



Long Island Sound Study  
A Partnership to Restore and Protect the Sound



# Sustainable & Resilient Communities

March 2024 - Western & Eastern CT



## The LIS Resilience Resource Hub is Here!

We are so thrilled share the NEW Long Island Sound Resilience Resource Hub with you! We know you love our newsletters (right??) but now instead of wading through your inbox to get back to that funding program or workshop link, you can open [LISResilience.org](https://lisresilience.org) (go ahead and bookmark it now... I'll wait...) and use our Funding Database, register for workshops, and find all of the *locally curated* tools, information, and

guidance you could hope for to support building a more sustainable and resilient community! More details will follow in a separate announcement.

In the meantime, have you registered for one of our upcoming in-person funding workshops in Connecticut? Don't miss your chance to get tips on applying for resilience-related funding opportunities for our region and to discuss project ideas with program officers and recent awardees. Check out the details below and register now to save your spot!

Finally, it is a big month for funding opportunities with NFWF's Long Island Sound Futures and National Coastal Resilience Funds opening. Read on for all of the details! Remember, if you're interested in Grant Writing Assistance for any of these, we recommend you apply to us *at least 6 weeks* in advance of the funding opportunity deadline.

---

## Upcoming Events

### **SRC Regional Funding Workshops**

The Sustainable and Resilient Communities team will host two in-person workshops in CT with funding organizations. Join us to learn more about funding opportunities, hear success stories, and get tips for improving your applications!

# SAVE THE DATE

## Sustainable and Resilient Communities Regional Funding Workshops

**Thursday, March 7, 2024 in Groton, CT**

**Thursday, March 21, 2024 in Bridgeport, CT**

Workshops will run from **9:30 - 2:30 pm** and  
lunch will be provided

For more information and to RSVP, click  
[here for 3/7](#) and [here for 3/21!](#)



**Long Island Sound Study**  
A Partnership to Restore and Protect the Sound



[LAST CHANCE: Register for Groton](#)

[Register for Bridgeport](#)

### **2024 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference**

The Connecticut Land Conservation Council will be hosting the 2024 conference on March 23, and including two NEW workshops. If you're a conservationist, land trust, or passionate about conservation in Connecticut, don't miss out on this opportunity!

**March 23, 2024 | Middletown, CT | [Register here](#)**

### **34th Annual Nonpoint Source (NPS) Conference**

Join NEIWPC's forum focused on NPS pollution issues and projects. This year's conference theme is Climate Resiliency through NPS Outreach and Implementation. Check out the [draft agenda](#) to learn more about the details.

**April 10-11, 2024 | Old Saybrook, CT | [Register here](#) by March 22nd**

### **LIS Futures Fund Feedback Sessions**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's [Long Island Sound Futures Fund](#) supports projects to fully restore the health and living resources of Long Island Sound. This annual funding opportunity typically opens in early March and applications are due in May. NFWF staff will be available at the following times to provide one-to-one feedback on project ideas with applicants.

**February 13 - April 25, 2024 | 1-3 PM on Tuesdays & Thursdays**

[Book a session here](#)

### [LIS Futures Fund Webinar for CT and NY Applicants](#)

This webinar is available to prospective CT and NY applicants to NFWF's Long Island Sound's Futures Fund to learn about preparing a competitive proposal.

**March 11, 2024 | 1:00pm EDT | [Register here](#)**

### [2024 Long Island Sound Research Conference](#)

The Long Island Sound Research Conference will happen on **May 15, 2024** in Port Jefferson, NY and will have presentations about the four themes: Clean waters and healthy watersheds, Thriving habitats and abundant wildlife, Sustainable and resilient communities, and Sound science and inclusive management.

**Proposals Due March 15, 2024 | [Register](#) by April 21, 2024 | May 15, 2024**

## Funding Opportunities

***Now you can browse and filter funding opportunities through our [Funding Database](#) on the [LIS Resilience Resource Hub!](#)***

**\*NEW\***

### [2024 Long Island Sound Futures Fund](#)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Long Island Sound Futures Fund supports projects to fully restore the health and living resources of Long Island Sound. This annual funding opportunity typically opens in early March and applications are due in May. See the "Events" section above for more information about proposal feedback opportunities.

**Submissions Due May 13, 2024**

### [Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production \(UAIP\) Grants Program](#)

The USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service has announced this competitive grant program to help support the development of urban agriculture and innovation production.

**Submissions Due April 9, 2024**

### [2024 National Coastal Resilience Fund](#)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's National Coastal Resilience Fund will invest in projects focused on community capacity building and planning, site

assessment and preliminary design, final design and permitting, and/or restoration implementation.

**Pre-Proposals Due April 10, 2024**

**\*COMING SOON\***

### **[FY2025 Congressional Directed Spending/Community Project Funding](#)**

The offices of Senators Blumenthal and Murphy plan to release FY25 applications and deadlines soon! Review this [application guidance](#) in the meantime.

---

## Long Island Sound Grant Writing Support

Remember, the **Long Island Sound Resilience Grant Writing Assistance Program** is still available! [Learn more here.](#)

This program assists with the development of sustainability and resilience focused projects that impact communities in the [LIS coastal boundary](#).

**Applications are accepted on a rolling basis (as funding allows).  
No match required!**

**[Access the Request for Proposals here!](#)**

*For answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) see the [FAQ Document](#).*

[Apply Here](#)

---

## Sound Bites

### **[Senate Bill 11: An Act Coordinating Connecticut Resiliency Planning And Broadening Municipal Options For Climate Resilience](#)**

Through Senate Bill 11, Governor Ned Lamont is proposing changes to climate change responses with the goal of increasing municipal options, modernizing our geospatial information to identify problem areas faster and easier, and coordinating our planning mechanisms to support greater resiliency. Check out this [factsheet](#) to learn more about Senate Bill 11.

---

**[Working Lands Climate Corps \(WLCC\)](#)**

The USDA is working to training next generation of conservation and climate leaders as a part of President Biden's American Climate Corps. Apply today and be engaged in technical skills and climate work across the country.

**Proposals Due March 8, 2024**



### [Land Use Commissioner Training Calendar](#)

UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research ([CLEAR](#)) has created a training calendar in collaboration with OPM to help towns and commissioners find training opportunities. Check out the calendar [here](#).

### [SustainableCT Certification Program](#)

Interested in earning points for sustainable solutions? The SustainableCT Spring 2024 certification deadline is April 10. Check out the [SustainableCT website](#) to learn more about eligibility.



### [NEW High Resolution Land Cover Data](#)

The NOAA Office of Coastal Management has announced the availability of new high-resolution land cover data for coastal communities across the country, funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

---

## Newsletters Archive

Don't miss out on opportunities and check out this link to see past newsletters [here](#).

### **Deb Visco Abibou**

*Extension Professional  
Sustainable & Resilient Communities  
Western CT*  
[Connecticut Sea Grant](mailto:deb.abibou@uconn.edu)  
[deb.abibou@uconn.edu](mailto:deb.abibou@uconn.edu)

### **Sarah Schechter**

*Extension Professional  
Sustainable & Resilient Communities  
Eastern CT*  
[Connecticut Sea Grant](mailto:sarah.schechter@uconn.edu)  
[sarah.schechter@uconn.edu](mailto:sarah.schechter@uconn.edu)

[Long Island Sound Study](#)  
[Sustainable & Resilient Communities](#)