

Rhode Island Conservation Districts

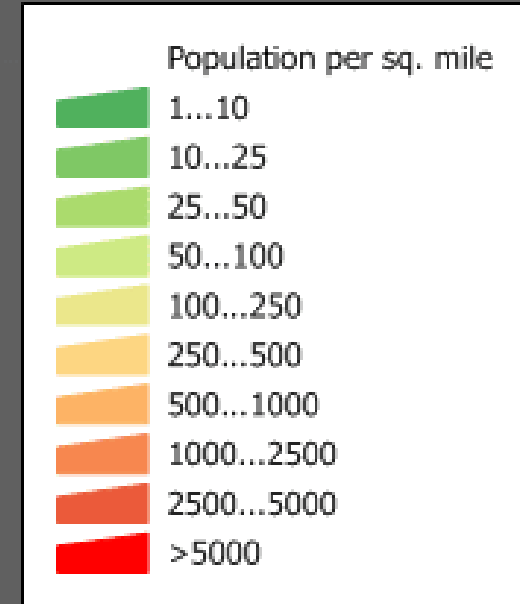
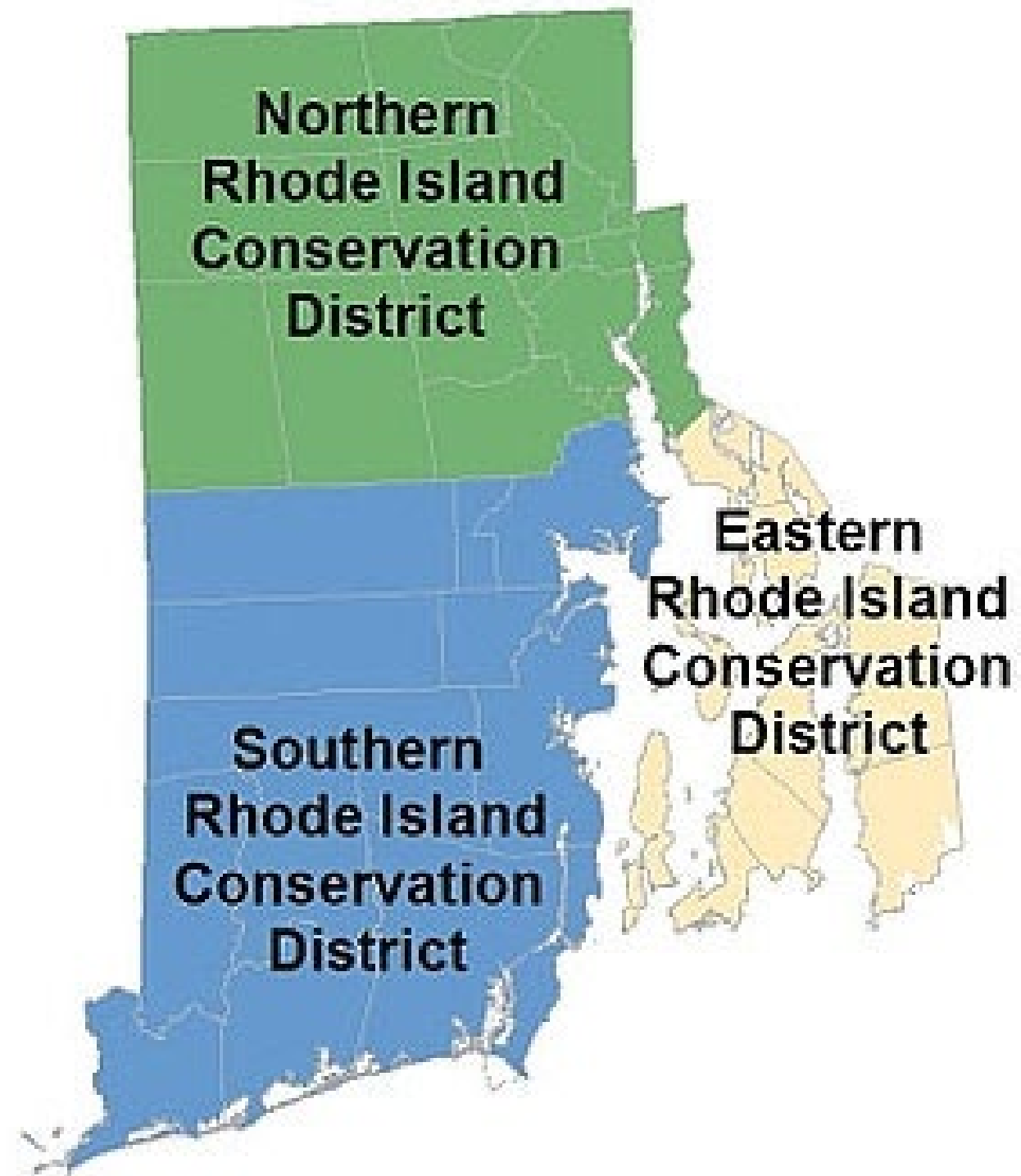
**Bettering communities through the protection &
conservation of natural resources.**



