

Chapter 6. Resources for Financing the Buzzards Bay CCMP

Current Approach

In each action plan, there are estimates on the costs to achieve various goals or to implement certain programs. To better organize and clarify the responsibilities and costs associated with various programs, we used our best professional judgment to identify specific costs and financing options. Certain efforts, such as managing and treating stormwater and nitrogen discharges to meet water quality goals and TMDLs, will likely total billions of dollars, and take decades to achieve. Achieving other goals and objectives will be far less costly.

In this chapter, we summarize likely total costs identified in the action plans, and major past and future funding sources and mechanisms. We also identify those grant and government programs that need additional resources. We present only brief descriptions of options, and we refer the reader to more comprehensive assessments and evaluations such as those now being undertaken by the Water Infrastructure Finance Commission set up by the Massachusetts Legislature,²⁴⁰ various wastewater financing reports available at the Cape Cod Commission website,²⁴¹ and reports from the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative.²⁴²

Financing the implementation of a CCMP is not the same as financing a NEP, but they are related. For the goals of a non-regulatory document like the Buzzards Bay CCMP to be achieved, not only must progress be tracked, but also approaches and actions refined and improved upon, and new adaptive efforts must be initiated to overcome government and public inertia. This is a key role for NEPs and their partners. For this reason, this chapter also discusses the financing of the Buzzards Bay NEP and its partners. In particular, we discuss past and future funding of the NEP's two longstanding partners on its EPA cooperative agreements, the citizen NGO, the Buzzards Bay Coalition, and the municipal NGO the Buzzards Bay Action Committee.²⁴³

In the end, however, it is local government that will likely bear most of the costs and burdens of implement-

²⁴⁰ Their June 2011 initial report, *Toward Financial Sustainability*, is retrieved from

mwwa.memberclicks.net/assets/documents/Advocacy/june%202029%20final%20initial%20report%20as%20voted%20by%20water%20infrastructure%20commission.pdf.

²⁴¹ See at Enhancing Wastewater Management on Cape Cod: Planning, Administrative and Legal Tools Report to Barnstable County July 2004 at

www.capecodcommission.org/resources/waterresources/WWTool%20Rept.pdf.

²⁴² See particularly, *Comparison of Costs for Wastewater Management Systems Applicable to Cape Cod* retrieved from www.ccwpc.org.

²⁴³ Both the Buzzards Bay Coalition and the Buzzards Bay Action Committee were created as offshoots from the Buzzards Bay NEP's Citizen Advisory Committee.

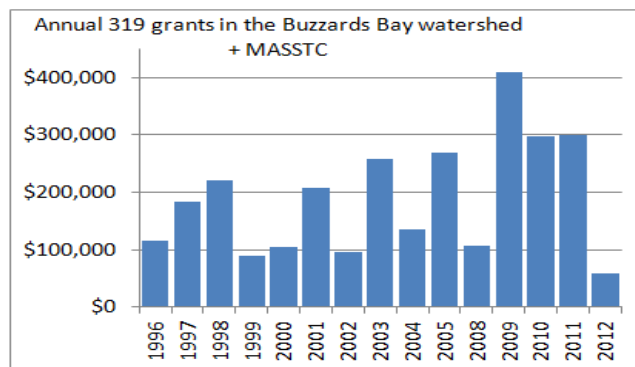


Figure 115. EPA funded DEP 319 program grants to Buzzards Bay municipalities to manage nonpoint source pollution, and related initiatives.

The figure includes funding for the Massachusetts Alternative Septic System Test Center (MASSTC), which was initially operated by the Buzzards Bay NEP, but is now solely managed and operated by the Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment.

ing the Buzzards Bay CCMP, and municipalities remain the principal authority to adopt and implement the policies, regulations, and programs needed to achieve water quality and habitat restoration goals. Some recommendations in the Buzzards Bay CCMP have a high cost and require years of sustained funding. The Buzzards Bay NEP believes that Buzzards Bay municipalities will succeed only if regional, state, and federal government also share in the regulatory and financial burdens of municipal efforts.

