



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

One Winter Street Boston, MA 02108 • 617-292-5500

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Kathleen A. Theoharides
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

North, Indian Head and Drinkwater Rivers and Factory Pond Restoration Projects

Former Fireworks Site Natural Resource Damages

Informational Presentation

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's Natural Resource Damages (NRD) Program will discuss an upcoming grant opportunity and planning process to identify and implement restoration projects that will restore fisheries, rivers and wetlands in the North, Indian Head and Drinkwater Rivers as well as Factory Pond. We recommend potential applicants attend to discuss project ideas before the North River Watershed Restoration Grant Announcement and Application (GAA) is issued in Spring 2021.

The virtual presentation will be made on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 7:00 PM via Zoom. A recording will also be posted on MassDEP's NRD website after the meeting. To join, use the following information:

<https://zoom.us/j/95071303356>

Meeting ID: 950 7130 3356

Passcode: 910826

Dial in: +1 929 436 2866

A total of up to \$7 million will be available for habitat restoration projects that address one or more of the following potential restoration categories:

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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- **Aquatic Biological Resources and Habitat** – Fish, amphibians, aquatic reptiles, benthic invertebrates, and other aquatic organisms. Restoration activities may include, but are not limited to, projects that restore aquatic biological resources directly or enhance the habitats of these resources (e.g., enhancements in water quality).
- **Wildlife Resources and Habitat** – Avian, terrestrial reptilian, and mammalian species that use the North, Indian Head or Drinkwater Rivers or Factory Pond in some manner. Restoration activities may include, but are not limited to, projects that restore wildlife resources directly or enhance the habitats of these resources (e.g., riparian habitat enhancements).
- **Environmental Education and Outreach** – Projects that inform the public using the river or watershed environment about issues that affect ecosystem health. The purpose of such projects is to instill understanding and appreciation for the environment so that human behaviors are changed in a manner that helps to achieve the goal of the sustainable restoration of the rivers and ponds, injured natural resources, and/or the services provided by those resources.

Restoration will be accomplished in phases, with the first phase of funding to support field surveys, inventories, and/or feasibility studies to identify and evaluate potential restoration projects and actions. This GAA will focus on this first phase of funding.

The Commonwealth's procurement rules prohibit MassDEP from consulting with potential applicants to develop project ideas once the GAA is issued. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact MassDEP before the GAA issue date to refine project ideas and obtain feedback. Contact Michelle Craddock ([617-997-7023](tel:617-997-7023) or michelle.l.craddock@mass.gov) for a discussion of ideas and settlement objectives.

More information on the Commonwealth's Natural Resource Damages Program is available at <https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-natural-resource-damages-program>