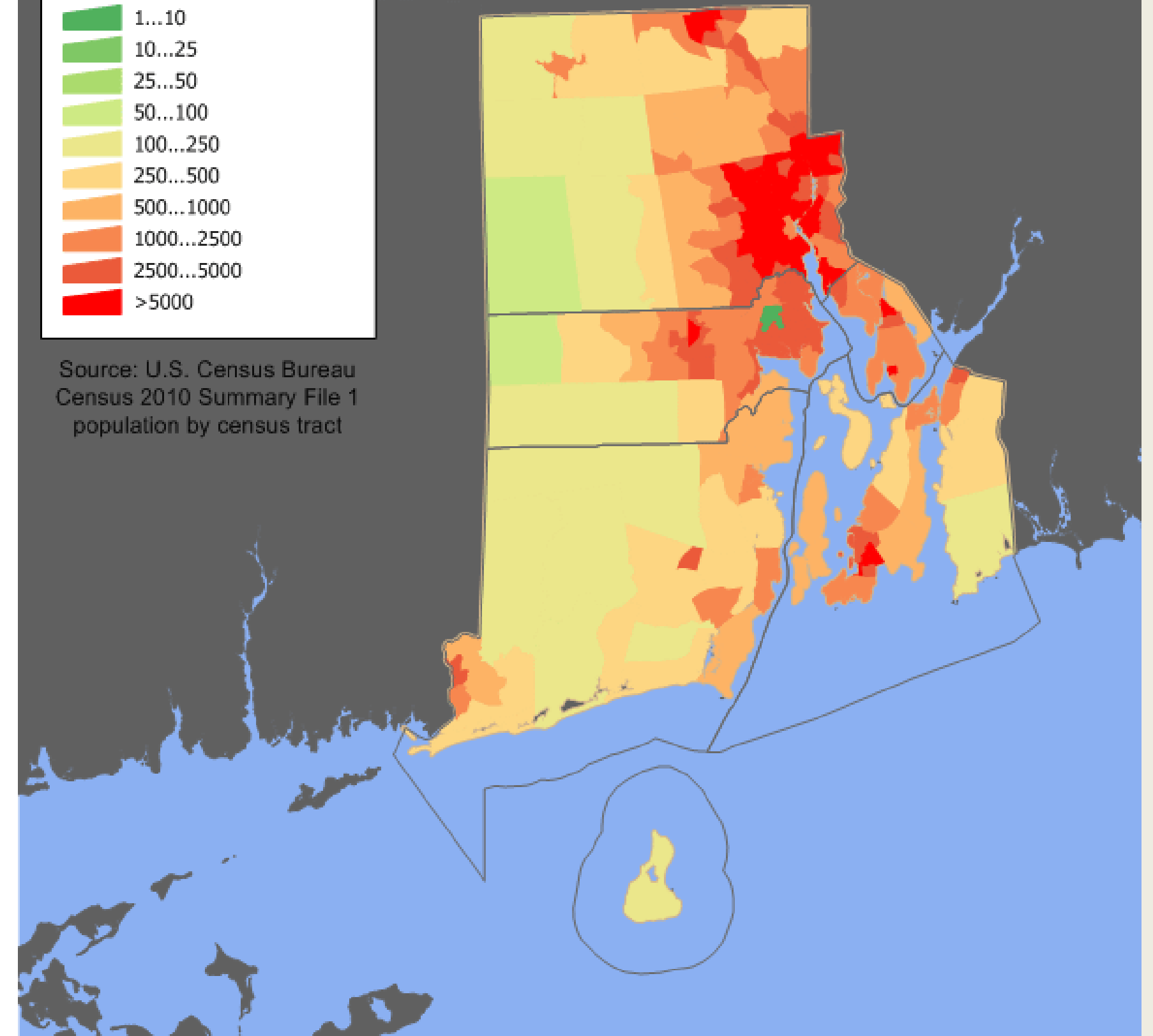
RI's Conservation Districts

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future

[MORE INFO](#)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau
Census 2010 Summary File 1
population by census tract



Agriculture In Rhode Island

- Small private woodlots
 - Specialty crop growers
 - Urban and small scale
 - Livestock and equine
 - Number of farms INCREASED since 2022
 - Number of farms in the 1-9 acre size parcel has increased
 - Highest percentage of new and beginning farmers in the country
 - Often most expensive farmland
- Bottom line, we wear a lot of hats and work with a lot of people!



Soil is a Rhode Island Issue!



