



## Restoration Projects Grants List

This list of funding opportunities was compiled by the Association to Preserve Cape Cod's Restoration Coordination Center (RCC). The RCC is actively working with Cape towns and community groups to assist with implementation of priority restoration projects. Please note that this is not meant to be an exhaustive list and that the RCC will work to keep it updated and will add new sources as they come to attention. Please visit [www.apcc.org/rcc](http://www.apcc.org/rcc) to check that you have the most recent copy.

### **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)**

**Agency:** NRCS

#### **Description and Eligible Activities:**

Agricultural Land Easements: NRCS provides financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing Agricultural Land Easements that protect agricultural use and conservation values of agricultural lands. In the case of working farms, the program helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. Eligible partners include American Indian tribes, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations that have farmland, rangeland or grassland protection programs. Under the Agricultural Land component, NRCS may contribute up to 50 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement. Where NRCS determines that grasslands of special environmental significance will be protected, NRCS may contribute up to 75 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement.

Wetland Reserve Easements: NRCS also provides technical and financial assistance directly to private landowners and Indian tribes to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands through the purchase of a wetland reserve easement. For acreage owned by an Indian tribe, there is an additional enrollment option of a 30-year contract. Through the wetland reserve enrollment options, NRCS may enroll eligible land through:

*Permanent Easements* – Permanent easements are conservation easements in perpetuity. NRCS pays 100 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the easement. Additionally, NRCS pays between 75 to 100 percent of the restoration costs.

*30-year Easements* – 30-year easements expire after 30 years. Under 30-year easements, NRCS pays 50 to 75 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the easement. Additionally, NRCS pays between 50 to 75 percent of the restoration costs.

*Term Easements* - Term easements are easements that are for the maximum duration allowed under applicable State laws. NRCS pays 50 to 75 percent of the easement value for the purchase of the term easement. Additionally, NRCS pays between 50 to 75 percent of the restoration costs.

*30-year Contracts* – 30-year contracts are only available to enroll acreage owned by Indian tribes, and program payment rates are commensurate with 30-year easements.

For wetland reserve easements, NRCS pays all costs associated with recording the easement in the local land records office, including recording fees, charges for abstracts, survey and appraisal fees, and title insurance.

Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership – The 2014 Farm Bill replaced the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program with the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Partnership as an enrollment option under ACEP – WRE. WREP continues to be a voluntary program through which NRCS signs agreements with eligible partners to leverage resources to carry out high priority wetland protection, restoration and enhancement and to improve wildlife habitat.

Association to Preserve Cape Cod

482 Main Street, Dennis, MA 02638-1947

Ph: 508-619-3185 Email: [info@apcc.org](mailto:info@apcc.org) Website: [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org)

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**Eligible Applicants:** American Indian tribes, State and Local Governments, Non-governmental organizations, private landowners land trusts.

**Application Deadline:** April

**Typical Grant Size:** Percentage of restoration project funded is based on length of easement – NRCS to pay 50-100% of restoration costs. Easement is reimbursed to land owner in amount of agricultural land value (\$10K/acre for cranberry bogs).

**Contact:** Helen Castles - [Helen.Castles@ma.usda.gov](mailto:Helen.Castles@ma.usda.gov), P:508-295-5151 ext.113, 15 Cranberry Highway, West Wareham, MA. 02576

**Potential Project Types:** wetland projects (cranberry bog and salt marsh).

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep/>

## **Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (CAP Section 206)**

**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Corps of Engineers can carry out aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects. An ecosystem restoration project under Section 206 can be initiated upon receipt of a request from a prospective project sponsor. There is no requirement that an existing Corps project be involved. Projects generally include manipulation of the hydrology in and along bodies of water, including wetlands and riparian areas. A project is adopted for construction only after a detailed investigation determines that the project will improve the quality of the environment and is in the best interest of the public.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, Nonprofit Groups, State/Territorial Agency, Water and Wastewater Utilities.

**Application Deadline:** None

**Typical Grant Size:** \$50,000 to \$5 million; median \$380,000

**Additional Notes:** The initial study is 100% federally funded up to \$100,000. All planning costs after the first \$100,000 are cost shared 50/50. All design and construction costs are cost shared 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal. The Federal cost limit is \$10 million.

**Contact:** Section 206 project requests should be directed to (309) 794-5704 or email [customeroutreach@usace.army.mil](mailto:customeroutreach@usace.army.mil).

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, fish run, stormwater, other

**Website:** <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Outreach-Customer-Service/Ecosystem-Restoration/Section-206/>

## **Beneficial Uses of Dredged Materials (CAP Section 204)**

**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Work under this authority provides for the use of dredged material from new or existing Federal projects to protect, restore, or create aquatic and ecologically related habitats, including wetlands.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, Nonprofit Groups, State/Territorial Agency, Water and Wastewater Utilities.

