



2024 Northeast Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water Forum

Hamden, CT | November 20-21, 2024

Resources List

This document includes links to websites and resources mentioned during the 2024 NE-MA Partnerships for Forests and Water Forum.



Important Websites

1. [Northeast Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water - Homepage](#)
2. [Northeast Mid-Atlantic Partnership for Forests and Water - Partnership News](#) - View previously published newsletters and announcements from the Partnership and Partners and subscribe to the quarterly newsletter.
3. [Regional Water Authority - Homepage](#)
4. [HazWaste Central](#) - HazWaste Central is co-sponsored by the Regional Water Authority and the South Central Regional Council of Governments. HazWaste Central helps residents in member towns protect local waterways and natural environments by providing a location for the appropriate and safe disposal of household hazardous waste.
5. [Long Island Sound Watershed – CT Council on Soil and Water Conservation](#) - The Long Island Sound Watershed Regional Conservation Partnership Program focuses on private working lands to manage soil nutrient loss, protect non-industrial forest habitat, biodiversity, and drinking water sources, and stem erosion and thus improve resiliency on working lands through riparian restoration.
6. [Water Planning Council Advisory Group](#) - The Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) is established under the authority of Section 25-330(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes to assist in researching and analyzing water resource issues and advise on matters of interest. The statute requires that the WPCAG members be balanced between consumptive and non-consumptive water interests and the Water Planning Council (WPC) has adopted procedural rules for the group.
7. [Citizens Advisory Committee - Long Island Sound Study](#) - The Long Island Sound Study Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) is a volunteer organization that provides ongoing advice to the Federal, state, and local government Management Conference partners working on implementing the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the restoration and protection of Long Island Sound. The CAC is governed by its Bylaws enacted in 1988, and last amended in 2019.
8. [National Association of Conservation Districts - Homepage](#)
9. [Natural Resources Conservation Service - Homepage](#)



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10. [Center for Land Use Education and Research - Homepage](#) - Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) provides research, tools, training, information, and assistance to community decision makers and other audiences.
11. [West Virginia Rivers - Homepage](#)
12. [Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests - Homepage](#)
13. [Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire - Homepage](#)
14. [Forest Stewardship Council - Homepage](#)
15. [Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy - Homepage](#) - the Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy's mission is to conserve and steward the lands and waters of the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys for the benefit of people and the environment.
16. [USGS.gov | Science for a changing world](#)
17. [Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission | ORSANCO](#)
18. [Pennsylvania | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)
19. [USDA Forest Service Eastern Region - Homepage](#)
20. [Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection - Homepage](#)
21. [Connecticut Water Planning Council - Homepage](#)
22. [Connecticut Forest Action Plan](#) - The Connecticut Forest Action Plan acts as a guide for the Division of Forestry and hopefully inspires others to improve and protect Connecticut's forest resources for future generations. Created in collaboration with many partners and stakeholders, the Forest Action Plan aims to identify issues and prioritize important areas, values, and needs. The Connecticut Forest Action Plan analyzes the current conditions and trends of forests in Connecticut and lays out strategies and action steps to best plan for the future of the forested landscape.
23. [Connecticut Open Space Plan](#) - The Department protects open space by adding lands to the State's system of Parks, Forests, and Wildlife Management Areas, and by providing open space grant funding to its land conservation partners.
24. [Source Water Collaborative \(SWC\) - Homepage](#)

Tools

1. [Healthy Forests Reserve Program | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) - The Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) helps landowners restore, enhance, and protect forestland resources on private and tribal lands through easements and financial assistance.
2. [How-to-Collaborate-Toolkit.pdf](#) - The Source Water Collaborative has developed this extensive "How-to Collaborate" Toolkit to help others initiate or enhance partnerships to protect drinking water sources. This Toolkit is part of the SWC's ongoing efforts to help foster local, state, and regional/ watershed source water collaboratives
3. [CLEAR Local Watershed Assessment Tool](#) - Decision Support Tools for Watershed Assessment and Source Water Protection. Explore the landscape surrounding the over 4,300 local waterways in Connecticut and the implications for the health of these waterways and test out landscape change scenarios to see what effects they might have.