Exeter



Cranston



Block Island



Charlestown



Matunuck



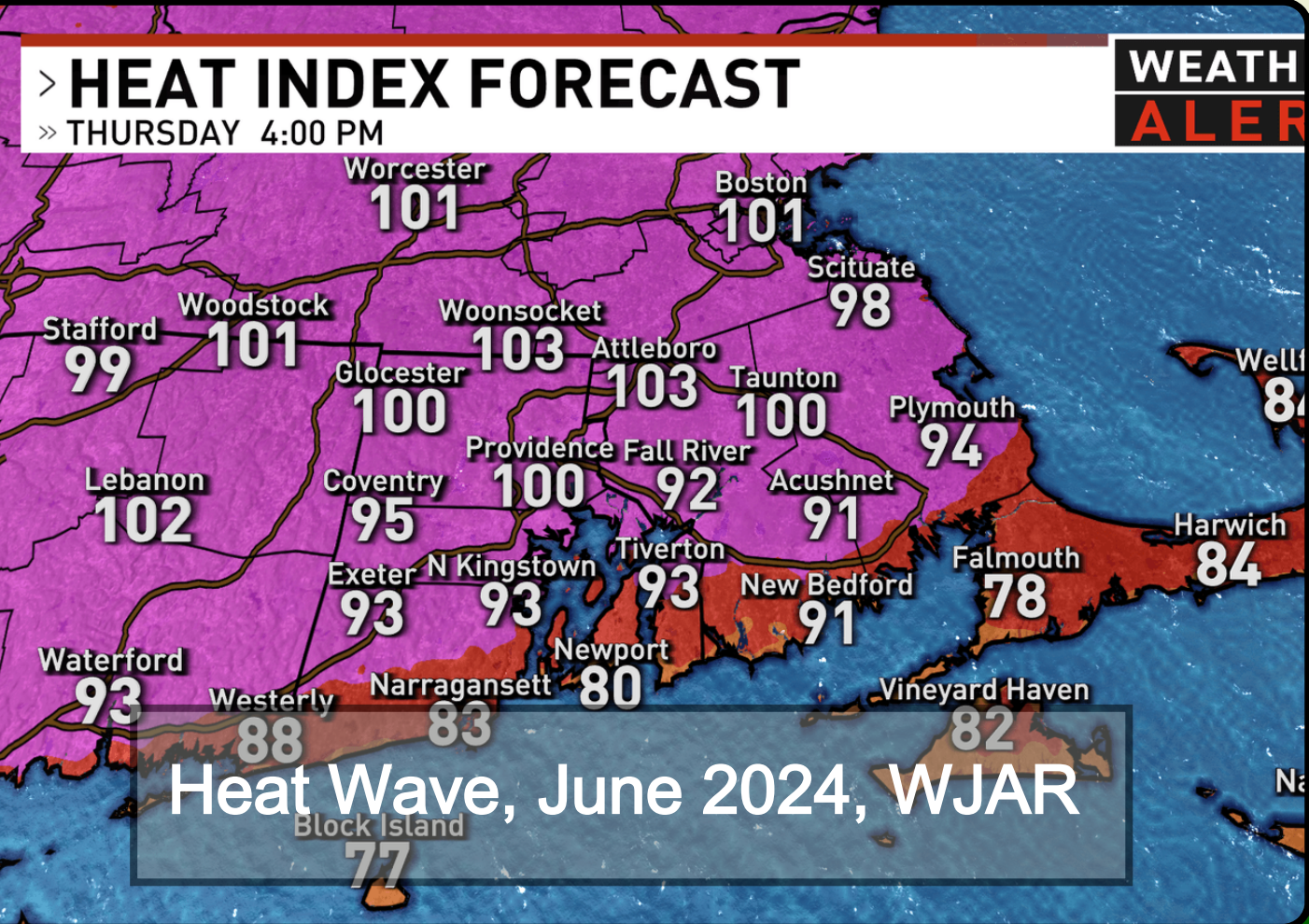
Coastal Erosion, Little Compton,
MyCoastRI 2024



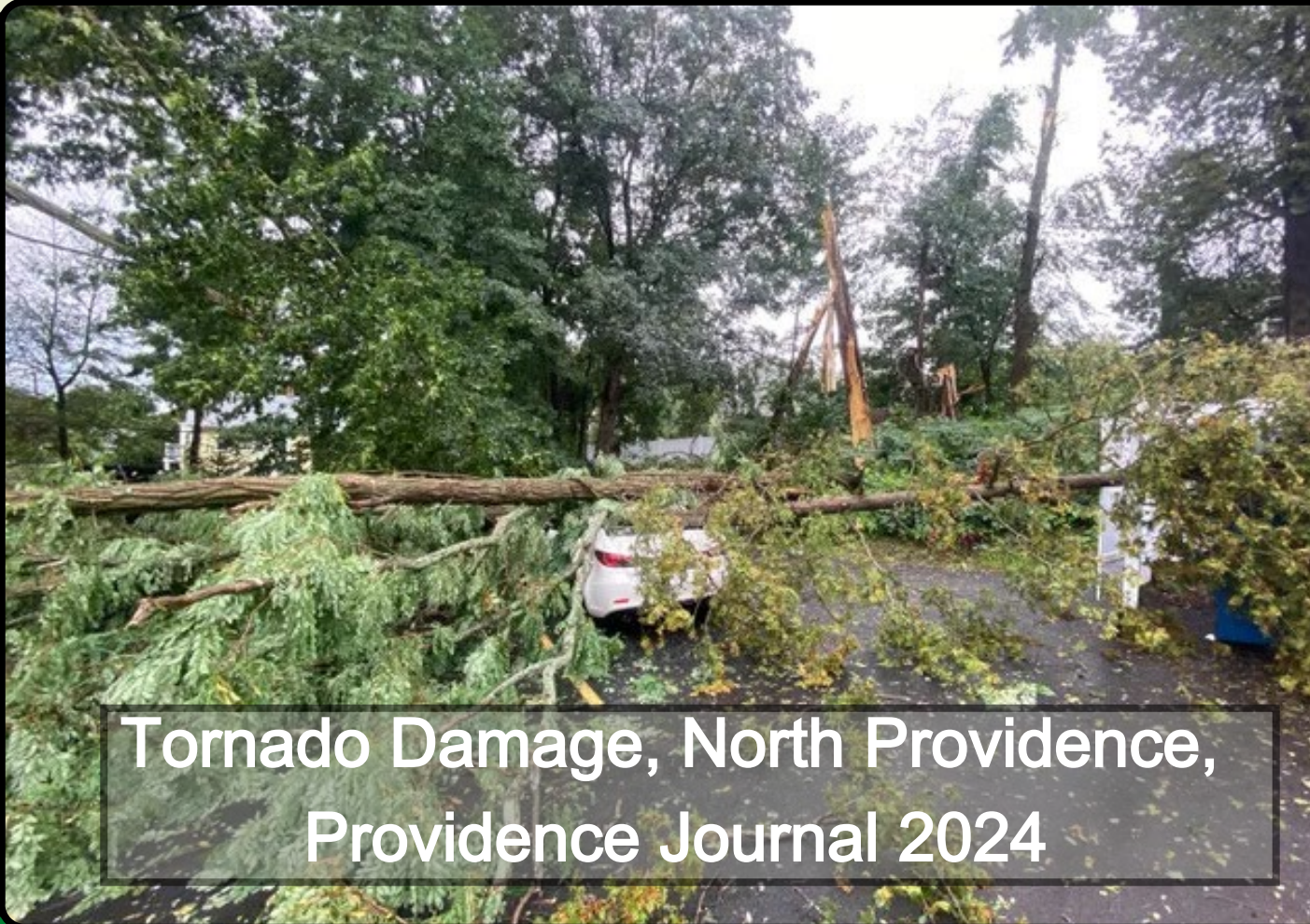
Coastal Flooding reaches inland:
East Providence. NRCS 2024