**Application Deadline:** None

**Typical grant size:** \$50,000 to \$5 million; median \$400,000

**Additional notes:** The cost share is 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal of the incremental cost above the least cost method of dredged material disposal consistent with engineering and environmental criteria. The Federal share of planning, design, and construction cannot exceed \$5 million.

**Contact:** Section 204 project requests should be directed to (309) 794-5853 or email [cemvr-outreach-web@usace.army.mil](mailto:cemvr-outreach-web@usace.army.mil).

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, salt marsh, fish run

**Website:** <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Outreach-Customer-Service/Ecosystem-Restoration/Section-204/>

## **Bring Back the Natives/More Fish Grant Program**

**Agency:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Funds on-the-ground efforts to restore native aquatic species to their historic range. Projects should involve partnerships between communities, agencies, private landowners, and organizations that seek to rehabilitate streamside and watershed habitats. Projects should focus on habitat needs of species such as fish, invertebrates, and amphibians that originally inhabited the waterways across the country. Funding for the program is administered through NFWF from federal agencies cooperating to support this program.

**Eligible Applicants:** Community/watershed groups, conservation districts, educational institutions, federal agencies, local governments, nonprofit groups, state/territorial agencies, tribal agencies.

**Application Deadline:** preproposal due July, full proposal due September

**Typical grant size:** median award is \$60,000; range is \$25,000 to \$100,000

**Additional Notes:** Priority for funding for eastern U.S. rivers is given for native fishes, including Brook trout and River herring (especially in the Penobscot River)

**Contact:** Cara Rose, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Western Partnership Office  
421 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 950, Portland, OR 97204  
503-417-8700 x6008

**Potential Project Types:** fish run, salt marsh, other

**Website:** <http://www.nfwf.org/bbn/Pages/home.aspx>

## **Buzzards Bay Watershed Municipal Mini-grant Program**

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)-Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

**Description and Eligible Activities:**

The Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program, a planning and technical assistance unit of the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management, makes funding available to assist eligible Buzzards Bay watershed municipalities to meet the goals and objectives of the Buzzards Bay Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan. Grant categories typically include the protection of open space, rare and endangered species habitat, and freshwater and saltwater wetlands, projects to help restore tidally restricted salt marshes, to develop designs and remediate stormwater discharges threatening water quality, to provide support for mapping stormwater drainage networks, to construct pumpout facilities, to digitize wetland boundaries approved in permits, to assist in the monitoring of water quality to prioritize stormwater remediation, to address problems in migratory fish passage, and to implement other recommendations contained in the watershed management plan for Buzzards Bay.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible towns 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.

**Typical Application Deadline:** August

**Request Limit:** Typically \$35,000

**Annual Spending:** \$130,000

**Additional Notes:**

- Buzzards Bay NEP often serve as co-applicants on proposals and can provide technical support and assistance with drafting proposals to other agencies on case by case basis.

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- April is timing for release of next grant – will be posted on CommBuys.
- In addition to the mini-grant program they also administer EPA SNEP grants, though they may do less of this in the future.

**Contact:** Sarah Williams, sarah.williams@state.ma.us, (508) 291-3625 x13

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, fish run, stormwater, other

**Website:** <http://www.buzzardsbay.org/funding.htm>

## Coastal Pollution Remediation (CPR) Grants

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) - Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The CPR program provides funding to municipalities located within the Massachusetts coastal watershed to address stormwater runoff pollution and boat-waste from commercial vessels.

Eligible projects include stormwater pollutant identification and assessment; Best Management Practices (BMPs) selection, design, permitting and construction; and commercial boat-waste pumpout projects.

**Eligible Applicants:** Municipalities in the Massachusetts coastal watershed. Projects must focus on waters that directly connect to the coast (i.e., inland ponds/lakes with no flow connection to coastal waters through day-lighted or culverted streams, or impacts to groundwater, are not eligible project areas). For a list of all 220 eligible communities see:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/coastal-water-quality/cpr/coastal-watershed-communities.html>.

**Estimated Application Deadline:** May

**Average Grant Size:** \$20,000 to \$60,000 for assessment /design grants; \$50,000 to \$125,000 (maximum) for construction

**Average Number of Grants funded:** 4 to 7

**FY 2017 Spending:** \$350,000

### Additional Notes:

- Requires 25% match of total project cost
- Release of RFR in summer, awards made in the fall, project must be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, short turn-around time for project completion. Typically just 6 months but they frequently support project over multiple years by funding sequential pieces of a bigger project broken down into chunks to be completed each year (i.e. feasibility studies, planning/design, implementation).