Past Funding

To understand opportunities to fund the recommendations in the Buzzards Bay CCMP 2013 Update, it is important to appreciate past funding sources of the Buzzards Bay NEP, its NGO partners, and the municipalities. Understanding how municipalities have funded and implemented past recommendations is particularly important because municipal government bears the greatest responsibility and cost in implementing the recommendations in the management plan.

Buzzards Bay NEP

The twenty-seven-year history of funding of the Buzzards Bay NEP can be broken into three broad periods. Between 1985 and 1992, large amounts of federal dollars were received to characterize environmental problems, develop the first Buzzards Bay CCMP, and undertake environmental demonstration projects. Funding during this period averaged close to \$1 million per year. Between 1993 and 2001, the Buzzards Bay NEP continued to receive federal base funding, but at dramatically reduced levels. To offset these losses, the Buzzards Bay

NEP brought in additional grant dollars through various grant programs for special initiatives like the Massachusetts Septic System Test Center and Toxics Use Reduction Program. During this period, the Buzzards Bay NEP also received two congressional earmarks totaling \$1 million dollars, and state earmarks totaling \$400,000. These earmarks were directed into the municipal grant program.

After 2001, the Buzzards Bay NEP changed its financing strategy and used federal funding to fund core staff and a technical assistance and grant program. The focus of this new strategy was for municipalities to receive grant money directly by helping them develop competitive and viable restoration projects. A core element of this strategy has been the Buzzards Bay municipal grant program that often initiates projects that are subsequently funded by larger state and federal grant programs.

This new approach had several advantages. The Buzzards Bay NEP did not have to act as an administrative agent to other state or federal grant programs, nor was it reliant on increasing state and federal dollars. This approach allowed the Buzzards Bay NEP to refocus its efforts on technical assistance and grants to municipalities and our partners to implement specific initiatives. Any additional state or federal funds received by the program above federal base levels (initially around \$500,000 per year, later \$600,000 per year) were principally directed to the Buzzards Bay NEP's grant program.

Buzzards Bay Coalition

The Buzzards Bay NEP Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) split in 1987 to form a citizens non-profit called the Coalition for Buzzards Bay (renamed in 2011 as the Buzzards Bay Coalition), and an affiliation of municipal officials called the Buzzards Bay Advisory Committee. After its formation in 1987, the Buzzards Bay Coalition received considerable funding from the Buzzards Bay NEP to implement and initiate education, outreach, and water quality monitoring programs. This funding, together with private donations, helped firmly establish the Coalition during its formative years, and helped it create a strong membership base. The Coalition cut back on some efforts during the mid 1990s when their funding from the Buzzards Bay NEP was reduced. However, by the late 1990s, with new strong leadership, new initiatives focusing on land and habitat protection, and successful and creative financial development programs, the Coalition grew to an annual budget of \$1.5 million and 15 staff members by the mid 2000s. Today the Coalition is funded by a roughly equal mix of membership dues, donations, special endowments, and grants.

Buzzards Bay Action Committee

In 1989 the Buzzards Bay Advisory Committee, an advisory committee of Buzzards Bay NEP since 1987,

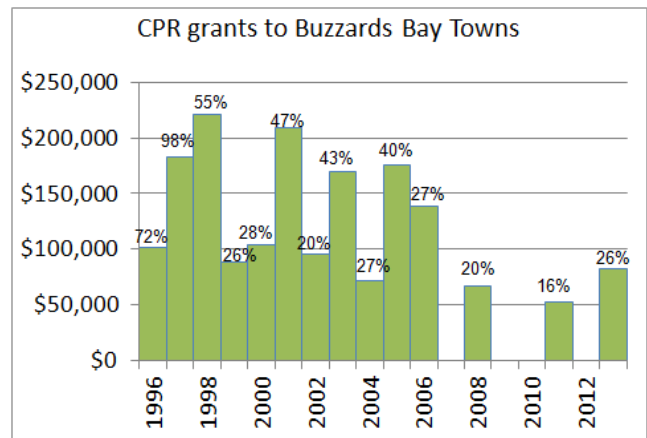


Figure 116. Annual dollars awarded by the CZM Coastal Pollution Remediation grant program to Buzzards Bay watershed towns, 1996-2013.