Residential Flooding:
Johnston. NRCS 2024



Exeter Brush
Fires, RIDEM 2024



Tornado Damage, North Providence,
Providence Journal 2024

ERICD IMPACTS



P O R T S M O U T H
*Ag*INNOVATION
F A R M



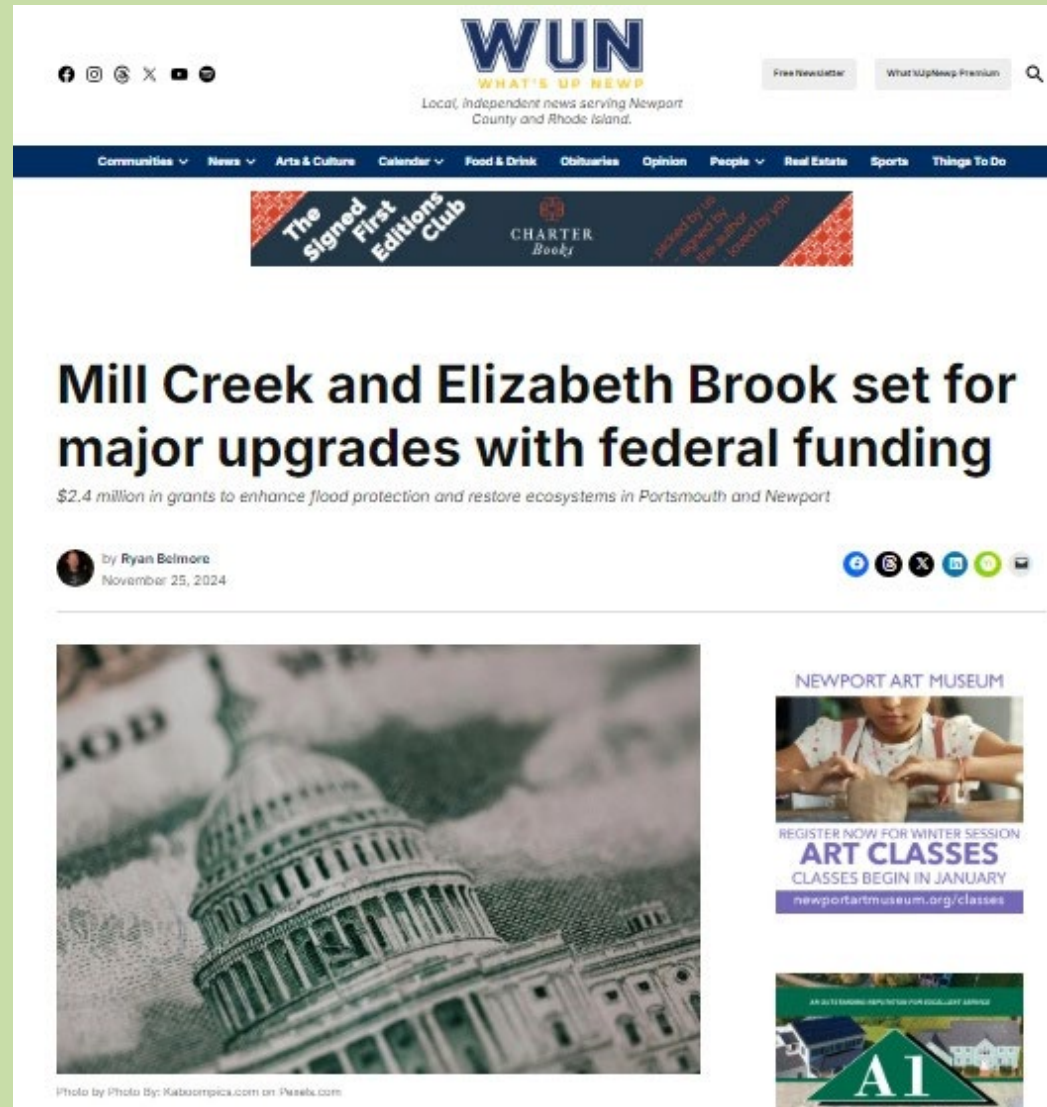
ERICD and STORMWATER



**Stormwater
Mitigation: Rain
Gardens, Rain
Barrels, and RWU!**



ERICD PROJECTS



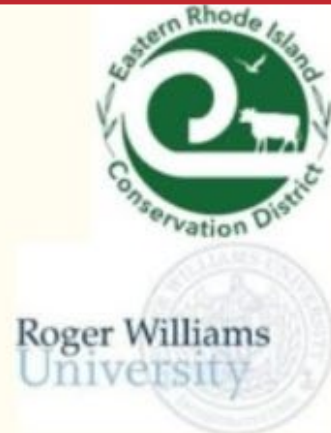
Eastern District receives funding to create engagement compost program with municipalities, residents, and businesses; to work with local farmers on food waste and to create a Rhode Island Municipal Compost Site.



BREAKING NEWS



Information Session hosted by: Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District and RWU



