



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP



Sustainable & Resilient Communities

July 2026 - Eastern CT

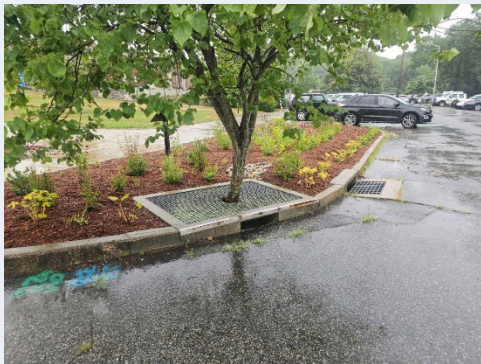


Photo Credit: Cierra Patrick, City of Groton | July 6, 2026

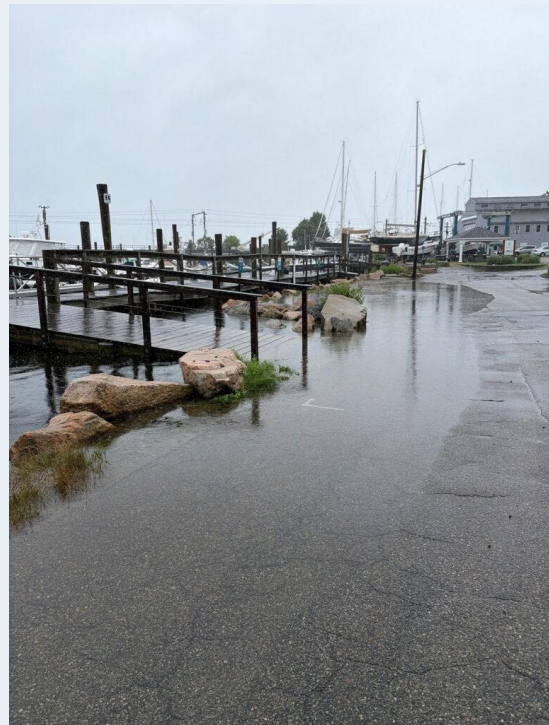


Photo Credit: David Prescott, Town of Groton | July 6, 2026

Capturing Flooding and Storm Damage in CT This Week

I hope everyone is safe, dry, and cool this week! Connecticut has seen a massive amount of rain over the past couple of days and while it seems to be coming to an end, I wanted to share UConn's Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) featured resources, including guides, checklists, and local information to help you get prepared and stay informed.

[Check out the resources HERE](#)

Some Connecticut communities have access to MyCoast Connecticut, a tool to help capture photos flooding and storm damage, and upload them to a public database. Check out the recent the flooding photos and reach out if you're interested in learning more about the tool.

[MyCoast Connecticut Reports](#)

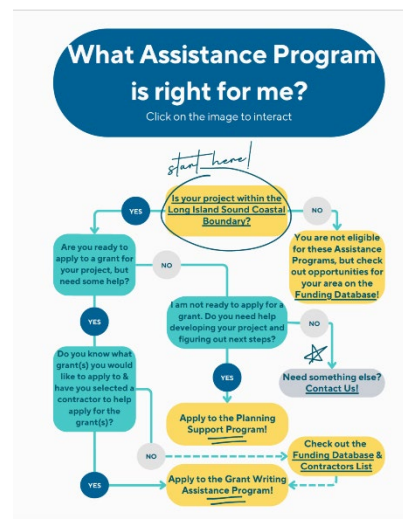
Having trouble viewing the images? You can now view these emails on the web:

[View as Webpage](#)

Assistance Opportunities

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!



Funding Opportunities

⌚ DUE SOON ⌚

[FY24 FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program](#)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) is an annual Hazard Mitigation Grant Program that provides funds for projects to reduce or eliminate risk of flood

damage to buildings that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). If you're confused as to why this says FY24, you can attempt to follow the explanation [here](#). Note that all Connecticut sub-applications must be routed through CT DEMHS.

