



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

Sustainable & Resilient Communities



August 2024 - Western & Eastern CT



Go Team USA! Join Team SRC!

After watching the Olympics, are you interested in joining a team of your own? Try Team SRC!

New York Sea Grant is hiring a Sustainable and Resilient Communities Extension Educator to engage with Long Island Sound Study coastal communities in the Bronx and Queens. The new team member will work alongside our team of five Extension Professionals to help increase local capacity and provide guidance and training to communities related to

achieving sustainability and resilience goals. See below [or here](#) for more information!

Funding Opportunities

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

[Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance for Water Sector Utilities](#)

EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU) initiative is offering no-cost climate change risk assessment technical assistance to drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater utilities, as well as other water sector stakeholders. Through this technical assistance process, CRWU will assist approximately 75 water sector utilities / communities in identifying long-term climate change adaptation strategies, as well as potential funding options to implement adaptive measures.

Email requests to Aliza Furneaux (furneaux.aliza@epa.gov) by August 15, 2024

[Environmental Justice Data Fund](#)

The second round of grantmaking for the Environmental Justice Data Fund (EJDF) will be supported by a \$4 million fund. The EJDF aims to help frontline communities historically underserved and disproportionately impacted by climate change and environmental injustice in the United States use data to address environmental hazards, with special attention to matters regarding air and water quality. The EJDF will support eligible organizations to unlock resources, increase their access to federal infrastructure funding, and advocate for new policies that empower communities to address past environmental harm and pave the way to a more sustainable, climate-resilient future.

Application Deadline: August 30, 2024

[Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development – Round 20](#)

The Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) announced multiple funding availability notices under Round 20:

1. Municipal Grant Program – Remediation & Limited-Assessment (up to \$4M)

2. Municipal Grant Program – Assessment-Only (up to \$200K)
3. Targeted Brownfield Development Loan Program (up to \$4M)

The total funding amount available for all Round 20 notices is \$25 million.

Application Deadline: September 27, 2024

[Climate and Equity Grants 2024](#)

In collaboration with CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) requests grant proposals for projects that increase the capacity of vulnerable communities to mitigate, plan for, and respond to climate change impacts. This funding supports the recommendations of the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3).

Application Deadline: September 30, 2024

Webinar: August 13, 2024 | [Registration](#)

[FY25 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Marine Debris Removal](#)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program will award up to \$47 million through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support the removal of large marine debris throughout the coastal United States, Great Lakes, territories, and Freely Associated States. These removal projects should focus on large marine debris, including abandoned and derelict vessels, derelict fishing gear, and other debris that is generally unable to be collected by hand.

Letter of Intent Deadline: September 27, 2024

Full Proposal Deadline: January 31, 2025

[FY25 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Marine Debris Interception Technologies](#)

The NOAA Marine Debris Program will award up to \$7 million through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support the installation of proven marine debris interception technologies, throughout the coastal United States, Great Lakes, territories, and Freely Associated States. Projects will focus on the installation, monitoring, and maintenance of proven marine debris interception technologies that will capture marine debris at or close to known marine debris sources or pathways.

Letter of Intent Deadline: October 9, 2024

Full Proposal Deadline: February 7, 2025

[Climate Smart Land Stewardship Grant Program](#)

The Climate Smart Land Stewardship Grants is a new fund for land trusts offered by the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) with support from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. This program will award

\$500,000 over multiple years for both planning and implementation grants. In 2024, grants will be awarded quarterly.
Application Deadline: November 1, 2024

Long Island Sound Grant Writing Support

Do you wish you could have some help preparing a competitive grant application? How about help that is FREE to you with *no match requirement*? If that sounds good to you, check out the **Long Island Sound Resilience Grant Writing Assistance Program!** [Learn more here.](#)

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

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

Review answers to [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) here.](#)

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis (as funding allows). Click the orange button below to review our EASY, five-question application form!

[Apply Here](#)

Upcoming Events

[CEEJAC Land Subcommittee Meeting](#)

Register to attend the CEEJAC Land Subcommittee Meeting to hear about DEEP's Coastal Habitat Restoration and Land Acquisition grant program. The program is looking for guidance on the ranking of criteria that will be used to evaluate submitted projects.

