grant Program website](#) following the webinar.

Job Opportunities

- **Green Communities Northeast Regional Coordinator** - The Northeast Regional Coordinator position will support the Green Communities Division by working directly with city and town officials in the region's 84 municipalities to achieve Division objectives and municipal energy goals. This position will work closely with Division and other DOER staff to implement grant programs, technical assistance, and other services for cities and towns.
 - [Job Description - Green Communities-Northeast Regional Coordinator \(2300021Z\) \(taleo.net\)](#)

- **Ecological Restoration Program Manager - Cranberry Bogs** - The Ecological Restoration Program Manager manages DER's Cranberry Bog Restoration Program, a program dedicated to restoring retired cranberry bogs to healthy and resilient wetlands and rivers. The Ecological Restoration Program Manager leads a partnership among DER, landowners, non-profit organizations, communities, and agencies with the goals of securing funding, prioritizing potential cranberry bog restoration projects, and planning and implementing restoration projects. Please note that requisitions will remain open for 90 days; however, **first consideration will be given to those applicants that apply within the first 14 days of the posting, by 02/27/2023.**
 - <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=230001LC>
- **Ecological Restoration Program Manager - Dam Removal** - The Ecological Restoration Program Manager manages DER's Dam Removal Program, a program dedicated to restoration of Massachusetts rivers and wetlands, by helping municipal and private dam owners remove unwanted dams. The Ecological Restoration Program Manager partners with landowners, non-profit organizations, communities, and agencies to prioritize potential dam removal projects, secure funding, and plan and carry out restoration projects. Please note that requisitions will remain open for 90 days; however, **first consideration will be given to those applicants that apply within the first 14 days of the posting, by 02/27/2023.**
 - <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=230001LE>
- **Assistant Climate Scientist** - The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is seeking an Assistant Climate Scientist to provide project management and technical support to the Commonwealth's new Office of Climate Science. This role is envisioned to have knowledge in non-coastal water-related climate science issues, such as drought, precipitation, hydrology, floodplains and flooding (including wetlands), stormwater, temperature, and/or related public health impacts.
 - https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=230000JM&tz=GMT-05%3A00&tzname=America%2FNew_York
- **Deputy Director of Climate Equity and Environmental Justice** - EEA is seeking a Deputy Director of Climate Adaptation & Resilience/Climate Finance Strategist to support cross-government implementation of the State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (SHMCAP) and administration of the Resilient MA Action Team. This position is responsible for developing and leading a new Climate Finance Strategy that identifies funding sources, partners, and equitable distribution models to catalyze and increase the capacity of the Commonwealth's municipal and agency climate investments.
 - <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=22000ETB>
- **Deputy Director of Climate Adaptation & Resilience / Climate Finance Strategist** - EEA is seeking a Deputy Director of Climate Adaptation & Resilience/Climate Finance Strategist to support cross-government implementation of the State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (SHMCAP) and administration of the Resilient MA Action Team. This position is responsible for developing and leading a new Climate Finance Strategy that identifies funding sources, partners, and equitable distribution models to catalyze and increase the capacity of the Commonwealth's municipal and agency climate investments.
 - <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ftl?job=22000ETL>
- **Climate Scientist** - The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is seeking a Climate Scientist to launch and manage the Commonwealth's new Office of Climate Science, that maintains, updates, and develops best available statewide climate change hazard and impact data, projections, and models. This will include but is not limited to agency and municipal coordination, technical assistance and agency- and state-wide guidance development on application of data to policy and planning, research commissioning and project management, staff supervision, and communications.
 - [Job Description - Climate Scientist \(22000FOA\) \(taleo.net\)](#)

MVP Program Resources

Below is list of resources to assist communities on their current MVP grants and in thinking about future projects.

Planning Grant:

- [MVP Planning Grant Municipal Training Grant Webinar Recording January 2020](#)
- [Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness \(MVP\) program Planning Reports](#)
- [resilient MA Climate Change Clearinghouse](#)

Action Grant:

- [Learn More About Action Grant Projects](#)
- [Explore MVP Core Principles](#)
- [resilient MA Climate Change Clearinghouse](#)
- [Discover other grants to support your project](#)

Have a question? Reach out to our MVP Regional Coordinators.

Not sure which region you are in? Click [here](#).

Carrieanne Petrik
MVP Berkshires & Hilltowns Regional Coordinator
Phone: (617) 875-0911 (email preferred)
carrieanne.petrik@mass.gov

Andrew Smith
MVP Greater Connecticut River Valley Regional Coordinator
(617) 655-3874
andrew.b.smith@mass.gov

Hillary King
MVP Central Regional Coordinator
Phone: (617) 655-3913
hillary.king@mass.gov

Michelle Rowden
MVP Northeast Regional Coordinator
Phone: (857) 343-0097
michelle.rowden@mass.gov

Carolyn Meklenburg
MVP Greater Boston Regional Coordinator
Phone: (617) 894-7128
carolyn.meklenburg@mass.gov

Courtney Rocha
MVP Southeast Regional Coordinator
Phone: (617) 877-3072
courtney.rocha@mass.gov

Kara Runsten
MVP Director
Phone: (617) 312-1594
kara.runsten@mass.gov

Marissa Robertson

MVP Deputy Director
Phone: (617) 352-0186
marissa.robertson2@mass.gov

Subscribe to our newsletter



Copyright © 2019 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs · 100 Cambridge St Ste 900 · Boston, MA 02114-2534 · USA