Also showing percent of statewide total award.

re-formed as a non-profit municipal organization called the Buzzards Bay Action Committee (henceforth, the BBAC). Initially the BBAC was funded by a grant from the Buzzards Bay NEP that primarily paid the salary of their executive director. When funding from the Buzzards Bay NEP diminished in the mid 1990s, the BBAC reorganized with a part time director funded solely by dues from the member municipalities. This funding proved adequate for the organization with some funds available for special projects like the stormwater mapping project with the New Bedford Voc-Tech High School. The BBAC also occasionally received small grants from state and federal sources and sometimes hired temporary staff under these grants.

Buzzards Bay Municipalities

The Buzzards Bay NEP has had a highly effective municipal grant program in place since 1990 that has assisted Buzzards Bay municipalities. This program, funded through EPA Section 320, EPA demonstration project funds, Congressional add-ons, and state match programs, has been highly effective at facilitating Buzzards Bay CCMP actions and remains a core function of the Buzzards Bay NEP, an important financial resource to local government.

Several other state programs have been invaluable to Buzzards Bay municipalities. These include the Coastal Pollution Remediation program (CPR, actually an offshoot of a state Buzzards Bay NEP earmark²⁴⁴), CZM

²⁴⁴ In both 1994 and 1996, the Buzzards Bay NEP received \$200,000 under the state transportation bond for stormwater treatment grants. The NEP received these funds to match federal funding. The program was so popular and successful, Massachusetts CZM made it a permanent feature of the state transportation bond funding, and renamed the program the Coastal Pollution Remediation program and made it available to all Massachusetts coastal municipalities. In the first few years, CPR had to match

NPS grant program, the Massachusetts 319 NPS program, and the Clean Vessel Act program. The latter three programs are federally funded. In many cases, the Buzzards Bay NEP assisted towns to develop grant proposals or projects that were funded under these programs.

Besides these grant programs, the state's Clean Water State Revolving Fund remains the principal mechanism to fund several key environmental restoration efforts, particularly sewage treatment plant upgrades and sewer expansion in Massachusetts, although the program is flexible enough to be used for other purposes.

For example, Buzzards Bay municipalities account for 12.5% of all Massachusetts coastal communities, yet through the CPR program, grants to Buzzards Bay communities, for projects in the Buzzards Bay watershed, account for more than 26% of all CPR grants. Similarly, Buzzards Bay municipalities account for less than 4% of all Massachusetts municipalities eligible for Section 319 nonpoint source funding, and Buzzards Bay NEP towns and partners have accounted for nearly 26% of all grants (and 14% of dollars awarded) between 1994 and 2007.

The financing of implementation activities and leveraging of Buzzards Bay CCMP actions is part of an ongoing aggressive strategy by the Buzzards Bay NEP to tap into various state and federal financial and technical assistance programs. Other Buzzards Bay NEP Partners have similarly had success in attracting state and federal dollars. For example, for its water quality monitoring program the Coalition received \$100,000 in 2004; and \$150,000 per year between 2005 and 2007.

The success of grant and other funds acquired by the Buzzards Bay NEP and partners is illustrated by the leveraged funds reports prepared by the Buzzards Bay NEP for the U.S. EPA. These reports indicate that modest federal "base funding" through the NEP has paid big dividends for Buzzards Bay with 2 to 4 times the federal dollars being leveraged by nonfederal sources.

Costs of Implementing the Buzzards Bay CCMP

To achieve the goals of the CCMP (and to achieve full compliance with the federal Clean Water Act, will likely cost more than \$5 billion and take decades to implement. These costs do not include the more than \$1 billion in costs to clean up all the superfund sites in the watershed. The \$5 billion cost is largely driven by the costs of complying with two federally mandated Clean Water Act elements: compliance with pollutant TMDLs and compliance with the NPDES program, particularly Phase II municipal stormwater (MS4) system permit compliance.

targets to Buzzards Bay municipalities in order to meet Buzzards Bay NEP match commitments.

