



June 3, 2013

Ms. Jane Peirce, 319 Program Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
627 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608

Letter of Support - Cape Cod Commission's 319 Grant Application

Dear Ms. Peirce:

The Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC) strongly supports the Cape Cod Commission's proposed 319 implementation project to install a bioinfiltration area at the Horace Mann Charter School in Barnstable.

APCC was founded in 1968 as a 501(c) (3) organization whose mission is to promote science-based policies and programs that foster preservation of Cape Cod's natural resources. We promote our goals through education, research, technical assistance, and advocacy. Our efforts have led to landmark achievements in water resource protection, land preservation and smart growth, earning APCC the reputation as Cape Cod's most prominent and influential environmental advocacy group. Please see our website at www.apcc.org for more information.

Coastal eutrophication is the most serious environmental problem on Cape Cod. APCC has been working with nutrient managers, agencies and organizations to promote regional, watershed-based, management of stormwater as well as wastewater. From 2008-2010, APCC provided a stormwater utility outreach program for Cape Cod, which resulted in one town undertaking a stormwater utility "Does It Make Sense?" pre-feasibility study. In 2011, APCC hosted a Stormwater LID Seminar, funded by a 319 grant. In 2012, we conducted a survey of municipal stormwater managers on Cape Cod to determine their needs. One finding from our survey was that municipal public works staff would like to utilize stormwater LID practices but need training in construction and maintenance. One way to provide such training is to film the construction and provide the resulting video as part of a training program. The Commission's proposed outreach program will help to fill this need for training in practical, in-ground implementation. Locating the project at Horace Mann Charter School supports two of APCC's most important goals: (1) nurturing the next generation of ecologists and environmentalists; and (2) cultivating an environmental ethic. LID at schools is something worth promoting state-wide.

The Commission's proposed installation of a stormwater bioinfiltration area is consistent with the current goals of the Section 319 program. It strategically targets water quality in Lewis Bay, a high priority watershed, by remediating nitrogen, total suspended solids, and pathogens in runoff. This will help the Town of Barnstable to meet the TMDL goals for

Lewis Bay as well as the long-term goal of de-listing Lewis Bay. The project is a balance of planning and action that optimizes existing resources. The project will help to raise public awareness of the benefits of green stormwater infrastructure by cultivating an environmental ethic in children, their parents, municipal stormwater managers and the general public. Lewis Bay is one of the most seen and traveled embayments in all of Massachusetts.

APCC strongly urges you to support and fund this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. DeWitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward J. DeWitt
Executive Director

cc: Cape Cod Commission