**Contact:** Adrienne Pappal, adrienne.pappal@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1218 or Cristina Kennedy, cristina.kennedy@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1231

**Potential Project Types:** stormwater, other

**Website:** [www.mass.gov/czm/cpr](http://www.mass.gov/czm/cpr)

## CZM Coastal Resilience Grant Program

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)-Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Coastal Resilience Grant Program provides financial and technical support for local efforts to increase awareness and understanding of climate impacts, assess vulnerability and risk, plan for changing conditions, redesign vulnerable public facilities and infrastructure, and implement non-structural approaches that enhance natural resources and provide storm damage protection. Grants are available for a range of coastal resilience approaches—from planning, public outreach, feasibility assessment, and analysis of shoreline vulnerability to design, permitting, construction, and monitoring.

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**Eligible Applicants:** The Coastal Resilience Grant Program is open to the 78 municipalities located within the Massachusetts coastal zone. Certified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with vulnerable coastal property that is open and accessible to the public are also eligible for funding for natural storm-damage protection (or green infrastructure) projects. Please see the website for more details.

**Estimated Application Deadline:** June

**Anticipated FY 2018 Level of Funding:** CZM expects to award up to \$2,100,000 in grants for FY 2018 Coastal Resilience projects. Applicants were able to request up to \$500,000 in funding. Applicants were required to provide at least 25% of the total project cost. The match could be cash, in-kind services, or a combination of the two.

**Additional Notes:** Release RFR in April.

**Contact:** Patricia Bowie, patricia.bowie@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1186

**Eligible project type:** coastal resilience, salt marsh

**Website:** [www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/stormsmart-coasts/grants](http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/czm/program-areas/stormsmart-coasts/grants)

## **Dam, Levee and Seawall Repair or Removal Grants**

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Under a bill signed into law in 2013 (M.G.L. c. 29, §2III and regulations issued under 301 CMR 15.00), EEA provides funding in the form of grants and loans to finance the costs to rebuild, remove or refinance structures falling into one of the three categories of structures cited in the law: dams or similar unregulated structures; coastal infrastructure; and levees. By executing loans EEA ensures the funds are recycled through repayments of bond principle and interest in order to provide ongoing funding for other projects in future years. The program addresses the growing need to repair dams, coastal flood control structures and inland flood control structures that pose a risk to public health, public safety and key economic centers. Increasing the resiliency of the Commonwealth's infrastructure is a particularly important facet of project selection in the face of increasingly extreme weather impacts.

**Eligible Applicants:** any local governmental body, charitable organization or private entity, as described in the regulations.

**Application Deadline:** July

**Request Limit:** Design and permitting: Up to \$200,000 Dams/Inland Flood control structures or \$500,000 for Seawall and coastal flood protection. Construction projects: Up to \$1 million Dams/Inland Flood control structures or \$3 million for Seawall and coastal flood protection.

**FY2016 Spending:** \$10 million

**Additional Notes:** Two financing opportunities available; 1) RFR ENV 18 DS 01- a grant program to support the completion of designs and permit applications to repair or remove dams, seawalls and other coastal infrastructure, and levees. 2) RFR ENV 18 DS 02- a grant and/or loan program to support the construction phase of repair or removal of dams, seawalls and other coastal infrastructure, and levees.

**Contact:** William Hinkley, william.hinkley@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1177

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, fish run

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/waste-mgmt-recycling/water-resources/preserving-water-resources/water-laws-and-policies/water-laws/draft-regs-re-dam-and-sea-wall-repair-or-removal-fund.html>

## **Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Fish and Wildlife Service-National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP) Project Funding**

**Agency:** Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture is requesting project proposals that restore and conserve habitat necessary to support healthy and productive populations of wild brook trout. All proposed projects

must be developed in coordination with the nearest U.S. Fish and Wildlife Sponsoring Office. Awarded funds can only be used for on-the-ground habitat conservation projects and related design and monitoring activities. They may not be used for acquisition in fee or easement. All projects must have a minimum of a 1:1 funding from partner contributions.

The following are required to apply:

1. Application Form (2017 Project Application Form and 2017 Project Application Instructions)
2. Letter of Support from the State Fisheries Management Agency
3. Photographs and Photograph Release Form
4. Coordination with the Service's Sponsoring Office

**Eligible Applicants:** State, Federal, and local agencies; tribes; non-governmental organizations; corporations; academia; industry; and individuals.

**Application Deadline:** September

**Typical Grant Size:** maximum of \$50,000.

**Contact:** Steve Perry, Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture, 603-528-1371, [ebtjv.coordinator@gmail.com](mailto:ebtjv.coordinator@gmail.com)

**Potential Project Types:** fish run

**Website:** <http://easternbrooktrout.org/funding-opportunities/2017-ebtjv-fws-nfhp-project-funding-opportunity>

## Emergency Watershed Protection

**Agency:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program helps protect lives and property threatened by natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, droughts, and wildfires. EWP provides funding for such work as clearing debris from clogged waterways, restoring vegetation, and stabilizing river banks. The measures that are taken must be environmentally and economically sound and generally benefit more than one property owner. EWP also provides funds to purchase floodplain easements as an alternative (in lieu of recovery) to the normal emergency recovery measure. Floodplain easements restore, protect, maintain, and enhance the functions of the floodplain; conserve natural values including fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, ground water recharge, and open space; reduce long-term federal disaster assistance; and safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the products of erosion. EWP cost-share rate is paid at a 75/25% ratio, but can provide up to 90% cost share if an area qualifies as a limited resource area, as determined by the federal, state, and local census data.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, Private Landowner, State/Territorial Agency. Tribal Agency.