The Buzz About Protecting Pollinators– Ongoing Research with the URI Bee Lab at AgInnovation

Portsmouth, RI– The end of 2023 marks the end of the first year of a project between the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and the URI Bee Lab, to assess plant

NRICD IMPACTS



Urban Growers Leadership Program



Herbs and Pruning Workshop

Roger Williams Park
Providence



Big Train Farm, North Scituate



Compost Depot, North Providence



Good Earth Farm, Cranston

12 Workshops

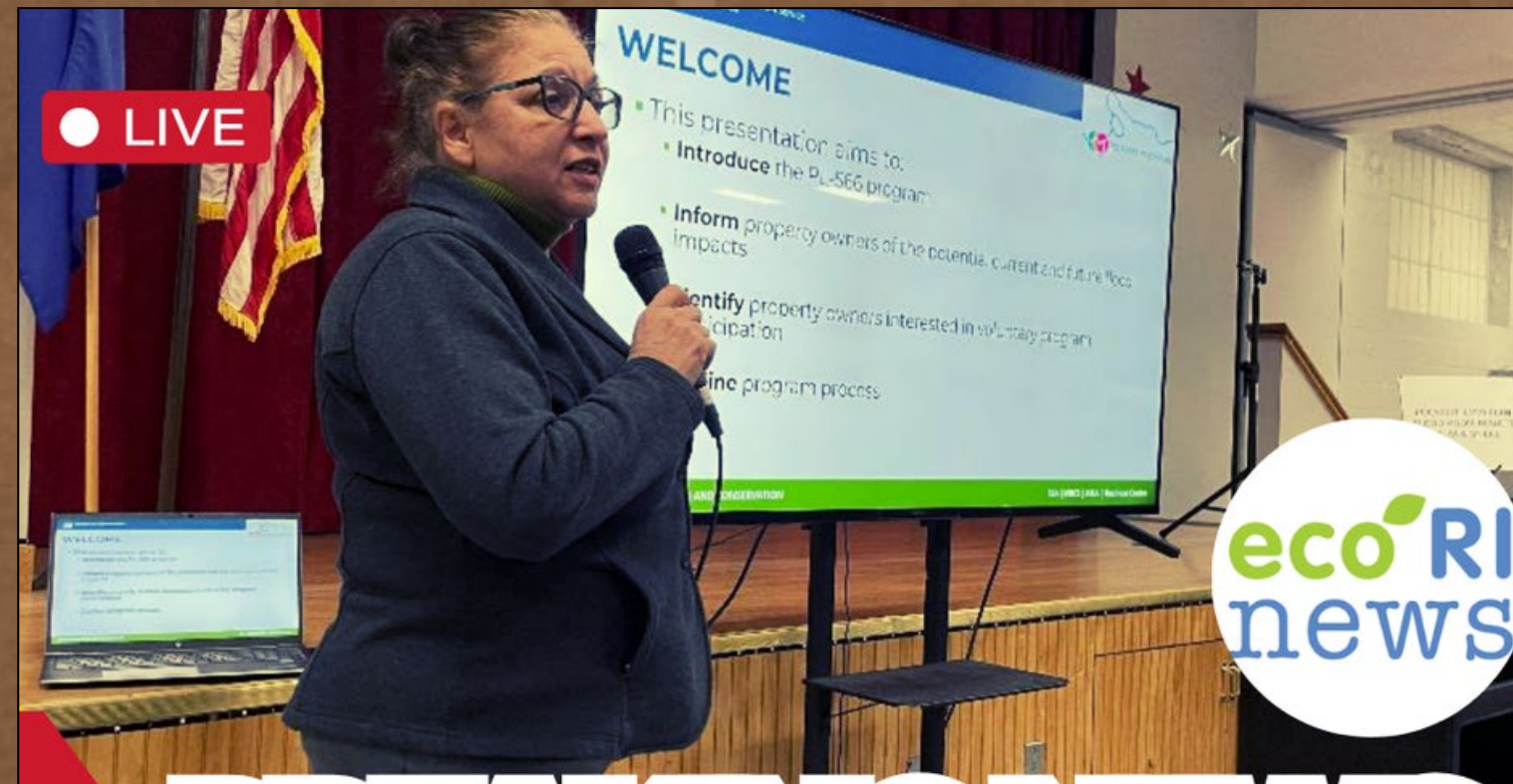
Over 80
participants

4 languages from
3 Continents

2 NEW Workshops

1 Amazing Year!

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)



