

Project Info

**Title:** Support for Stewardship Land Acquisition by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Activity Type: Climate Resiliency Project Type: Ongoing

Implementing Agency: NYSDEC Total Estimate Budget \$3,409,800.00

Responsible Partners: N/A Federal Amount: \$3,409,800.00

Match Amount: \$0.00

**Objectives:** The objective of this project is to continue NYSDEC efforts, in partnership with the LISS Stewardship Initiative, to provide water quality, tidal wetland, and coastal habitat protection to Long Island Sound through preservation of land in its watershed.

**Description:** NYSDEC is requesting funds to provide support for the acquisition of three properties: Two acquisitions (Watson and Kozikowski) would be additions to NYSDEC’s Conscience Bay- Little Bay State Tidal Wetland Area in the Conscience Bay-Little Bay- Setauket Harbor Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat; and the third acquisition (Bateson) lies between and is in the watershed of both Little Bay and Port Jefferson Harbor, an LISS Inaugural Stewardship Area.

**Estimated Milestones:** October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

**CWA Program Elements** Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Purchase and protection of the Watson Property	2-1.	HW-3; HW-9
Purchase and protection of the Kozikowski Property	2-1.	HW-3; HW-9
Purchase and protection of the Bateson Property	2-1.	HW-3; HW-9

**Title: Coastal Access Improvement Support**

Activity Type: Environmental Justice Project Type: New  
Implementing Agency: CT DEEP Total Estimate Budget: \$2,475,000.00  
Responsible Partners: N/A Federal Amount: \$2,475,000.00  
Match Amount: \$0.00

Objectives: CT DEEP will use this funding to protect land that has been identified or may emerge as a priority opportunity for coastal land conservation and expand and create more equitable access to coastal areas.

Description: CT DEEP is seeking funding to acquire land and improve access along the Connecticut coast in a way that prioritizes Environmental Justice Communities and enhances climate resiliency. The requested funds will help ensure that these communities are prioritized in land acquisition and coastal access efforts and that the acquired land will improve overall climate resiliency

Estimated Milestones: October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

CWA Program Elements Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Land conservation identification and Acquisition of LIS coastal property	2-1.	HW-3; HW-9
Enhancement of access to coastal areas for recreation and fishing	3-1; 3-5	SC-4; SC-31; SC-2

**Title: Habitat Restoration, Riverine Connectivity, and Living Shorelines Implementation**

Activity Type: Environmental Justice Project Type: New  
Implementing Agency: CT DEEP Total Estimate Budget \$3,525,000.00  
Responsible Partners: N/A Federal Amount: \$3,525,000.00  
Match Amount: \$0.00

Objectives: The primary objective is to facilitate the design and implementation of habitat restoration, habitat connectivity and living shoreline projects that will benefit EJ Communities and that have either been identified or may emerge as a priority opportunity.

Description: This project will provide a ready source of funding to be used for identified and potential emergent living shoreline projects that can advance naturebased approaches to mitigate erosion and support healthy coastal habitats. Another goal of this project is to restore stream connectivity in the state by developing fishways, fixing restrictive culverts, and removing outdated dams.

Estimated Milestones: October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

CWA Program Elements Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
QAPPs, project identification, planning, permitting, construction, and monitoring of habitat restoration, riverine connectivity, and living shorelines projects	2-1; 2-2	HW-1; HW-11; HW-12

**Title: Long Island Sound Community Impact Program**

Activity Type:	Environmental Justice	Project Type:	Ongoing
Implementing Agency:	Restore America's Estuaries	Total Estimate Budget	\$2,634,262.00
Responsible Partners:	N/A	Federal Amount:	\$2,634,262.00
		Match Amount:	\$0.00

**Objectives:** The objective is to select an organization to 1. Develop and administer a competitive grant program focused on activities that address challenges and opportunities facing underserved communities within the scope of the LISS CCMP; and 2. Develop and implement an outreach and support program focused on involving underserved communities and providing them technical support as necessary.

**Description:** This RFA to select an organization to manage the Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF) is key to meeting LISS’s EJ goals. EPA will provide funds to the LISCIF annually to be used for awards under this competitive opportunity. EPA expects to provide up to \$5 million to cover 3 years for the development of the competitive grant program, two rounds of pass-through funds in years two and three of the award, and the technical assistance and support program for underserved communities.

**Estimated Milestones:** October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

**CWA Program Elements** N/A

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Select an organization to develop and administer a competitive grant program focused on activities that address challenges and opportunities facing underserved communities within the scope of the LISS CCMP	3-1.	SC-4
Selected organization develops and implements an outreach and support program focused on involving underserved communities and providing them technical support as necessary.	3-1.	SC-4

**Title: NYS Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP)**

Activity Type:	Infrastructure	Project Type:	Ongoing
Implementing Agency:	NYSDEC	Total Estimate Budget	\$3,000,000.00
Responsible Partners:	N/A	Federal Amount:	\$3,000,000.00
		Match Amount:	\$0.00
Objectives:	The objective of adding funds to NYS’s WQIP Program is to assist municipalities in the implementation of projects that would lead to improving the water quality of Long Island Sound.		
Description:	The Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP) Program is a competitive, reimbursement grant program that funds projects that directly address documented water quality impairments or protect a drinking water source. The program is managed by NYSDEC Division of Water staff and has funded hundreds of projects over 17 rounds of funding. It has been successful at assisting eligible applicants and at completing construction/implementation projects in categories such as wastewater treatment improvement, non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control, aquatic connectivity restoration. The WQIP program is on avenue for the NYS DEC to implement projects that advance implementation recommendations in TMDLs or Nine Element Plans for State waters.		
Estimated Milestones:	October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028		
CWA Program Elements	Strengthening WQ Standards, Improving WQ Monitoring, Developing TMDLs, Controlling NPS Pollution on a Watershed Basis, Strengthening NPDES Permits, Supporting Sustainable Wastewater Infrastructure, Wetlands Program Support/Implementation		