**Application Deadline:** N/A: Funds are issued on an emergency basis only. The sponsor has 60 days to request assistance from the time of an emergency declaration.

**Typical Grant Size:** \$5,000 to \$4 million, median \$500,000

**Additional Notes:** Each EWP project, with the exception of floodplain easements (where private landowners work directly with NRCS), requires a sponsor that applies for the assistance. A sponsor can be any legal subdivision of state or local government, including local officials of city, county, or state governments, Native American tribes, soil conservation districts, U.S. Forest Service, and watershed authorities. The community or local sponsor of the work pays 25% of the project cost, which can be provided by cash or in-kind services. NRCS will pay up to 100% of the costs associated with the purchase and restoration of a floodplain easement.

**Contact:** Shawn Anderson, National Emergency Watershed Protection Program Coordinator, (202) 720-5795.

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, fish run, salt marsh

**Website:** <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/>

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

**Agency:** USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices or activities like conservation planning that address natural resource concerns on their land to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and other related natural resources. Payments are made to implement approved conservation practices or to help develop Conservation Activity Plans to address specific land use issues.

**Eligible Applicants:** Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. Socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Native American tribes and veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate and may receive advance payment of up to 50% to purchase materials and services needed to implement conservation practices included in their EQIP contract.

Applicants must:

- Be agricultural producer
- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations

**Estimated Application Deadline:** Applications are accepted year-round, but are ranked and funded periodically. Check this website again or call your local NRCS office for the next ranking cut-off date.

**Typical Grant Size:** Payment limit is set at \$450,000

### Additional Notes:

- Advance payment available for socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Native American tribes, and veterans are available up to 50% of project cost.
- Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented.
- Contracts can last up to ten years.

**Contact:** NRCS Field Offices, Massachusetts

([https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ma/contact/local/?cid=nrcs144p2\\_014130](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ma/contact/local/?cid=nrcs144p2_014130))

**Potential Project Types:** fish run, other

**Website:** <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/>

## Federal 319 Nonpoint Source Grant Program

**Agency:** Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** To prevent, control, and abate nonpoint source pollution through implementation of structural and nonstructural best management practices (BMPs).

**Eligible Applicants:** Any Massachusetts public or private organization

**Estimated Application Deadline:** June

**Average Grant Size:** \$250,000

**Average # of Grants:** 11

**FY 2016 Spending:** \$1.28 Million

**Estimated FY17 Spending:** \$1.3 million

### Additional Notes:

- Federal funds administered by DEP.

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- Fund projects up to three years. Require 40% match.
- Very competitive. Receive about 20 proposals a year – hope to fund 5.

**Contact:** Malcolm Harper, [Malcolm.harper@state.ma.us](mailto:Malcolm.harper@state.ma.us), (508) 767-2795

**Potential Project Types:** stormwater

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/watersheds-water-quality.html#2>

## Federal 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant Program

**Agency:** Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Assists regional planning agencies and other eligible recipients in providing water quality assessment and planning assistance to local communities. Projects should focus on nonpoint source assessment and planning with the goal of developing strategies to address water-quality impairments.

**Eligible Applicants:** Regional planning agencies, conservation districts, cities and towns

**Estimated Application Deadline:** March

**Average Grant Size:** \$50,000

**Average # of Grants:** 4 to 6

**Estimated FY 2018 Spending:** \$200,000

**Additional Notes:**

- Release RFR in January.
- Fund projects \$30-50,000 range.
- No match required but does help improve proposal.
- Posted on DEP webpage, notices on CommBuys.

**Contact:** Gary Gonyea, [gary.gonyea@state.ma.us](mailto:gary.gonyea@state.ma.us), (617) 556-1152

**Potential Project Types:** stormwater

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/watersheds-water-quality.html#3>

## Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant Program

**Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), co-administered by Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

**Description:** The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program makes available Federal funds to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**Eligible Applicants:** State agencies, Federally-recognized tribes, Local governments/communities

**Application Deadline FY 2016:** May (state deadline)

**FY 2016 Funding:** \$199,000,000 available nationwide

**FY 2016 Grant Size:** 200 awards projected nationally

**Contact:** Sarah White, [sarah.white@state.ma.us](mailto:sarah.white@state.ma.us), (508) 820-2053

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/grants/fma/>

## Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

**Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), co-administered by Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

**Description:** The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation grant with funding made available statewide as a result of a federal disaster declaration. As well as minimizing overall risk to lives and property, funding for hazard mitigation plans and projects is also intended to reduce the need for the reliance on taxpayer-funded federal assistance for disaster recovery.