BREAKING NEWS

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) Featured in EcoRI News

Read the full article:

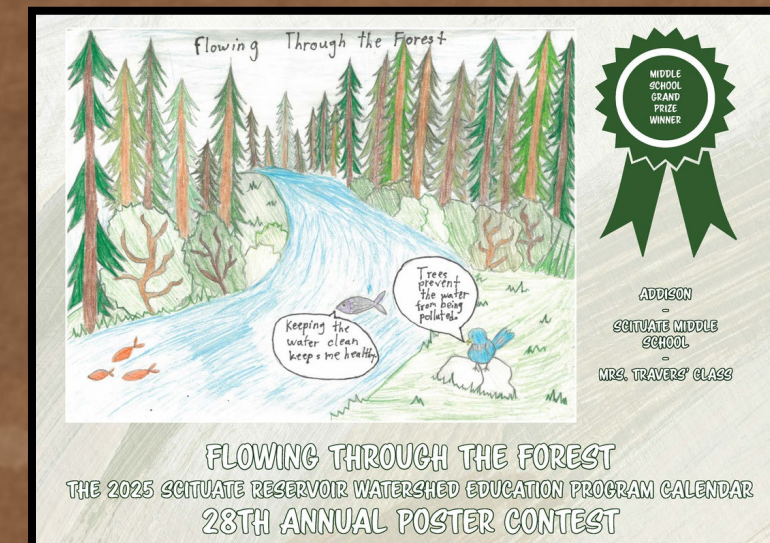
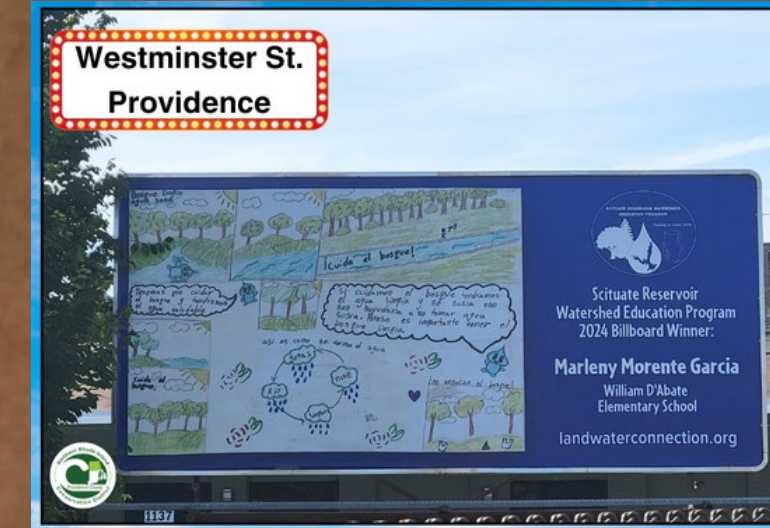
ecori.org



"The Pocasset River Watershed Plan targets specific neighborhoods in Johnston and Cranston where flooding frequently damages property... there's about \$5 million allotted for home purchases in each community."



Scituate Watershed Education Program



Public Education Events

Forest Easement Tour Foster September 2024



RI MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND
NORTHERN RI CONSERVATION DISTRICT PRESENT
FRIGHTS AND FUNGI
MUSHROOM WALK
AND COSTUME CONTEST
Join us for a FREE informational walk through the historic
snake den farm property as we identify local mushrooms!
This is a family event, but curious hikers of
all ages are welcome to attend!
MONDAY OCTOBER 28TH
5:30-6:30 P.M.
SNAKE DEN FARM
100 BROWN AVE, JOHNSTON, RI 02919



WALK & LEARN

FOREST CONSERVATION TOUR

MONDAY: SEPTEMBER 16

5-6 P.M.

FREE

A Workshop Explaining the Conservation
Stewardship Program for Rhode Island
Residents, by Rhode Island Residents

Learn about the CSP program and how home owners in Rhode Island can
receive up to 4,000 a year for forest maintenance and conservation methods!

Take care of your land, and NRCS will take care of you; learn how from CSP
recipients themselves! Families welcome, registration appreciated but not required

USDA is an equal opportunity
provider, employer, and lender.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in this
meeting should contact **Allie Brown, Disability SEPM**, at
Allie.Brown@usda.gov or 401-822-8841, or dial 7-1-1 to access
telecommunication relay services



jlebeau.nricd@gmail.com
401-934-0840

2283 Hartford Avenue
Johnston, RI 02919
nricd.org



FREE! WELL WATER WORKSHOP

Monday, March 25
from 6 - 7 pm

Learn:
The importance of regular testing
How to protect your well water from pollution
Proper well maintenance

SCITUATE COMMUNITY HOUSE
546 WEST GREENVILLE ROAD,
SCITUATE RI 02857

REGISTER: CALL (401) 874-5398. HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE SCITUATE RESERVOIR WATERSHED EDUCATION PROGRAM

These workshops are conducted by the University of Rhode Island Cooperative
Extension Water Quality Program and the Rhode Island Department of Health.
Funding is provided by the Rhode Island Department of Health Capacity Development
Program. URI Cooperative Extension is committed to community, equity, and diversity
and prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, and activities.