Table 54. Summary of possible costs over a 20-year period (approximate mid-range estimates) by action plan.

Values should be considered approximate and based on best professional judgment.

Action Plan	approximate mid range costs
1: Managing Nitrogen Sensitive Embayments	\$2 billion
2: Protecting and Enhancing Shellfish Resources (costs other than stormwater)	\$10,000,000
3: Managing Stormwater Runoff and Promoting LID	\$1 billion
4: Improving Land Use Management and Promoting Smart Growth	>\$10,000,000
5: Managing Onsite Wastewater Disposal Systems	\$1,000,000
6: Managing Impacts from Boating, Marinas, and Moorings	\$17,000,000
7: Protecting and Restoring Wetlands	\$20,000,000
8: Restoring Migratory Fish Passage	\$25,000,000
9: Protecting Bio-Diversity and Rare and Endangered Species Habitat	\$50,000,000
10: Managing Water Withdrawals to Protect Wetlands, Habitat, and Water Supplies	\$100,000,000
11: Managing Invasive and Nuisance Species	\$10,000,000
12: Protecting Open Space	\$100,000,000
13: Protecting and Restoring Ponds and Streams	\$6,000,000
14: Reducing Beach Debris, Marine Floatables, and Litter in Wetlands	\$1,000,000
15: Managing Coastal Watersheds, Tidelands, and the Waterfront	\$3,000,000
16: Reducing Toxic Pollution (excludes \$1 billion+ Superfund cleanup costs)	\$10,000,000
17: Preventing Oil Pollution	\$5,000,000
18: Planning for a Shifting Shoreline and Coastal Storms	\$2,000,000
19: Protecting Public Health at Swimming Beaches	\$1,000,000
20: Monitoring Management Action, Status, and Trends	\$40,000,000
21: Enhancing Public Education and Participation	\$20,000,000
Approximate Total	\$3,500,000,000

The TMDL requirements under the Clean Water Act will eventually result in most of the urbanized portions of Buzzards Bay being sewered or connected to advanced wastewater treatment systems to remove nitrogen. The Buzzards Bay NEP estimates the sewer expansion, together with the construction of advanced wastewater facilities of various scales, will likely cost \$3 to \$4 billion.

Similarly, the Phase II municipal MS4 stormwater permits may cost up to \$1 billion for municipalities to treat all stormwater discharges from public infrastructure to keep bacteria levels below water quality standards in impaired areas. This program will be driven to a large degree by needed compliance with bacterial TMDLs for Buzzards Bay, which will require that stormwater discharges not discharge above impairment levels for state listed impaired waters. In practical terms, particularly in areas with closed shellfish beds, this means that the first flush of stormwater to surface waters would need to be eliminated at hundreds of sites.

Most other Buzzards Bay CCMP recommendations will cost far less to implement, and some have virtually no cost. A summary of costs by action plan are shown in Table 54.

The Future

The Buzzards Bay NEP, together with our partners, expect continued success in securing state and federal competitive grants to fund specific implementation projects. Moreover, state, and federal agencies are increasingly willing to dedicate their own limited internal resources to help implement the recommendations contained in the Buzzards Bay CCMP.

Key State and Federal Grant Programs to fund Buzzards Bay CCMP recommendations

5 Star Restoration Program

Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
The Five Star Restoration Program brings together students, conservation corps, other youth groups, citizen groups, corporations, landowners and government agencies to provide environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams. The program provides challenge grants, technical support, and opportunities for information exchange to enable community-based restoration projects

Eligibility: non-profit community-based organizations, conservation organizations, local governments, and school districts.

Website: www.epa.gov/grants_funding/wetlands/restore/index.cfm
Contact: Myra Price
202-566-1225
price.myra@epa.gov

604(b) Water Quality Management Planning Grants

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Assists regional planning agencies and other eligible recipients in providing water quality assessment and planning assistance to local municipalities.