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Sub-applicants may be eligible to apply for funding to cover projects including storm-water upgrades, drainage and culvert improvements, property acquisition, slope stabilization, infrastructure protection, seismic and wind retrofits, structure elevations, etc.

**Eligible Applicants:** State agencies, Federally-recognized tribes, Local governments/communities, Certain private non-profit organizations

**MA DR-4214 Funding:** Estimated Federal share is \$21 million

**MA DR-4214 Grant Size:** 41 sub-applications submitted to MEMA/DCR

**Additional notes from workshop:** Must have approved FEMA hazard mitigation plan to be eligible.

**Contact:** Sarah White, sarah.white@state.ma.us, (508) 820-2053

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, stormwater, salt marsh

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/grants/hmgp/>

## Land Conservation Grants

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)-Division of Conservation Services (DCS)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Division of Conservation Services provides grants to assist in acquiring land for natural resources and passive outdoor recreation (LAND Program), acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation (PARC Program), protect public drinking water supplies (Drinking Water Supply Protection Program), purchasing large, unique, unfragmented conservation and working landscapes (Landscape Partnership Program), and acquisition, development, or renovation of parks or conservation areas (Land and Water Conservation Fund Program).

**Eligible Applicants:** Massachusetts entities; specific to each grant program

**Estimated Application Deadline:** July

**Typical Request Limit:** specific to each grant program

**Additional Notes:**

- Release RFR in April or May each year.
- Encourage bigger projects.
- Some grant programs are open to non-profit applicants but primarily for municipalities.
- They are starting to move toward incorporating climate change in program goals.

**Contacts:** Emmanuel Owusu, emmanuel.owusu@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1187

Melissa Cryan, melissa.cryan@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1171

**Potential Project Types:** other

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/dcs-grants>

## Massachusetts Environmental Trust

**Agency:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Trust supports cooperative efforts to restore, protect, and improve water and water-related resources of the Commonwealth. Grant funds are generated through the sale of environment themed license plates. MET's goal is to encourage development of new approaches and ideas to spur innovation. Examples of the kinds of projects are those that address concerns such as: point and non-point source pollution; water conservation; freshwater and saltwater monitoring; endangered and threatened species and habitat; human health issues related to dredging; environmental education projects related to water resources; low income or environmental justice community projects; and research on emerging environmental issues.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible organizations generally include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and municipalities. Unincorporated organizations may apply provided that they have an eligible fiscal sponsor.

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**Estimated Application Deadline:** Letters of Inquiry due in October, invited proposals due in March.

**FY 2016 Spending:** \$480,000

**Typical Grant Size:** \$10,000 to \$40,000 per year for up to three years

**Anticipated FY 2017 Spending:** \$300,000

**Additional Notes:**

- Two step application process: 1) LOI, 2) Proposal.
- Funded projects include ecosystem restoration, endangered species, and water resources.
- Next grant round will be for FY18 with start date July 2017.

**Contact:** Kim Tilas, kim.tilas@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1037

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, fish run, stormwater, other

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/met>

## MassBays Healthy Estuaries Grants

**Agency:** Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program (MassBays).

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The Healthy Estuaries Grant Program dedicates funds to support local progress on protecting, restoring, and enhancing estuarine habitats (e.g. seagrass beds, salt marshes, beaches) and informing management efforts to reduce stressors (e.g. wastewater, stormwater, habitat fragmentation). Filling a perceived funding gap between development of a concept for improving estuarine conditions and its implementation MassBays directs monies to planning, assessment, and prioritization to advance well thought-out and resilient restoration and resource management projects. The MassBays Healthy Estuaries Grant Program provides funding to coastal communities from Salisbury to Provincetown for initiatives in Massachusetts Bay and Cape Cod Bay that support the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan.

**Eligible Applicants:** Massachusetts cities and towns; academic institutions; Regional Planning Agencies, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations

**Estimated Application Deadline:** Fall

**Anticipated FY 2017 Level of Funding:** \$150,000. Applicants are required to provide at least 25% of the total project cost as cash, in-kind services, or a combination of the two.

**Contact:** Prassede Vella, prassede.vella@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1217

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, stormwater, fish run, coastal resilience, other

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/mass-bays-program/grants/>

## Mass Wildlife Habitat Management Grant Program (MHMGP)

**Agency:** Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Designed to provide financial assistance to private and municipal landowners of protected lands to support active habitat management while fostering partnerships to encourage landscape scale habitat management and expand public recreation on conserved lands. Objectives are to improve habitat for game species, manage habitat for Species of Greatest conservation need as identified in the MA state Wildlife Action Plan, and to expand public recreational opportunities on conserved lands.

**Eligible Applicants:** Owners of private and municipal **conserved lands** in Massachusetts. Conserved land is defined as property protected in fee or by a conservation restriction, land enrolled in 61, 61A/B, or has a current Landowner Incentive Program covenant.