2024 Annual Seedling Sale

Presented by the Northern RI Conservation District,
hosted by the Southside Community Land Trust

Saturday, April 20th
10am-12pm

The Good Earth Farm & Garden Center
1800 Scituate Avenue in Hope, RI



SCLT farmers will have
early season starts for sale!
Cash or card accepted.

MANURE MANAGEMENT

January
2024

YouTube NEW VIDEO SERIES



Convert Your Old Farm Equipment to New Efficient Electric

Farm Funding Information Session

Are you interested in working with the USDA NRCS to improve
energy efficiency on your agricultural operation?

The Inflation Reduction Act has provided the Natural Resources Conservation
Service with funding to provide technical and financial assistance to help RI's
farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners improve energy efficiency of agricultural
equipment, buildings, and more.

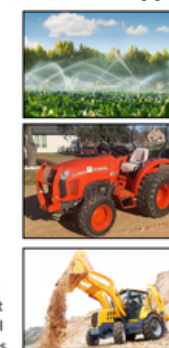
Benefits: zero emissions, reduced greenhouse gases, IRA funding available
Deadline to apply for funding: May 17th

Qualified Equipment Examples:

- Tractors
- Loaders & Forklifts
- Motor Graders & Backhoes
- Diesel-Powered Irrigation
Systems, Boilers & Heaters
- Orchard/Vineyard Frost
Protection Equipment

USDA is an equal opportunity
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Persons with disabilities who require
accommodations to participate in this meeting
should contact **Allie Brown, Disability SEPM**, at
Allie.Brown@usda.gov or 401-822-8841, or dial
7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services.



Wednesday
8 May, 2024
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Live and recorded on
Microsoft Teams

Sign up or
join here:



Questions or RSVP
Ali Moore
amoore.nricd@gmail.com
(401) 934-0840 ext. 1003



Gather Farm Tour: Cranston September 2024



Caught the Attention of:



NRCS Chief
Terry Cosby

NACD Conference: October 2024



Northeast Representative for the National
Association of Conservation Districts
Nika Colley

Annual Conservation Dinner: November 2024

SRICD IMPACTS



Coffee, Conversation & Conservation with RI Representative Megan Cotter



June 1
10 am - 12 pm
Higher Grounds Community
Coffeehouse
39 Kingstown Rd, Wyoming,
RI



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RESILIENT RIVERFRONT RENEWAL PROJECT



Your Input is Needed!

Join us for one or more of these opportunities to
provide input on the design concepts for the Resilient
Riverfront Renewal Project on
Main Street in Westerly.

June 4: Guided Walking Tour of Main Street & Input
Session (rain or shine);
11 am – 2 pm
Begins at 107 Main Street

June 11: Design Workshops (2 options)
Session #1: 2 – 4 pm
Session #2: 6 – 8 pm
Westerly Education Center, 23 Friendship Street

To register for one or more sessions, email:
ccooke@srird.org or text: 401-578-1972.

For more information, visit
www.srird.org/resilient-riverfront-renewal



HILLSDALE PRESERVE

FORESTRY WALKING TOUR

NOVEMBER 16

10 AM - 12 PM
47 OLD MOUNTAIN ROAD
RICHMOND, RI

*Are you a forest landowner
interested in funding
opportunities from NRCS for
managing your forest?*

Join us at the Hillsdale Preserve
where research is being
conducted on how to manage
Rhode Island forests in a
changing environment. Learn
about enhancing forest
resilience and addressing
current challenges.



Please park along the side of rural
Old Mountain Road at the
entrance to forestry research site.



This is a rain or shine event.
Please come prepared for
weather and walking off trail on
uneven terrain.



PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WHO REQUIRE ACCOMMODATIONS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THIS ACTIVITY SHOULD CONTACT ALLIE BROWN, AT 401-822-8841 OR
ALLIE.BROWN@USDA.GOV, OR DIAL 7-1-1 TO ACCESS TELECOMMUNICATION RELAY
SERVICES.

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER,
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SRICD COMMUNITY EVENT

QUAHOG WEEK SAMPLING EVENT

MAY 13 | 4-6 PM

ENJOY FREE SAMPLES OF OUR STUFFED CLAMS & RHODE ISLAND CLAM CHOWDER!

FRESH HARVEST KITCHEN
9 EAST AVE UNIT F, WESTERLY, RI 02891

FREE TASTING EVENT

Enjoy delicious samples of honey recipes prepared by our own Chef Nastassja

Friday, August 23
4 - 6 pm
9 East Avenue, Unit F
Westerly, RI

MADE WITH LOCAL HONEY



COMMUNITY RIVER DAY CELEBRATION!

Saturday, June 15
11 am - 2 pm
107 Main Street, Westerly

Celebrating our wild and scenic Pawcatuck River and the exciting renewal in store for the riverfront along Main Street!

Food vendors, Live music, demonstrations and more!

For more information, sit srictd.org/resilient-riverfront-renewal

LEARN TO SHUCK

October 25
4:30 - 6:30 pm
9 East Avenue, Westerly

Get hands-on experience shucking local oysters and learn about and taste different oyster varieties and the best way to enjoy them, from local oyster growers. Shucking kits available for purchase.

