



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

# Sustainable & Resilient Communities

February 2025 - Western & Eastern CT



## SAVE THE DATE

Sustainable and Resilient Communities  
2nd Annual Connecticut  
Funding Workshop

**Monday, March 31, 2025 in New Haven, CT**

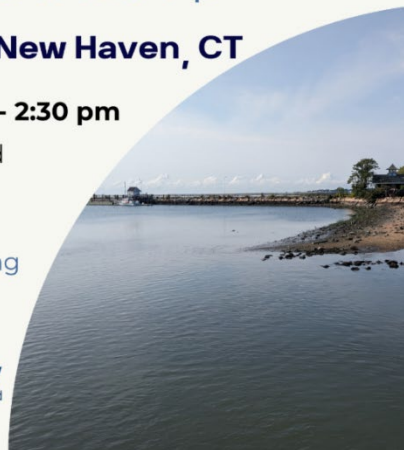
Workshops will run from **10:00 am - 2:30 pm**  
and lunch will be provided

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More information and agenda coming  
soon!



Long Island Sound Study  
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## Save the Date for the SRC 2nd Annual CT Funding Workshop

Back by popular demand, the LISS Sustainable & Resilient Communities Extension Professionals are planning to host another Regional Funding Workshop this year!

Join us on **Monday, March 31st at the Canal Dock Boathouse in New Haven, CT** where we will foster discussions to inspire great project ideas and lead to stronger applications for various sustainability and resilience funding opportunities. We plan to feature lightning-round introductions to local, state, and region-specific funding opportunities, a panel with recent awardees, and small-group breakout sessions with the funders and panelists to workshop project ideas.

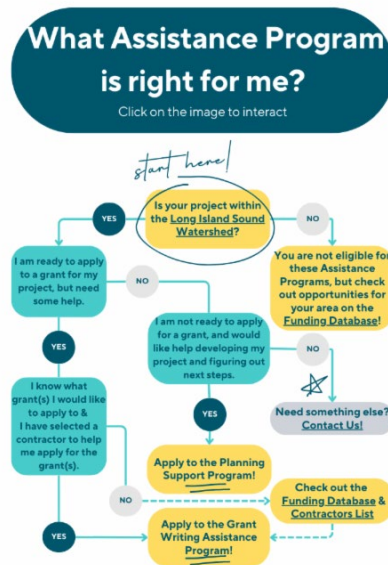
Don't miss out on the opportunity to connect with funding organizations and get insider tips to improve your applications!

*[More information and registration coming here soon!](#)*

## Funding Opportunities

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

**Visit our [Assistance Programs page](#) and use our handy flow chart to determine which SRC assistance program may be right for you!**



~~DUE SOON~~

### **Partners for Places - Round 22**

Partners for Places aims to enhance local capacity to build equitable and sustainable communities in the United States and Canada. These matching awards support the planning and implementing of urban sustainability and green stormwater infrastructure projects.

**Applications due: February 28, 2025**

### **The Land Capital Grant Program (1st Round)**

The Land Capital Grant Program (LCG) is designed to bridge funding gaps and accelerate the protection of valuable conservation lands. The Connecticut Land Conservation Council will prioritize projects that:

- Have a closing time frame of 12 months or less.

- Demonstrate a strong commitment to conservation.
- Align with statewide land conservation goals.
- Have leveraged and/or exhausted other public and private funding sources.

**Applications due: March 1, 2025**

### **DEEP Climate Resilience Fund: Matching Funds for FEMA BRIC**

DEEP's Matching Funds for FEMA BRIC program is a new funding initiative and is part of the new Deployment category of the DEEP Climate Resilience Fund (DCRF). DCRF supports implementation and construction for community and energy resilience projects. FEMA BRIC funds pre-disaster hazard mitigation and climate adaption projects that will enable communities to withstand or rapidly recover from future disasters.

**Applications due: March 3, 2025**

### **Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program**

Thriving Communities subgrants will be distributed to support capacity building in communities affected by environmental or public health issues to eligible applicants. Categories include seed funds, assessment, planning, and project development.