**Application Deadline:** November

**Typical Grant Size:** \$10,000 to \$50,000

**Additional Notes:** No match commitment required.

Association to Preserve Cape Cod

482 Main Street, Dennis, MA 02638-1947

Ph: 508-619-3185 Email: [info@apcc.org](mailto:info@apcc.org) Website: [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org)

A non-profit organization. Dues and contributions tax-deductible as provided by law.

Last updated: July 2017

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, fish run, coastal resilience, other

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/wildlife-habitat-conservation/habitat-grant.html>

## **NOAA Coastal Ecosystem Resilience Grants**

**Agency:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

**Description:** The primary focus of this grant program is to support projects that strengthen the resilience of U.S. marine and coastal ecosystems, and associated economies, and decrease the vulnerability of communities to extreme weather events and climate related hazards. The program will support two categories of activities: strengthening coastal communities through activities that improve capacity of multiple coastal jurisdictions and habitat restoration activities that improve coastal resilience. High priority will be given to projects that result in socio-economic benefits, restore habitat for Listed or Managed species, implement on-the-ground restoration actions within 24 months, and demonstrate collaboration across multiple stakeholders.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, regional organizations, private (for profit) entities, and local, state, and tribal governments.

**Application Deadline:** March

**Request Limit:** Award amounts no less than \$100,000 and no greater than \$2 million for projects lasting up to 36 months. Cost sharing through cash or in-kind matches is expected. Requires 2:1 ration of federal to non-federal match. Typical award range \$250,000 to \$1,000,000.

**Annual Spending:** Up to \$15 million in funding available.

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, fish run, salt marsh

**Website:** <https://www.coast.noaa.gov/resilience-grant/>

## **NOAA Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration Grants**

**Agency:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

**Description:** This grant funds habitat restoration projects that aid in recovery of listed species (such as salmon and coral), sustain fish stocks managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and their prey, and/or restore coastal ecosystems and improve coastal resiliency. The aim is to support fish habitat restoration projects that use an ecosystem-based approach to foster species recovery and increase fish populations.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education, non-profits, commercial (for profit) organizations, U.S. territories, and state, local and Native American tribal governments.

**Application Deadline:** March

**Request Limit:** Grant funding range \$100,000 to \$4 million over 1-3 years. Typical award \$300,000 to \$1.5 million.

**Annual Spending:** up to \$5 million available for selected projects

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, stormwater, fish run, coastal resilience

**Website:** <http://www.habitat.noaa.gov/funding/coastalrestoration.html>

## **North Atlantic Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA) Grants**

**Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

**Website:** <https://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act.php>

### **NAWCA Standard Grant**

**Description:** The U.S. Standard Grants Program is a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States that further the goals of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. These projects must involve long-term protection, restoration and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated upland

habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds. Grant aims to: protect, restore, or enhance wetland and associated upland migratory bird habitats throughout the country; promote long term protection of acquired habitats for birds and other wetland-dependent species; catalyze conservation partnerships, bringing together federal, state, non-profit, and private organizations and individuals; and support conservation of priority migratory bird species in the U.S., including waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and landbirds.

**Application Deadlines:** February and July

**Request Limit:** Grants between \$75,000 and \$1 million. Requires at minimum 1 to 1 match.

**Annual Spending:** \$47 million in 2015

**Contact:** Stacy Sanchez ([stacy\\_sanchez@fws.gov](mailto:stacy_sanchez@fws.gov)) 703-358-2017 for general information.

Aimee Weldon ([aimee\\_weldon@fws.gov](mailto:aimee_weldon@fws.gov)) Joint Venture Coordinator for Atlantic Coast for proposal development. Note: Joint venture coordinator's prioritization of NAWCA proposals from their geographic region is a key element in the selection process.

**Potential Project types:** salt marsh, other

### **NAWCA Small Grant**

**Description:** The Small grants program gives preferences to grantees new to NAWCA with smaller-scale, long-term wetlands conservation projects that may not be competitive in the U.S. Standard grants program due to their size. This program is used as a catalyst in developing pool of grantees and partners for the U.S. Standard grants. Funds support projects to protect, restore, or enhance wetland and associated upland migratory bird habitat. Proposals must be for on-the ground projects. Preference is given to projects that are part of, or complements, another project or is part of a broader conservation initiative. Land acquisitions as well as enhancement and restoration projects on private lands allowable.

**Application Deadline:** October

**Request Limit:** Grants of less than \$75,000. Matching required.

**Annual Spending:** \$3 million in 2015

**Contact:** Rodecia McKnight ([rodecia\\_mcknight@fws.gov](mailto:rodecia_mcknight@fws.gov)) 703-358-2266, small grants coordinator. Aimee Weldon ([aimee\\_weldon@fws.gov](mailto:aimee_weldon@fws.gov)) Joint Venture Coordinator for Atlantic Coast for proposal development. Note: Joint venture coordinator's prioritization of NAWCA proposals from their geographic region is a key element in the selection process.