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4. [CLEAR Parcel Prioritization for Source Water Protection](#) - Funded by the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation in partnership with the Department of Public Health with the goal of parcel prioritization for source water protection. The coordinate a GIS analysis covering includes drinking water watersheds and aquifer protection areas.
5. [TELE - Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively](#) - Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively (TELE) is a way to design and implement more effective landowner outreach programs and connect with your audiences on a more personal and meaningful level. Most importantly, TELE tools and techniques can help you leverage your resources to successfully reach and persuade the right audiences to achieve your landscape level goals.
6. [Pollutant Load Estimation Tool \(PLET\) | US EPA](#) - PLET is replacing the Spreadsheet Tool for Estimating Pollutant Loads (STEPL). PLET uses the same underlying formulas as STEPL, but in a more user-friendly web interface. Both tools employ simple algorithms to calculate:
 - a. Nutrient and sediment loads from different land uses, and
 - b. The load reductions that would result from the implementation of various best management practices.
7. [FITS: Funding Integration Tool for Source Water | US EPA](#) - FITS is a one-stop-shop tool that explains how users can integrate various federal funding sources to support activities that protect sources of drinking water.
8. NRCS Programs and Initiatives
 - a. Farm Bill Programs - 10% of funding for these programs must be used for SWP
 - i. [Environmental Quality Incentives Program | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) - The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is NRCS' flagship conservation program that helps farmers, ranchers and forest landowners integrate conservation into working lands.
 - ii. [Conservation Stewardship Program | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) - NRCS works one-on-one with producers to develop a conservation plan that outlines and enhances existing efforts, using new conservation practices or activities, based on management objectives for your operation. Producers implement practices and activities in their conservation plan that expands on the benefits of cleaner water and air, healthier soil, and better wildlife habitat, all while improving their agricultural operations.
 - iii. [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) - The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) protects the agricultural viability and related conservation values of eligible land by limiting nonagricultural uses which negatively affect agricultural uses and conservation values, protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring or conserving eligible grazing land, and protecting and restoring and enhancing wetlands on eligible land.
 - b. Landscape Conservation Initiatives



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threat considered in the threat assessment. In addition, an interactive map viewer with reporting capabilities is being developed for the project.

11. [Master Woodland Manager - Connecticut Forest and Park Association](#) - This year-long program provides woodland owners and managers with the knowledge and skills that they need to make the right decisions for their woodland that can help enhance their lives and help wildlife and the environment. The program provides a flexible, interactive experience that provides both virtual and field learning opportunities.
12. [Drinking Water Mapping Application to Protect Source Waters \(DWMAPS\) | US EPA](#) - DWMAPS is an online mapping tool that helps state and utility drinking water professionals in concert with other state and local mapping tools to update their source water assessments and protection plans. Watershed protection groups and source water collaboratives can also use DWMAPS to locate drinking water providers, potential sources of contamination, polluted waterways as well as information on protection projects and Source Water Collaborative initiatives in their area.

Funding opportunities

1. [USDA Forest Service - Landscape Scale Restoration \(LSR\)](#)
 - a. Purpose: funds collaborative, science-based restoration of priority rural forest landscapes, leverages public and private resources, and supports State Forest Action Plans. Program outcomes include Improve fish and wildlife habitat; improve water quality and watershed function; mitigate invasive plants, insect infestation, and disease; reduce wildfire risk; improve forest ecosystem health; and measure ecological and economic benefits.
2. [Apply for a Grant | NFWF](#) - The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provides funding on a competitive basis to projects that sustain, restore, and enhance our nation's fish, wildlife and plants, and their habitats.
3. [Highlands Conservation Act Grant Program | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service](#) - This grant program is among the many that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers to help partners conserve an array of plants, fish, wildlife, and their habitats. Grant funding supports states, non-governmental organizations and others working to sustain key landscapes in the Highlands region for the benefit of both people and wildlife.
4. [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law | US EPA](#) - The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law delivers more than \$50 billion to EPA to improve our nation's drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure.
5. [USDA Forest Service - Landscape Scale Restoration Grant Program for Tribes](#) - The Landscape Scale Restoration Program is a Forest Service State and Private Forestry competitive grant program that promotes collaborative, science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes and furthers priorities identified in State Forest Action plans or equivalent restoration strategy. Landscape Scale Restoration projects cross multiple jurisdictions, including Tribal, state and local government, and private forest land, to address large-scale issues such as wildfire risk reduction, watershed protection and restoration, and the spread of invasive species, insect infestation and disease.