Eligibility: Regional planning agencies, municipalities, councils of government, and conservation districts

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/water-sheds-water-quality.html#3
Contact: Gary Gonyea
617-556-1152
gary.gonyea@state.ma.us

Agricultural Environmental Enhancement Program

Agency: Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR)
For the purchase of materials to implement agricultural conservation practices that improve water quality, conserve water, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or conserve energy.

Eligibility: Farmers/growers/shellfish growers as identified by Massachusetts General Laws (MGL) engaged in commercial agriculture production.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/about/divisions/aEEP.html
Contact: Laura Maul
617-626-1739
laura.maul@state.ma.us

Buzzards Bay Watershed Municipal Grant Program

Agency: Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program (Buzzards Bay NEP)

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program offers these grants to assist interested Buzzards Bay watershed municipalities in the protection of open space, rare and endangered species habitat, and freshwater and saltwater wetlands, and to help restore tidally restricted salt marshes, to purchase oil spill containment equipment, to restore fish runs, and to remediate stormwater discharges threatening water quality. These funds have been made available in accordance with U.S. 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.

Eligibility: Eligible towns include Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Rochester, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Middleborough, Carver, Plymouth, Bourne, Falmouth, and Gosnold. Projects must lie principally within the Buzzards Bay watershed.

Website: buzzardsbay.org
Contact: Dr. Joe Costa
508-291-3625
joe.costa@state.ma.us

Clean Vessel Act Grant Program

Agency: Department of Fish and Game (DFG)
Grants are made available to municipalities for the construction, operation, and maintenance of pump out facilities for recreational boaters.

Eligibility: Municipalities, private boating facilities, and non-profits, see federal guidance 50 CFR 85

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dmf/programs-and-projects/clean-vessel-act.html
Cecil French
(978) 282-0308 x 119
cecil.french@state.ma.us

Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
For the purpose of water pollution abatement projects, this program was established to provide a low cost funding mechanism to assist municipalities seeking to comply with federal or state requirements to meet water quality standards. The State Revolving Fund now provides increased emphasis on watershed management priorities. New projects receive a state-subsidized 2% interest loan.

Eligibility: Cities, towns, and wastewater districts

Website:

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/clean-water-state-revolving-fund.html

Contact: Dave Delorenzo
617-292-5774

David.DeLorenzo@state.ma.us

Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)

Agency: Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

The NOAA Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) protects "important coastal and estuarine areas that have significant conservation, recreation, ecological, historical, or aesthetic values, or that are threatened by conversion from their natural or recreational state to other uses." This program gives "priority to lands which can be effectively managed and protected and that have significant ecological value." CZM, through its Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation (CELC) Plan provides guidance on the priority areas for land conservation in Massachusetts and the types of coastal and estuarine resources important for protection. CZM provides the coordinating and facilitating role for the solicitation of highly competitive coastal and estuarine land conservation projects within the Commonwealth, and takes the lead in selecting and nominating projects to NOAA for further consideration under the national CELCP selection process. CZM will nominate to NOAA those projects believed to be most beneficial to the Commonwealth and most competitive in the federal selection process.

Eligibility: The only coastal states and territories eligible to participate in this competition are those with a Coastal Zone Management Program or National Estuarine Research Reserve which has been approved under the CZMA, and which have submitted a draft CELCP plan on or before February 24, 2009.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/coastal-habitat/celcp/

Contact: David Janik
508-291-3625 x 20

david.janik@state.ma.us

Coastal Pollution Remediation (CPR) Grant Program

Agency: Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

Provides funding at the local level to improve coastal water quality by reducing or eliminating nonpoint sources of pollution, specifically those that are transportation-related. The program is particularly focused on NPS pollution caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground, and conveying natural and human-made pollutants, and depositing them into coastal waters.

Criteria: "Eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- 1) the treatment of stormwater pollution from roadways;
- 2) assessment to identify the source(s) of pollution from roadways and parking lots and design of best management practices (BMPs) to remediate the identified sources;
- 3) implementation of BMPs to treat stormwater pollution from roadways and parking lots; and
- 4) construction and design of boat pumpout facilities to remediate nonpoint source pollution from recreational marine vessel discharges."