**Potential Project types:** salt marsh, other

### **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program**

**Agency:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), co-administered by Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

**Description:** The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program makes available Federal funds to implement and sustain cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from future disasters. Funds can be used for hazard mitigation planning and implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event.

**Eligible Applicants:** State agencies, Federally-recognized tribes, Local governments/communities

**Application Deadline:** May

**FY 2016 Funding:** \$90 million available nationwide; \$4 million limit on project budgets (Federal share), \$575,000 state set-aside

**FY 2016 Grant Size:** Each state is limited to a total of 18 sub-applications (of the 18, no more than 8 sub-applications for projects); 200 awards projected nationally

**Contact:** Sarah White, [sarah.white@state.ma.us](mailto:sarah.white@state.ma.us), (508) 820-2053

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience, salt marsh, stormwater

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/resources/grants/pdm/>

## **Project Modifications for Improvement of the Environment (CAP Section 1135)**

**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Work under this authority provides for modifications in the structures and operations of water resources projects constructed by the Corps of Engineers to improve the quality of the environment. Additionally, the Corps may undertake restoration projects at locations where an existing Corps project has contributed to the degradation. The primary goal of these projects is ecosystem restoration with an emphasis on projects benefiting fish and wildlife. The project must be consistent with the authorized purposes of the project being modified, environmentally acceptable, and complete within itself.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, Nonprofit Groups, State/Territorial Agency, Water and Wastewater Utilities.

**Application Deadline:** None

**Typical Grant Size:** \$50,000 to \$5 million; median \$200,000

**Additional Notes:** State or local government officials should consult the nearest District Engineer regarding specific problems and the possibility of remedial action under this program. An environmental assessment in accordance with NEPA is also required. The cost share is 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal. The Federal share of planning, design, and construction cannot exceed \$10 million per project.

**Contact:** Section 1135 project requests should be directed to (309) 794-5853 or email [cemvr-outreach-web@usace.army.mil](mailto:cemvr-outreach-web@usace.army.mil).

**Potential Project Types:** salt marsh, fish run, coastal resilience

**Website:** <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Outreach-Customer-Service/Ecosystem-Restoration/Section-1135/>

## **Pulling Together Initiative**

**Agency:** National Fish and Wildlife Federation

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Provides modest grants to help local communities effectively manage invasive plants. The program will award grants that will develop cooperative weed management areas (CWMA), support significant advances of existing CWMA's, develop or strengthen prevention and early detection/rapid response efforts, enhance education, and assist awareness projects to reduce or eliminate invasive plant species.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations (or their international equivalents); state and federal government agencies; local governments; Native American tribes; and educational institutions.

**Application Deadline:** Pre-proposal due in August, full proposal due in September

**Typical Grant Size:** \$25,000 to \$200,000

**Additional Notes:**

- Funding is provided by the BLM, FWS, USDA Forest Service
- All awards must be matched by non-federal contributions from project partners, either cash or in-kind, on at least a 1:1 basis.
- Projects should be completed within 2-years of final grant agreement.

**Contact:** Caroline Oswald, [caroline.oswald@nfwf.org](mailto:caroline.oswald@nfwf.org), (612) 564-7253

**Potential Project Types:** other

**Website:** <http://www.nfwf.org/pti/Pages/home.aspx>

## **Small Flood Damage Reduction Projects (CAP section 205)**

Association to Preserve Cape Cod  
482 Main Street, Dennis, MA 02638-1947

Ph: 508-619-3185 Email: [info@apcc.org](mailto:info@apcc.org) Website: [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org)

A non-profit organization. Dues and contributions tax-deductible as provided by law.

Last updated: July 2017

**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Work under this authority provides for local protection from flooding by the construction or improvement of structural flood damage reduction features such as levees, channels, and dams. Non-structural alternatives are also considered and may include measures such as installation of flood warning systems, raising and/or flood proofing of structures, and relocation of flood prone facilities.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, Nonprofit Groups, State/Territorial Agency, Water and Wastewater Utilities.

**Application Deadline:** None

**Typical Grant Size:** \$50,000 to \$8.5 million; median \$500,000

**Additional Notes:** State or local government officials should consult the nearest District Engineer regarding specific problems and the possibility of remedial action under this program. An environmental assessment in accordance with NEPA is also required.

For structural flood damage reduction projects-the non-Federal sponsor is responsible for a minimum of 35% to a maximum of 50% of total project costs and the Federal Government is responsible for the remainder of total project costs. For non-structural flood damage reduction projects - the cost share is 65% Federal and 35% non-Federal. The Federal share of planning, design, and construction cannot exceed \$10 million per project.