Thursday August 8 | 1:00pm - 2:30pm | [Register](#)

[Connecticut Associations of Flood Managers 11th Annual Conference](#)

The Connecticut Associations of Flood Managers is hosting their 11th Annual Conference will be at Central Connecticut State University on November 13, 2024. See the [CALL FOR PRESENTERS](#) if you're interested in

presenting on topics related to floodplain management for both inland and coastal area.

[Call for Presenters by September 10, 2024](#)

Resilience Roles

Sustainable and Resilient Community Extension Educator

New York Sea Grant is hiring a Sustainable and Resilient Communities Extension Educator to engage with and provide education and outreach for local governments, organizations, and Long Island Sound Study coastal communities in the Bronx and Queens. Working alongside Extension Professionals from around the Long Island Sound, you could help increase awareness of and local capacity to implement goals of the Sustainable and Resilient Communities work plan. Additionally, you will provide guidance and training to communities related to planning and permitting processes to achieve sustainability and resilience goals. [Apply here](#) by the end of August. **Learn more and apply by August 31 [here](#).**

Connecticut National Estuarine Research Reserve Positions

The Connecticut National Estuarine Research Reserve (CT NERR), with offices located at UConn Avery Point, is currently hiring for two positions with applications due August 27th!

- **Research Assistant 1:** This position will provide research and program support to the education, training, research, and stewardship sector coordinators of the CT NERR.
- **CT NERR Communications and Engagement Coordinator:** This position is responsible for coordinating the promotion, marketing activities, and special projects or services for the CT NERR and will develop strategies for and engages with a variety of audiences, including university and community-based stakeholders, about CT NERR priorities.

Sound Bites

Sustainable CT Fall Certification Deadline



There is still time to submit your application for Sustainable CT's Fall certification period and work towards a [Climate Leader Designation](#), which celebrates municipalities that are reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions while saving money, improving public health, and building community.



CT NERR Bluff Point State Park Visitor Use Survey

The Connecticut National Estuarine Research Reserve (CT NERR) is conducting a survey to collect information about how visitors use Bluff Point State Park and using funds from the Long Island Sound Futures Fund, will conduct a restoration and improvement plan. Share your thoughts [here](#).

2024 Connecticut Laws Related to Climate Resilience

This report from the Office of Legislative Research summarizes new laws affecting the environment from the 2024 regular session and June Special Session. Of particular note for climate resilience are:

- The requirement for the [Greater Mystic Tourism Working Group](#) to "(1) consider the potential impact of future flooding events on tourism areas and (2) identify federal funding opportunities for tourism, transportation, and climate resilience infrastructure.
- A new [Resiliency Low Interest Loan Program](#) that will be established by CT DEEP for municipalities and private entities for climate resiliency projects funded through a new Climate Resiliency Revolving Loan Fund.
- The DEEP commissioner is now authorized to acquire up to 25.7 acres in support of the [Resilient Bridgeport Project](#) for "flood control and protection and related public purposes" that are needed to build a disaster relief, long-term recovery, or infrastructure restoration project. DEEP is also authorized to require relocation or removal of public facilities on the property.
- The state's [Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program](#) generally gives state grants to municipalities, land trusts, and water companies to buy land for its preservation as open space. A new law makes the following three changes related to the program: 1. allows up to 5% of grants to reimburse for in-kind services or incidental expenses under certain circumstances; 2. expands the circumstances under which these grant funds can be used to restore or protect open space

an applicant already owns (e.g., if the land is in an environmental justice community); and 3. increases the Natural Heritage, Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Review Board's membership to include two DEEP-appointed members who represent or are from certain communities, such as environmental justice areas.

- A new law for **vegetative buffers** allows DEEP to use funds available for stormwater infrastructure to acquire conservation easements along streams and rivers in the state. The property owner of an acquired conservation easement must keep native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous cover along the stream or river instead of lawn, golf courses, and athletic fields (i.e., a "vegetated condition" buffer). The DEEP commissioner may set the percentage of stormwater infrastructure funds that may be used for this purpose.

Newsletters Archive

You can [find past newsletters here.](#)

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