Eligibility: Municipalities located within the Greater Massachusetts Coastal Watershed

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/coastal-water-quality/cpr/

Contact: Jan Smith
617-626-1231

Jan.smith@state.ma.us

Conservation Partnership Grant

Agency: Division of Conservation Services (DCS)

This program is intended to provide funding to assist non-public, not-for-profit corporations in acquiring and holding interests in lands suitable for conservation or recreation purposes. Those considering submission of a response are encouraged to review the BioMap and Living Waters assessments, as proposals for protecting parcels lying within identified Core and Supporting areas are a priority of this grant program.

Eligibility: This grant program is open to qualified IRS 501(c)(3) organizations that have been formed for one of the purposes described in Section 4 of Chapter 180 of the General Laws. An organization must have 501(c)(3) status at the time an application is submitted. Municipalities are not eligible for funding.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/dcs/grant-programs/conservation-partnership-grant.html

Contact: Melissa Cryan
617-626-1171

melissa.cryan@state.ma.us

Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection

To protect key parcels of land believed critical to the protection of current and future water supplies.

Eligibility: Municipalities and other water supply entities recognized by state law.

Eligibility: municipalities, as well as public water systems established by a legislative act to provide drinking water to the public.

Website:

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/water-sheds-water-quality.html

Contact: Catherine Sarafinas
617-556-1070
catherine.sarafinas@state.ma.us

Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Provides low-cost financing to help community public water suppliers comply with federal and state drinking water requirements. The program's goals are to protect public health and strengthen compliance with drinking water requirements while addressing the Commonwealth's drinking water needs. The program incorporates affordability and watershed management priorities.

Eligibility: Public water suppliers

Website:

www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/water-sheds-water-quality.html

Contact: Kathy Romero
(617) 292-5727
Kathleen.Romero@state.ma.us

Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

Agency: Division of Conservation Services (DCS)

The Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (P.L. 88-578) provides up to 50% of the total project cost for the acquisition, development, and renovation of park, recreation, or conservation areas.

Eligibility: Municipal conservation commissions, park departments, and certain agencies within EEA. Municipalities must have a current open space and recreation plan to apply, and the land must be open to the public.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/dcs/grant-programs/massachusetts-land-and-water-conservation-fund.html

Contact: [Melissa Cryan](mailto:Melissa.Cryan)
(617) 626-1187
Melissa.cryan@state.ma.us

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Grants

Agency: Massachusetts Emergency Management (MEMA)

Cost-shared grants for flood mitigation planning and projects for communities (pre- and post-disaster).

Eligibility: Municipalities with repetitive flood loss properties participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Website: www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/hazard-mitigation/

Contact: Rich Zingarelli
(617) 626-1406
Richard.Zingarelli@state.ma.us

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Agency: Massachusetts Emergency Management (MEMA)

Cost-shared grants for natural hazard mitigation planning and projects for communities (post-disaster). Dependent on future Presidential disaster declarations.

Eligibility: Municipalities, state agencies, certain non-profits.

Website: www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/hazard-mitigation

Contact: Rich Zingarelli
(617) 626-1406
Richard.Zingarelli@state.ma.us

Governor's Seaport Advisory Council Seaport Improvement Grants

Agency: Seaport Advisory Council

The Governor's Seaport Advisory Council (SAC) approves grant projects, with the Lt. Governor as Chair. The Office of Waterways issues grants approved through the Rivers and Harbors Grant Program to municipalities. These grants are available pursuant to Chapter 28 of the Acts and Resolves of 1996, the Seaport Bond bill, for the "revitalization and development of the Commonwealth's seaports." Grants are awarded for "the preparation of plans, studies, construction, alteration, and improvement of various state, municipal, and other properties, and for the purpose of improving the economy and infrastructure of the Commonwealth" (C.28, 1996).

Eligible Applicants: Primarily designated port cities and other municipalities

Contact: Ellen Cebula
(781) 740-1600 x102
ellen.cebula@state.ma.us

Lakes and Ponds Program

Agency: Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

To protect, manage, and restore valuable aquatic resources, this program provides technical assistance, helps to monitor water quality at various public beaches to ensure public safety, and provides educational materials to the public about various lake issues.