**Applications due: March 7, 2025**

### **Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development - Round 21**

Connecticut DECD's OBRD has announced multiple funding availability notices under this round:

1. Brownfield Municipal Grant Program – Remediation & Limited-Assessment
2. Brownfield Municipal Grant Program – Assessment-Only
3. Targeted Brownfield Development Loan Program
4. Brownfield Area-wide Revitalization Grant Program

**Applications due: March 7, 2025**

### **Climate Smart Communities Initiative**

This initiative (CSCI) provides funding, expertise, training, and other resources to help communities advance their climate resilience plans and projects while also developing the strategies and capacities that communities nationwide will need as climate impacts intensify.

**Applications due: ~~March 3, 2025~~ Extended to March 21, 2025**

**~~COMING UP~~**

## [NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants](#)

NOAA is seeking proposals for transformational projects that will restore coastal habitat and strengthen community resilience. This funding prioritizes habitat restoration actions that rebuild productive and sustainable fisheries, contribute to the recovery and conservation of threatened and endangered species, use natural infrastructure to reduce damage from flooding and storms, promote resilient ecosystems and communities, and yield socioeconomic benefits.

**Applications Due: April 16, 2025**

## [Climate Smart Land Stewardship Grant Program](#)

This new fund for land trusts offered by the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) with support from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture will award \$500,000 over multiple years for both planning and implementation grants.

**Applications due: May 1, 2025**

## [Flood Mitigation Assistance Swift Current](#)

With funding from FEMA, the Swift Current funding opportunity provides money to help reduce flood damage to properties that have been repeatedly or severely flooded and are insured through the National Flood Insurance Program. This funding is available after a major flood disaster is declared by the President.

**Applications due to State: May 5, 2025**

## [Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program](#)

The ORLP is a nationally competitive, dollar-for-dollar matching grant program. It was created to aid disadvantaged, urban communities that lack access to close-by outdoor recreation. Funds can be used for the acquisition and/or development of, or substantial renovation of, public parks and other outdoor recreation spaces.

**Applications Due: June 1, 2025**

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# Resilience Roles

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## [Regional Aquaculture Liaison Assistant Extension Educator](#)

Connecticut Sea Grant is hiring a Regional Aquaculture Liaison Assistant Extension Educator to work out of the [NOAA Milford Lab](#). Position tasks will include improving understanding of the marine aquaculture landscape at the

regional scale, developing user-friendly technology-transfer products, interacting with researchers and the owners/operators of aquaculture operations, sharing information, and providing feedback.

**Position Open Until Filled**

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## Upcoming Events

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### [Long Island Sound Study Stewardship Strategy Public Meetings](#)

The Long Island Sound Study will host a series of public meetings to discuss and finalize the Stewardship Strategy. The Strategy aims to provide a framework in support of the 33 Stewardship Areas of the **Initiative**. The draft of the Strategy will be shared for public comment March 10 – May 9.

[Register & Learn More Here](#) | **March 18, April 24, June 4 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

### [CT MyCoast - Kickoff Webinar](#)

Join us for a virtual gathering to learn more about the new MyCoast project recently funded through the Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF) and focusing on the CT communities of Stonington, Groton, and New London.

**MyCoast** is a tool that allows residents to submit photos of flooding events and high tides to a public database. This information can be used by municipalities to improve planning for local flood events and increase public awareness about coastal flooding.

**MyCoast**

**Webinar: Piloting the MyCoast Tool in New London, Groton, and Stonington**

Thursday, April 10, 2025 1:00 - 2:30 pm  
[Click Here to Register](#)

Use MyCoast to submit photos of coastal events like storms, floods, and extreme high tides to a public database

Connecticut NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE | Sea Grant CONNECTICUT | CIRCA Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation

**UConn**

[Register Here](#) | **Thursday, April 10, 2025 | 1:00pm - 2:30 pm**

### **[Exploring the Land and People of the Long Island Sound Watershed with a Story Map Webinar](#)**

The UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) will provide and overview of their recently developed StoryMap that focuses on the Long Island Sound Watershed. Tune in to learn more!

