



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



Sustainable & Resilient Communities

May 2025 - Western & Eastern CT



What's New with You?

As we roll through May and continue giving our rain boots a good workout (every. weekend.), we're on the lookout for your latest and greatest! Do you have a resilience-focused event, tool, or resource that could help strengthen communities around the Sound? Whether it's an upcoming workshop, a new planning guide, or a magical button you can press to make some *funding* rain down -- we want to hear about it! Share your work and we'll help spread the word in upcoming newsletters and on our [Resource Hub](#).

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!

What Assistance Program is right for me?

Click on the image to interact



DUE SOON

NFWF Long Island Sound Futures Fund

The National Fish & Wildlife Foundation is seeking proposals to restore the health and living resources of Long Island Sound. This grant program supports efforts to test innovative approaches to conservation, deliver transformative projects, and support people and communities who value the sound and take a direct role in its future.

Applications Due: May 29, 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

Community Investment Fund 2030 - Round 7

To foster economic development in historically underserved communities across Connecticut, the CIF will provide a total of up to \$875 million to eligible municipalities as well as not-for-profit organizations and community development corporations that operate within them.

Applications Due: June 5, 2025

OPEN OPPORTUNITIES

[Northeast Forest & Rivers Fund 2025](#)

NFWF is soliciting proposals for the Northeast Forests and Rivers Fund to restore and sustain healthy rivers, forests, and grasslands that provide habitat for diverse fish and wildlife populations.

Applications Due: June 26, 2025

[The Land Capital Grant Program - Round 3](#)

This program offered by the CT Land Conservation Council is designed to bridge funding gaps and accelerate the protection of valuable conservation lands.

Applications Due: July 1, 2025

COMING UP

CT DEEP plans to release several grant opportunities this spring/summer, including for **Trees for Communities**, **Urban Forest Resilience**, **Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition**, **Urban Green & Community Gardens**, and the **Climate Resilience Fund**. *Stay tuned for updates!*

Upcoming Events

[Help Develop the Long Island Sound Stewardship Strategy!](#)

The Long Island Sound Study is hosting a public webinar to discuss and finalize a Long Island Sound Stewardship Strategy. The Strategy will provide a framework to support stewardship at the [33 Stewardship Areas of the Initiative](#). At this meeting, the SRC Team will be presenting on our [Resilience Resource Hub](#) and [Assistance Programs](#) and will discuss how we can help support the new Stewardship Strategy!

[Register & Learn More Here](#) | June 4, 2025 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

[LISCIF Annual Learning Exchange](#)

Restore America's Estuaries has announced the 2nd Annual Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund Learning Exchange. The event will feature workshops and sharing to highlight completed projects that benefit the Long Island Sound estuary. The target audience for this event includes:

- 2024 and 2025 Long Island Community Impact Fund sub-awardees
- Tribal groups, organizations, institutions, and municipalities located in Connecticut and New York focused on environmental projects in the Long Island Sound estuary
- Coastal conservation and restoration professionals, students, and early career professionals working in environmentally distressed communities

[Register & Learn More Here](#) | **June 30, 2025 | 9:30 am - 6:30 pm**
CUNY Graduate Center, 365 5th Avenue, NYC

SAVE THE DATE: 2025 Living Shoreline Workshop

Restore America's Estuaries will be hosting their 2025 Living Shoreline's Workshop in New Haven, CT this October! This workshop will present a unique platform to learn, engage, and exchange knowledge with professionals, experts, and stakeholders on natural infrastructure for shoreline stabilization and ecosystem conservation in the Long Island Sound region and nationwide. Registration and presentation information still to come.

[Learn More Here](#) | **October 29-30, 2025**

Featured Resource

EPA Water Technical Assistance

Is your community facing drinking water, wastewater, or stormwater challenges? If so, you can submit a request for no-cost, direct assistance from the EPA WaterTA program! This program assists communities with applications for federal funding, quality infrastructure, and reliable water services.

[**Requests are accepted on a rolling basis.**](#)

Resilience Roles

Conservation Program Manager - Audubon CT/NY

This full time position will be responsible for building partnerships, engaging the network, and implementing community conservation programs that align with and provide opportunities for participants to take actions that help achieve

Audubon's strategic plan milestones for Habitat, Climate, Policy, and Community Building.

[Learn more here!](#)

Sound Bites

[Wrack Lines - Spring/Summer 2025 Issue](#)

The newest edition of Wrack Lines includes a shellfish pioneer, an invasive wizard, and so many other great stories, including a feature on the Connecticut SRC Team members.

To get email notification when the new issue of Wrack Lines is available electronically, or receive a free print copy reach out to

judy.benson@uconn.edu



[SHUCKS interns get hands-on training as farmers of the sea](#)

This summer, both Danielle Calini and Brendon Goulette will advance their shellfish and aquaculture goals as recipients of the Sharing Hands-ons Understanding and Cultivating Knowledge (SHUCKS) internship at Sixpenny Oyster Farm in Noank.

Now in its second year, the paid internship gives hands-on training in aquaculture through part-time work at Sixpenny under the guidance of farm owners Will Ceddia and Jason Hamilton.



[Find past newsletters here.](#)

Newsletters Archive & Sign Ups

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

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

Deb Visco Abibou

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

Sarah Schechter

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

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