TOMATO TASTING

Learn about and enjoy a variety of fresh heirloom tomatoes lovingly grown on Ashawaug Farm by indigenous farmers Dawn & Cassius Spears Sr.

FREE September 18
4 - 6 pm
9 East Avenue, Unit F
Westerly, RI



FREE TASTING EVENT

Sample three delicious varieties of homemade pierogi or "Polish dumplings" prepared by local residents:

Ciprian & Aurelia Popecki
Rosalie Szewc Harris
Gina Fuller

Thursday, January 23
4:30 - 6:30 pm
9 East Avenue, Unit F
Westerly, RI

 Register [here](#).





LASA GRANT SIGN-UP SESSION

NOVEMBER 9
11 AM - 1 PM
FRESH HARVEST KITCHEN
9 EAST AVENUE, WESTERLY

Visit srictd.org to register.

LASA Grant applications accepted through November 30

Let the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District team help you apply for RI's LASA grant program which supports the agriculture, aquaculture, and forestry industries by investing in Rhode Island's small and beginning farms. The goal is to support the growth, development and marketing of local food and seafood.

Our team will also be available to provide technical assistance for NRCS programs including EQIP, CSP and other USDA programs to help you manage your farm, forest and/or wood lot.

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Join Us! Local Working Group Session

Are you a farmer, forester or landowner in Washington or Kent County, RI? Do you work with EQIP, CSP, AMA or other Farm Bill programs? We want to hear from you!



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
LOUTTIT LIBRARY
274 VICTORY HIGHWAY
WEST GREENWICH, RI

Register and/or complete our online survey at tinyurl.com/srictinput



Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in this activity should contact Kat Zukowski at 401-786-1399 or katzukowski@usda.gov, or dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services.

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SRICD PROJECTS

SOIL STEAMER USE & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



RESILIENT RIVERFRONT RENEWAL PROJECT

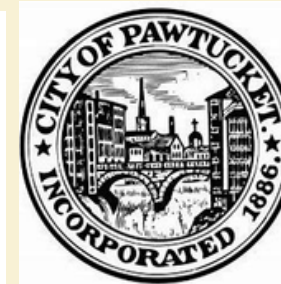
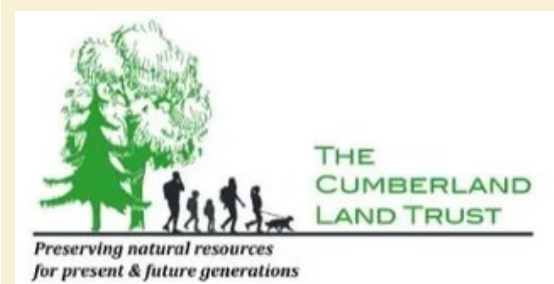
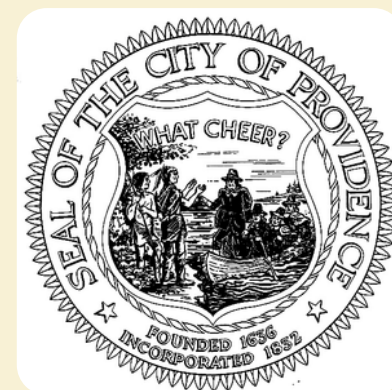
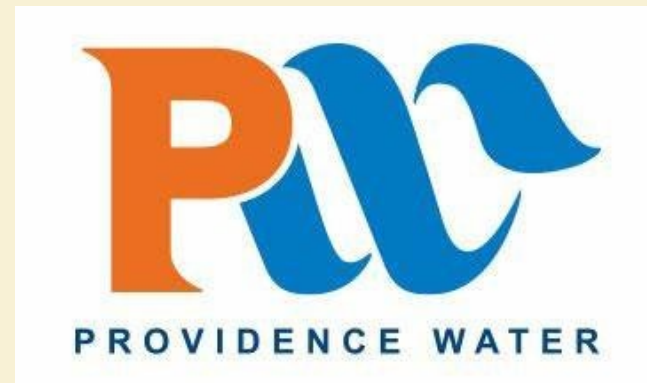
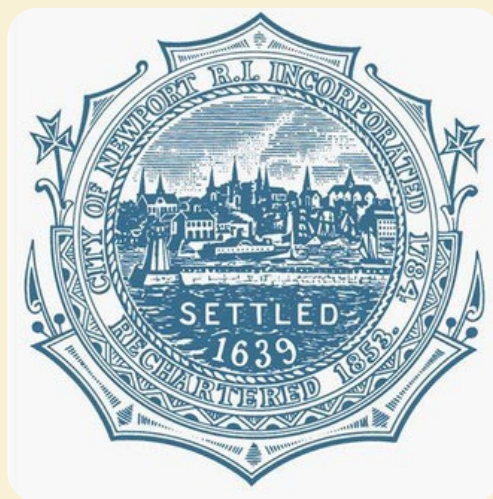


USDA: THE PEOPLE'S GARDEN



RESILIENCY RADIO HOUR





Some of our partners!

Prior to 2025, we brought
in \$82 of funding for
every \$1 of State support.



Thank You!

Any Questions?



Maria Mack



Molly Allard



Sara Churgin



Gina Fuller