Application Deadline: July 17, 2026

Urban Forest Resilience Grant Program

With support from the USDA Forest Service, CT DEEP's Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program is offering funding to help municipalities restore their urban and community forests that are facing significant stress from invasive pests and diseases, including beech leaf disease, spongy moth, and emerald ash borer.

Application Deadline: August 3, 2026

OPEN OPPORTUNITIES

Resilient Forestry Practices Grant

Municipally-owned woodlands face growing threats to their health from pests, diseases, invasive species, extreme weather events, and other stressors. With support from the Inflation Reduction Act, CT DEEP's Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program has \$1 million available to help rural communities in Connecticut implement [resilient forestry practices](#).

Application Deadline: August 31, 2026

DEEP Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant Program

The OSWA Grant Program provides financial assistance to municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations to acquire land for open space, and to water companies to acquire land to be classified as Class I or Class II water supply property.

Application Deadline: November 6, 2026

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

This program helps rural communities, nonprofits, and federally recognized tribes in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island prepare for or recover from emergencies that affect safe drinking water. Eligible applicants include rural areas with populations of 10,000 or fewer. Funding can support waterline repairs, new wells, treatment facilities, and other water system improvements. Applications are accepted year-round through USDA Rural Development.

Application Deadline: Rolling

[DEEP Urban Green & Community Gardens Grant Program](#)

This CT DEEP's UGCG program provides funding assistance to develop or enhance urban green spaces for public enjoyment and/or environmental education. Promotion of open space in an urban setting may include, but may not be limited to, the development of a community garden or reclaiming and enhancing existing open space for the public's use. Grants are awarded to projects that demonstrate the highest ability to benefit urban communities in close proximity to population centers.

Application Deadline: December 4, 2026



[DECD Brownfield Remediation & Development](#)

The Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) is expected announce multiple funding availability notices under Round 24.

RFP Anticipated: Summer 2026

Upcoming Events



[Mystic Aquarium Frog and Salamander Survey](#)

Amphibians, including salamanders, play an important role in the ecosystem – and need your help! Join the Mystic Aquarium in their newest community science initiative as they conduct field surveys to sample amphibians (salamanders, frogs, and toads!) for chytrid fungus. This program is open to all but anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Limited space and registration is required

[Register](#) | **Wednesday, July 13, 2026 | 5:30 PM**

Location: Mystic Aquarium

[CT Green Bank/SCRCOG Workshop: Resiliency](#)

The Green Bank offers financing options for areas of environmental infrastructure related to climate adaptation and resiliency. Join this workshop to learn more about these programs.

[Register](#) | **Wednesday, July 15, 2026 | 11:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Location: Virtual

State Funding for Land Conservation

The CT Land Conservation Council (CLCC) is partnering with CTDEEP for an information session on the **Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA)** and **Urban Green and Community Garden (UGCG)** Grant Programs. The two sessions will also cover information on CLCC's Transaction Assistance Grant (TAG) program and our newest initiative, the Forever CT Fund Bridge Loan. Register today to learn more about the grant applications, criteria, and how to develop your project proposal.

[Register](#) | **Monday, July 13, 2026 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

[Register](#) | **Tuesday, July 21, 2026 | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

Save the Sound Coastal Cleanup Program | Volunteer Signup

Join in volunteering at the kickoff cleanup for the 2026

#DontTrashLISound campaign at Fort Trumbull State Park in New London and the surrounding neighborhood! Save the Sound and CT Sea Grant are proud to sponsor this 10th anniversary event of the campaign at a site significant to our nation's 250th anniversary celebration! Register for the Fort Trumbull cleanup and others happening in August through the fall.