**Contact:** Chris Hatfield, Special Studies Section, (978) 318-8520.

**Potential Project Types:** coastal resilience

**Website:** <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Public-Services/Continuing-Authorities-Program/Section-205/>

## **State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program (Clean Water & Drinking Water)**

**Agency:** Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Provides subsidized loans to assist municipalities and water and wastewater districts in the implementation of capital projects that protect, enhance or mitigate water quality and public health.

**Eligible Applicants:** Any Massachusetts water district, wastewater district or municipality

**Estimated Application Deadline:** August

**Average Loan Size:** \$4 million

**Average # of Loans:** 70 to 100 loans

**Annual Spending:** \$400 to \$475 million

**Additional notes:**

- This is a loan program not a grant.
- Solicitations come out June-August.
- Offer 2% interest loans.

**Contacts:** Drinking Water Program staff in DEP's Boston office: Yvette DePeiza, [yvette.depeiza@sstate.ma.us](mailto:yvette.depeiza@sstate.ma.us), (617) 292-5857

Municipal Services staff in Boston: Steve McCurdy, [steven.mccurdy@state.ma.us](mailto:steven.mccurdy@state.ma.us), (617) 292-5779

**Potential Project Types:** stormwater, other

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/water/grants/state-revolving-fund.html>

## **Recreational Trails Program**

**Agency:** Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

Association to Preserve Cape Cod

482 Main Street, Dennis, MA 02638-1947

Ph: 508-619-3185 Email: [info@apcc.org](mailto:info@apcc.org) Website: [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org)

A non-profit organization. Dues and contributions tax-deductible as provided by law.

Last updated: July 2017

**Description and Eligible Activities:** Fund development of new trails, maintenance of existing trails, signage or kiosk projects, maps and brochure development, and equipment purchases for maintenance.

**Eligible Applicants:** Open to non-profits and municipalities

**Estimated Application Deadline:** Due Feb 1<sup>st</sup> each year

**Typical Grant Size:** \$30-40,000 per year, Maximum of \$50,000 per project

**Additional Notes:**

- Doesn't fund projects that focus only on feasibility and planning.
- Doesn't fund sidewalk or road projects.
- Projects must be primarily recreational, facilitation physical on the ground movement

**Contact:** Amanda Lewis, (413) 586-8706 ext. 19, [amanda.lewis@state.ma.us](mailto:amanda.lewis@state.ma.us)

**Eligible project type:** other

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

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program

**Agency:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Description and Eligible Activities:** The coastal program is the Service's primary conservation tool for voluntary, citizen and community-based fish and wildlife habitat conservation. The program provides technical and financial assistance in the form of cooperative agreements to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private land. Coastal program staff work closely with project partners to develop and implement projects. The goals of the program are to conserve habitat, broaden and strengthen partnerships, improve information sharing and communications, enhance our workforce, and increase accountability to ensure program resources are used efficiently and effectively. Priority will be given to projects that: are on or near National Wildlife Refuge lands; improve habitat for Federal trust or other priority species; address coastal resiliency; expand priority habitats, reduce habitat fragmentation, establish conservation buffers and provide wildlife movement corridors for federal trust and other priority species; address regional strategic plans and priorities; and are self-sustaining projects.

**Eligible Applicants:** State, county and local governments, nonprofits, small businesses, Native American tribal governments, individuals, for profit organizations, and public and private institutions of higher education. The Cape Cod focus area includes the waters, shoreline, coastal ponds, and adjacent upland areas on the Cape, in Buzzard's Bay and on the south side of Cape Cod (Nantucket Sound, Vineyard Sound and the islands).

**Estimated Application Deadline:** Potential projects are actively identified through the federal fiscal year (October 1 – September 30).

**Typical Grant Size:** Maximum award \$500,000

**Additional Notes:** Cost sharing is not required but program strives to achieve a 1:1 cost share on selected projects.

**Eligible project type:** salt marsh, fish run, coastal resilience, other

**Website:** <https://www.fws.gov/coastal/>

## Watershed Rehabilitation Program (Dam Decommissioning)

**Agency:** USDA, NRCS

**Description and Eligible Activities:** This program provides a 65% Federal cost-share to rehabilitate aging dams that were originally constructed either through Public Law-566, Public Law-534, Pilot Watershed Program authorized under the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act of 1954, or through the Resource Conservation & Development program. The purpose for rehabilitation is to extend the service life of dams and bring them into compliance with current

and applicable safety and performance standards or to decommission the dams so they no longer pose a threat to life and property.

**Eligible Applicants:** Conservation District, Local Government, State/Territorial Agency. Tribal Agency.

**Application Deadline:** Anytime

**Typical Grant Size:** \$100,000 to \$3.5 million; median \$350,000

**Additional Notes:** Only dams originally constructed with assistance from the following four programs are eligible for dam rehabilitation assistance (or decommissioning): Public Law 83-566, Public Law 78-534, Pilot Watershed Program authorized under the Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act of 1954, and the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Program authorized by the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981.

**Potential Project Types:** fish run

**Website:** <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wr/>