

Buzzards Bay



National Estuary Program

April 30, 2012

Distribution: Boards of Selectmen, Buzzards Bay Action Committee Representatives, Shellfish Officers, Natural Resource Officers, Conservation Commissions, Public Works Departments, Planning Boards, Boards of Health in the Buzzards Bay watershed

Re: 2012 Municipal Mini-Grants available

Dear Municipal Official:

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program, a planning and technical assistance unit of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, is again making available funding to assist eligible Buzzards Bay watershed municipalities in these categories:

- Stormwater remediation designs,
- Implementation and construction of existing stormwater designs,
- Stormwater mapping support,
- Wetland/open space/habitat restoration, preservation, acquisition or protection,
- Digitization of wetland boundaries or land elevations from wetland permits,
- Migratory fish passage and habitat restoration,
- Water quality testing in support for establishing priorities for stormwater remediation,
- Construction of a boat pump-out facility in a municipality or harbor when none exists,
- Creation of online reporting systems for tracking of operation, maintenance and monitoring of innovative and alternative septic systems, and
- Other activities in support of the Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

A total of \$140,041 in federal funds is available. These funds are provided in accordance with US EPA National Estuary Program Cooperative Agreements, and are part of an ongoing Buzzards Bay Watershed Municipal Grant Program implemented by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program.

Eligible municipalities include Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Rochester, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Middleborough, Carver, Plymouth, Bourne, Falmouth, and Gosnold. However, specific restoration and protection projects must lie principally within the Buzzards Bay watershed (see map at www.buzzardsbay.org/funding.htm). For participation in the stormwater program, the discharge must be contributing to an existing impairment.

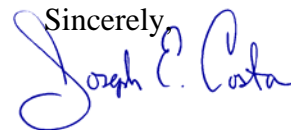


Enclosed is the RFR application. All forms are available at www.comm-pass.com (search for "Buzzards Bay" in the open solicitations).

Municipalities must submit separate application forms for each grant proposal. Municipalities may submit any number of applications in any grant category. However, no single project award can exceed \$35,000, and no municipality may be awarded more than \$50,000 through this solicitation. Municipalities may submit applications in partnership with other public or private organizations, or subcontract tasks; however, contracts will be awarded only to municipalities.

The submission deadline is 4 PM, Thursday, June 28, 2012. Grant applications, and questions about the application must be submitted in writing to Sarah Williams, Regional Planner, Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program, 2870 Cranberry Highway, East Wareham, MA 02538. For your convenience, questions about the solicitation can be emailed to sarah.williams@state.ma.us.

Projects must be complete by June 30, 2013, but provisions can be made for projects to end as late as December 2013, so we are encouraging towns to apply whether or not projects will be completed in this fiscal year.

Sincerely,


Joseph E. Costa, Ph.D.
Executive Director