[Register](#) | **Saturday, August 8, 2026 | 9:00 AM–11:30 AM**

Location: Fort Trumbull in New London



**Thames
River
Heritage
Park**

DISCOVER CONNECTICUT'S HIDDEN UNDERWATER MEADOWS



Join us for a guided boat tour out of the Thames River as we cruise east along Connecticut's coastline to explore one of Long Island Sound's most important - & overlooked - ecosystems: eelgrass. Learn how these underwater meadows support fisheries, protect shorelines, improve water quality & store carbon, all while we visit beautiful coastal coves & boating hotspots. From the rise & fall of eelgrass to the real-world choices that threaten or protect it, this engaging on-the-water experience brings science, history, and stewardship together. Perfect for curious adults who love the coast and want to help keep it healthy - above & below the surface.

Sunday, July 5, 2026 @ 11:45 AM to 1 PM and Saturday, August 1 @ 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM
This boat tour departs from Fort Trumbull State Park in New London, CT.

<https://www.thamesriverheritagepark.org/discover-connecticuts-hidden-underwater-meadows/>

Jamie Vaudrey, Ph.D. is a coastal scientist & science communicator who serves as Research Coordinator for the Connecticut National Estuarine Research Reserve and an Associate Research Professor at University of Connecticut. Her work focuses on understanding how human activities affect coastal ecosystems, with particular emphasis on water nutrient pollution, and eelgrass habitats in Long Island Sound. Through research, outreach, and hands-on field experiences - including boat-based programs - Jamie connects people to the science beneath the surface and empowers them to be better stewards of coastal waters.



Thames River Heritage Park
 ONE RIVER. A THOUSAND STORIES.



Featured Resources

UConn EDEN Flooding and Hurricane Resources

UConn's Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) has compiled guides, checklists, and local information to help you stay safe and prepared before, during, and after storms.

Resilience Roles

Visiting Assistant Extension Educator in Land Use

The UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) is looking to hire a Visiting Assistant Extension Educator in Land Use to lead the Land Use Academy, provide trainings to land use commissioners and others throughout the state, and contribute to all CLEAR programming. The ideal candidate will have professional, municipal-level experience in land use planning, a master's degree in a related discipline, an understanding of community resilience, experience in outreach or teaching, and a desire to be part of a fun, innovative, and amazing team of outreach professionals.

[Learn More and Apply Here](#)

Sound Shares

DEEP Announces Over \$5 million in Climate Resilience Fund Grants to Protect Communities From Extreme Weather

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has awarded more than \$5.1 million in Climate Resilience Fund grants to 14 municipalities, regional organizations, and nonprofits for projects that will strengthen communities against flooding, extreme heat, severe storms, and other climate-related hazards. The funding will support planning, engineering, and infrastructure improvements that reduce disaster risks, protect critical

infrastructure, and help communities leverage additional federal resilience funding. Congratulations to the awardees!

Summer 2026 Sound Matters

Check out the Long Island Sound Partnership's 2026 Summer Issue of Sound Matters, which highlights digitally based tools that were developed for our management partners, researchers, and communities.

Governor Lamont Announces Funding To Support the Redevelopment of 12 Unused, Blighted Properties

Governor Ned Lamont announced \$15.2 million in state funding to support the cleanup and redevelopment of 12 blighted properties across Connecticut through the Department of Economic and Community Development's Brownfield Remediation and Development Program. The grants will help transform more than 267 acres of contaminated land into sites for new housing, businesses, and community development, while leveraging an estimated \$81 million in private investment and creating new economic opportunities statewide.

Volunteer for the Sound

The Long Island Sound Partnership has highlighted a bunch of volunteer opportunities for you to get involved in this summer. Join Mystic Aquarium in conducting field surveys on amphibians, clean up litter in Fair Haven, and so much more!

Go Bags and Stay Bins: Using Research and Outreach to Help Older Adults Prepare for Emergencies on Connecticut's Coastline

A UConn-based collaborative effort involving Connecticut Sea Grant, UConn Extension, and the Departments of Anthropology and Communication is helping older adults in coastal communities prepare for emergencies. The project has been informed through community listening sessions that have helped the team address preparedness challenges and provide practical tools to help residents respond to flooding, storms, power outages, and other hazards.

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