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Grant Management	1-1; 1-3	WW-2; WW-35

**Title: NYS Long Island Sound Watershed Septic System Replacement**

Activity Type:	Infrastructure	Project Type:	Ongoing
Implementing Agency:	NYSDEC	Total Estimate Budget	\$3,000,000.00
Responsible Partners:	N/A	Federal Amount:	\$3,000,000.00
		Match Amount:	\$0.00

**Objectives:** The objective of this funding would be to grow the current septic replacement programs established in the two counties. The funds would be exclusively for the Long Island Sound watershed, as delineated by USGS in 2021. These additional funds will increase the rate and number of replacements in the watershed, leading to a reduction in the nitrogen entering the groundwater.

**Description:** NYS’s Septic System Replacement Fund Program provides critical funding to counties to assist homeowners with replacing cesspools, or inadequate septic systems that impair water quality. Suffolk County with 380,000 systems, and Nassau County with 100,000 systems have the highest number of septic systems, per county, in New York State. Using state funding Each county has built a local grant programs to allow homeowners to upgrade their systems with innovative/alternative on-site treatment systems (I/A OWTS) that treat nitrogen to at least 19 mg/L. The level of nitrogen in the effluent from a conventional septic system is 40 mg/L.

**Estimated Milestones:** October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

**CWA Program Elements** Strengthening WQ Standards, Improving WQ Monitoring, Developing TMDLs, Controlling NPS Pollution on a Watershed Basis, Strengthening NPDES Permits, Supporting Sustainable Wastewater Infrastructure, Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Grant Management	1-1.	WW-12; WW-7

**Title: Nitrogen reduction upgrades to WWTPs**

Activity Type: Infrastructure Project Type: Ongoing

Implementing Agency: MA DEP Total Estimate Budget: \$2,000,000.00

Responsible Partners: N/A Federal Amount: \$2,000,000.00  
Match Amount: \$0.00

Objectives: The objective of this project is to implement the recommendations for nitrogen removal at the WPCF, which involves a variable operating model approach, and therefore achieve nitrogen reductions to the Long Island Sound.

Description: The Chicopee WPCF is a wet-weather treatment facility with an average flow of 15.5 million gallons per day (MGD) and a peak hourly flow of 47 MGD, serving a population of approximately 55,000. The WPCF utilizes a high purity oxygen (HPO) secondary treatment system that discharges to the Connecticut River, and ultimately Long Island Sound. The City has been issued a final permit that includes a mass-based annual average total nitrogen limit of 647 lbs/day (5 mg/L at 15.5 MGD). In 2017, Woodard & Curran began a high-level evaluation to study the feasibility and requirements to achieve this nitrogen limit at the Chicopee WPCF. In 2021, with the permit requirements becoming clearer coupled with a better understanding of the WPCF processes, performance and land/space available for improvements, Woodard & Curran updated the 2017 report culminating in a formal recommendation and refined cost estimates for upgrades to achieve the new total nitrogen permit limit at the WPCF.

Estimated Milestones: October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

CWA Program Elements: Strengthening WQ Standards, Improving WQ Monitoring, Developing TMDLs, Controlling NPS Pollution on a Watershed Basis, Strengthening NPDES Permits, Supporting Sustainable Wastewater Infrastructure, Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes	IA #
Design of necessary improvements to the WPCF	1-1.	WW-4; WW-2
Construction of the necessary improvements to the WPCF	1-1.	WW-4; WW-2

**Title: Green Infrastructure**

Activity Type:	Infrastructure	Project Type:	New
Implementing Agency:	CT DEEP	Total Estimate Budget	\$500,000.00
Responsible Partners:	N/A	Federal Amount:	\$500,000.00
		Match Amount:	\$0.00

**Objectives:** One of the primary objectives of this project is to mitigate pollution and runoff from stormwater by implementing green infrastructure that reduces the impact of impervious surfaces. By implementing green infrastructure practices such as rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavements, the amount of pollutants entering waterways can be reduced, improving the overall health of ecosystems that drain to LIS. Another objective is to increase outreach about the benefits of green infrastructure practices. By providing educational materials, workshops, and community events, individuals and communities can learn about the importance of green infrastructure and how they can contribute to its implementation.

**Description:** CT DEEP is seeking funding for planning, outreach and implementation of Green Infrastructure projects. These projects shall be prioritized to address the needs of climate resiliency, flooding, stormwater runoff and Environmental Justice (EJ) Communities

**Estimated Milestones:** October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2028

**CWA Program Elements** Strengthening WQ Standards, Improving WQ Monitoring, Developing TMDLs, Controlling NPS Pollution on a Watershed Basis, Strengthening NPDES Permits, Supporting Sustainable Wastewater Infrastructure, Wetlands Program Support/Implementation

Anticipated Outputs or Deliverables	Anticipated Long-term Outcomes IA #	
Identify and install green infrastructure projects	1-1.	WW-2; WW-12; WW-15
Education materials and programs developed and disseminated	3-4; 3-5	SC-23; SC-30