**[Register Here](#) | Thursday, March 20, 2025 | 1:00 pm**

### **[UConn TAB Spring Webinar Series](#)**

The UConn Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program is hosting as Spring Webinar Series, covering topics including community impacts of brownfields and successful grant development strategies.

**[Learn More Here](#) | March 11, April 16, May 1 | 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm**

### **[LIS Summit 2025: Collaborating to Advance Clean Water Solutions](#)**

Reserve your spot today for the 2025 LIS Summit, hosted in person at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport, CT. Informed by each other's perspectives and experiences and guided by resources like the updated Long Island Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP), this Summit will focus on building strong partnerships, sharing knowledge, and exploring communication approaches. Registration Closes March 13.

**[Register Here](#) | Thursday, March 27, 2025 | 11:00 am - 2:45 pm**

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## Featured Resources

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### **[Long Island Sound Coastal Zone Soil Survey](#)**

Connecticut shoreline data is now available via USDA's Web Soil Survey mapping tool. This includes detailed aspects of the shallow subaqueous, submerged soils, and adjacent nearshore areas such as tidal marshes and beaches. This information will help inventory resources, plan for hazard mitigation, guide restoration efforts, and track environmental changes.

### **[Connections to Long Island Sound Story Map](#)**

Created by UConn CLEAR in partnership with the Long Island Sound Study, this population and demographic story map explores the land and people in the Long Island Sound Watershed. From Canada down to the northern coast of Long Island, the watershed is a vastly diverse area in both land and people, populated by nearly 9 million people and characterized by farms, forests, urban centers, beaches, marshes and more. This story map showcases how the Sound is an integral part of the lives of those who live, work, and visit the region every day. Check out the features of Stonington, Greater New Haven, and Bridgeport!



## [NOAA Digital Coast - Sea Level Rise Calculator](#)

This tool produces location-specific scenarios for sea level and flooding, as well as information about present-day and past conditions. Local governments and other practitioners can use the information to make informed decisions about strategic adaptation investments. The site incorporates data, maps, and visualizations and produces automated, location-specific reports.

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## Sound Bites

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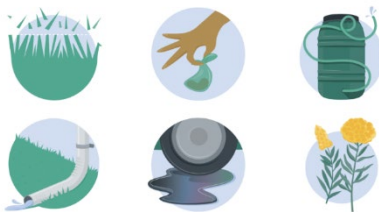
### [Proposed Resiliency Legislation](#)

Governor Lamont's 2025 legislative package will include proposals to enhance Connecticut's resilience to extreme weather and climate change. Additionally, two bills introduced by MJ Shannon focus on coastal sustainability and resilience. Details are linked below.

- [Governor Lamont's 2025 Legislative Proposal: Strengthen Resilience Against Extreme Weather Events](#)
- [An Act Concerning Coastline Resilience to Climate Change](#)
- [An Act Concerning Sustainable Zoning Practices](#)

### [Groton Clean Water Ways Show - NEW EPISODE](#)

The Town of Groton has released a fourth episode of their Clean Water Ways Show, titled [Flooding: The Unseen Risks - Part I](#), featuring Megan Granato, Sustainability & Resilience Manager, Town of Groton; and Bill Lucey, Long Island Soundkeeper. Check out the series to hear from local experts about protecting Connecticut waterways.



### [Sound Ideas for Clean Water](#)

Clean water and a healthy Sound start at home and in your community. Share information about stormwater pollution and its environmental impact with your neighbors and friends! LISS especially encourages **municipalities** to use the brochure in your outreach efforts.

### [Canines for Clean Water](#)

The Long Island Sound Study's Canines for Clean Water campaign encourages responsible disposal of

pet waste to ensure healthy water quality for everyone to enjoy. For more information on how to participate, email Connecticut Outreach Coordinator Maggie Cozens at [margaret.cozens@uconn.edu](mailto:margaret.cozens@uconn.edu).



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## Newsletters Archive & Sign Ups

[Find past newsletters here.](#)

[Sign Up for the Western CT SRC Newsletter!](#)

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