Eligibility: Municipalities, citizens group, and other local nonprofit groups.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/water-res-protection/lakes-and-ponds

Contact: Tom Flannery
617-626-4975
tom.flannery@state.ma.us

Landowner Incentive Program

Agency: Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

The purpose of this grant is to restore or create wildlife habitat for the benefit of species-at-risk on private lands in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The grants are aimed to establish a partnership between the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and private landowners.

Eligible Applicants: Private landowners, sportsmen's clubs, land trusts, and non-profit groups

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/wildlife-habitat-conservation/landowner-incentive-program-lip.html

Contact: Tracy Grazia
(508) 389-6387
tracy.grazia@state.ma.us

Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant

Agency: Division of Conservation Services (DCS)

This program is intended to provide funding to assist municipal conservation commissions in acquiring interests in lands suitable for conservation purposes, to protect undeveloped lands, unique ecosystems, rare species and Priority Habitats, and working lands, and to preserve the Commonwealth's rich natural heritage for the future. It is a reimbursement program.

Eligibility: Municipal conservation commissions that have open space and recreation plans that are approved or currently under review

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/dcs/grant-programs/massachusetts-local-acquisitions-for-natural.html

Contact: Celia Riechel
617-626-1187

Celia.Riechel@state.ma.us

Marine and Anadromous Fish Habitat Restoration Grants

Agency: Fish America Foundation/National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association

FishAmerica, in partnership with the NOAA Restoration Center, awards grants to local communities and government agencies to restore habitat for marine and anadromous fish species. Successful proposals have community-based restoration efforts with outreach to the local communities.

Eligibility: Non-profit organizations such as local sporting clubs and conservation associations, educational institutions, and local and state governments may apply for funding. Non-profit organizations must provide a proof of non-profit status (i.e. 501(c)(3) letter from the IRS). Local and state agencies, educational institutions and other government entities must provide their EIN number.

Website: www.fishamerica.org/grants.html#

Contact: pegan@asafishing.org
703-519-9691

Massachusetts Environmental Trust Grants

Agency: Massachusetts Environmental Trust (MET)

The Trust's mission is to develop, coordinate, and fund projects that encourage cooperative efforts to raise environmental awareness and enable innovative approaches that can restore, protect, and improve water and water-related resources of the Commonwealth.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/mass-enviro-trust/met-grants.html

Contact: William Hinkley
617-626-1177
william.hinkley@state.ma.us

Municipal Sustainability Grant Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Description: Provides cities, towns, schools and certain regional government entities with equipment, outreach materials, technical assistance, and funding for waste reduction, water conservation, household hazardous waste and mercury diversion, and air quality programs and projects.

Eligibility: Massachusetts municipalities and regional governments

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/recycle/grants/

Contact: Tina Klein

617-292-5704
Tina.Klein@state.ma.us

Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant Program

Agency: Division of Conservation Services (DCS)
This program is intended to provide funding to cities and towns to acquire and develop land for park and outdoor recreation purposes for urban populations.

Eligibility: municipalities that have open space and recreation plans that are approved or currently under review

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/dcs/grant-programs/

Contact: Melissa Cryan
617-626-1171
Melissa.Cryan@state.ma.us

Recreational Trails Grants Program

Agency: Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

The Recreational Trails Program provides grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$50,000 on a reimbursement basis for a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects throughout Massachusetts. It is part of the national Recreational Trails Program, which is funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/services-and-assistance/grants-and-technical-assistance/recreational-trails-grants-program.html

Contact: Amanda Lewis
(413) 586-8706 ext. 19
amanda.lewis@state.ma.us

Rivers and Harbor Grant Program (Dredging Grants)

Agency: Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

The purpose of this program is to enable municipalities to address various types of waterways-related problems and provide for financial and technical assistance during engineering, design, permit acquisition, construction management, construction, and related efforts. Typical types of projects qualifying for the program are:

- dredging of channels, harbors and inland waterways to improve navigation, tidal flushing, flood storage, water habitat;
- improving public access, including rehabilitation of publicly owned piers, seawalls, wharves, jetties, bulkheads and revetments;
- rehabilitation or construction of flood control measures, including dikes, weirs, check dams, tide

or floodgates and flood control internal drainage systems;

- lake and pond restoration, or management activities to benefit public access, water-dependent recreation or habitat enhancement purposes;
- beach nourishment for barrier beach maintenance, habitat enhancement or recreational purposes;
- coastal or inland wetlands restoration;
- and stream bank and shoreline erosion control protection.