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6. [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) - Through GLRI, NRCS accelerates conservation efforts on private lands in targeted watersheds throughout the region, working with farmers and landowners to protect surface waters from runoff carrying excess sediment and nutrients, to combat invasive species, and to restore wetlands and other habitat areas.
7. [Collaborative Wildfire Risk Reduction Program | US Forest Service](#) - The Collaborative Wildfire Risk Reduction Program enables national forests, in collaboration with tribes, communities, and partners, to reduce wildfire risk to communities, critical infrastructure, and natural resources. The projects funded through the program were collaboratively designed and will be implemented with the help of partners. In addition to on-the-ground forest restoration work such as mechanical thinning and prescribed fire, the projects support crucial surveys, workforce development, and public engagement that enable future wildfire risk reduction efforts.
8. [USDA Forest Service - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Invasive Species Non-Federal Lands](#) - All Eastern Region state forestry departments or equivalent state agencies that have a responsibility for forest health are eligible. Other organizations are eligible (e.g., institutes of higher education, nonprofit organizations, and local governments), but the application must also include an email of support from the state forest health agency lead.
9. [Clean Water State Revolving Fund \(CWSRF\) | US EPA](#) - Underutilized fund for forests/drinking water projects. The CWSRF program is a federal-state partnership that provides low-cost financing to communities for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects, including municipal wastewater facilities, nonpoint source pollution control, decentralized wastewater treatment systems, stormwater runoff mitigation, green infrastructure, estuary protection, and water reuse.
10. [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund \(DWSRF\) | US EPA](#) - The 51 DWSRF programs function like infrastructure banks by providing low interest loans to eligible recipients for drinking water infrastructure projects. As money is paid back into the state's revolving loan fund, the state makes new loans to other recipients. These recycled repayments of loan principal and interest earnings allow the state's DWSRF to "revolve" over time.
11. [Direct Link Loan: Water Resources: Forest Policy and Management: Maine Forest Service: Maine ACF](#) - The Maine Forest Service's Forest Policy and Management Division, Department of Environmental Protection, and Maine Municipal Bond Bank (MMBB) have teamed up to offer incentive financing to loggers to reduce non-point source pollution risk on timber harvests in Maine.
12. [319 Grant Program for States and Territories | US EPA](#) - Advancing watershed protection through land conservation.
 - a. [NEPIS Guide | US EPA](#) - Applying for and administering CWA Section 319 Grants: a guide for state nonpoint source agencies.
13. [White Oak Initiative | NRCS](#) - NRCS offers technical assistance to private landowners at no cost. This personalized scientific advice, and information can help you make informed decisions and invest in the future of your woods. NRCS also has agreements with several state forestry agencies and organizations that provide technical assistance.



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14. [Northern Forest Center - Homepage](#) - The Northern Forest is one of the most densely forested regions in the country, and it is mostly privately owned. When big timber and paper operations moved out of the region, the people here were left to keep their communities going and build a new economy grounded in forest stewardship. The Center is proud to be the region's advocate and to partner with communities and businesses to build the New Forest Future.
15. [Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program](#) - The State's open space financial aid program available to municipalities, non-profit land conservation organizations, and water companies to acquire land for the protection of local outdoor recreation, unique natural features, fish and wildlife habitat, and land which can be classified as Class I or Class II water supply property.
16. [New Jersey Highlands Council | Grant Programs](#) - Includes Planning Grants, Highlands Open Space Partnership Funding Program, Sustainable Agriculture Grants, and Transfer of Development Rights Feasibility Grants.
17. [New Jersey Pinelands Development Credit Program](#) - The Pinelands Development Credit (PDC) Program is a transfer of development rights program that helps to redirect growth in the Pinelands Area from the preservation and agricultural districts to infrastructure-supported Regional Growth Areas. PDCs are development rights that are allocated to certain lands ("sending areas") that can be transferred to increase the amount of residential development permitted on other lands ("receiving areas").