Eligibility: Municipalities, local or county commissions or local authorities. Other public or nonprofit organizations or associations can be co-applicants with municipality or county commissions.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/eea-grants-guide/water-grants.html

Contact: (781) 740-1600

Riverways Program Grants for River Restoration and Revitalization Priority Projects

Agency: Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

Funds are intended to further the goals of the DFG by restoring the ecological integrity of rivers and streams throughout the Commonwealth working in partnership with federal, state, and municipal governments, watershed associations and other organizations. Riverways supports sustainable river restoration projects that restore natural processes, remove ecosystem stressors, increase the resilience of the ecosystem, support riverine habitat, and promote passage of fish and wildlife through dam and other barrier removal. Support is also provided for urban stream revitalization projects that improve the inter-connection between water quality, aquatic ecology, physical river structure, and land use, while taking into consideration the social, cultural, and economic landscape.

Eligibility: Open to public agencies and 501(c)(3) certified non-profit organizations, including, but not limited to state agencies, cities and towns, regional planning agencies, watershed organizations, and land trusts for work on selected priority projects.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/der/aquatic-habitat-restoration/river-restoration/

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Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Provides grants to organizations expressly to prevent, control, and abate nonpoint source pollution through the

implementation of structural and nonstructural Best Management Practices (BMPs). Must meet federal EPA guidelines

Eligibility: Massachusetts public or private entity

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/water-sheds-water-quality.html

Contact: Jane Peirce
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Stream Team Implementation Awards

Agency: Department of Fish and Game (DFG)
For implementation projects from Stream Team Action Plans that further watershed and stream protection or to help start new Stream Teams. In areas where Stream Teams are well established, priority will be given to implementation projects.

Eligibility: Each year two Massachusetts watersheds are selected for eligibility. Groups may submit proposals through a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status or a municipality (by the conservation commission, planning board, etc.), and must be directly related to Stream Teams or Stream Team work. Stream Teams are encouraged to work in partnership with their watershed associations, land trusts, conservation commission, and other town boards.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/der/technical-assistance/stream-teams.html

Contact: Carrie Banks
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Water Conservation Grant Program

Agency: Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
The purpose of this program is to address drinking water supply and distribution systems water losses. Projects funded under this program must conduct water audit, leak detection surveys, or implement a water conservation outreach program for the public. The Department encourages all types of eligible, competitive proposals from all public water systems, although preference may be given to those applicants with public water systems where:

- withdrawal points are located within a stressed basin (per the Water Resources Commission);
- that are undergoing a 5-year Water Management Act (WMA) Program review;
- where the water supply is having difficulty meeting demand;
- or where the WMA permit conditions could be bet-

ter achieved by a reduction in demand.

Eligibility: Any Massachusetts public water system

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/water-sheds-water-quality.html

Contact: Malcolm Harper
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Wetlands Restoration Program (WRP) Grants for Priority Projects

Agency: Department of Fish and Game (DFG)
The mission of the Wetlands Restoration Program is to help property owners voluntarily restore degraded or destroyed former wetlands and the valuable services they provide. The agency works with many federal, state, and local partners. WRP pursues this mission with activities in the following core program areas: partnerships, project implementation, restoration planning, education and outreach, and monitoring.

Eligibility: Open to any Massachusetts public or 501(c)(3) certified non-profit organization, including, but not limited to state agencies, cities and towns, regional planning agencies, watershed organizations, and public schools. The proposed work must be done on Wetlands Restoration Program Priority Projects—these have been designated through an annual open and competitive call for nominations.

Website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/grants-and-loans/eea-grants-guide/water-grants.html

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