

Select Municipal Grants and Assistance for Local Resilience

Building Ecological Solutions to Coastal Community Hazards Program

Resource Type: Technical assistance from NJDEP, academic and non-profit partners to support projects that reduce vulnerability to the growing risks from coastal storms, sea level rise, flooding, erosion and associated threats through strengthening natural ecosystems that also benefit fish and wildlife.

What is it? The Building Ecological Solutions to Coastal Community Hazards program provides technical support to NJ coastal and inland communities that will assist them in effectively integrating natural systems approaches into their recovery and planning efforts through training, technical support and demonstration sites. The NJ Department of Environmental Protection is currently seeking 20 communities with whom to partner. Participating communities will be provided with an assessment of their hazard mitigation needs and recommendations for where ecologically-based hazard mitigation strategies might be utilized to afford better protection to vulnerable natural features, like marsh shorelines and man-made features such as roads, buildings and infrastructure. Assistance to communities will include general analysis of field conditions, meetings as needed with local, regional, state and federal officials and other professionals, guidance on design, permitting, project implementation and financing. Additionally, should the need arise; participating communities can gain consultations with appropriate experts on issues unique to a community which might be addressed through innovative ecologically-based treatment.

For more information: Nick Angarone, Planner, Division of Coastal & Land Use Planning, NJDEP, njczm@dep.nj.gov

Deadline: Contact Mr. Angarone with expressions of interest as soon as possible.

Resilient Coastal Communities Initiative Technical Assistance

Resource Type: Technical assistance from NJDEP and academic and non-profit partners to help communities prepare vulnerability assessments and increase their level of preparedness and resiliency to extreme events.

What is it? The NJ Resilient Coastal Communities Initiative (NJRCCI) is a voluntary program that provides communities in NJ's coastal zone with technical assistance, grants and other resources to enable communities to better assess and manage risks posed by current and projected coastal hazards. The NJRCCI provides resiliency and risk assessments, planning and technical assistance to coastal communities from an extensive network of partners available to assist them in recovering from Hurricane Sandy, improving community resilience and reducing future impacts from coastal hazards. The diverse and experienced project partners can customize resiliency strategies to individual community conditions and needs.

Contact: Nick Angarone, Planner, Division of Coastal & Land Use Planning, NJDEP, njczm@dep.nj.gov

Deadline: No deadline for requesting assistance.

Planning Assistance Grants Program

Resource Type: Municipal and county grants for long-term recovery planning and building resilience.

What is it? Grants are available to Sandy-impacted municipalities to address ongoing challenges, identify approaches to rebuilding that will be more resistant to damage from future events, and encourage economic growth. The program includes nine grant opportunities ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000. Towns must first complete a Strategic Recovery Planning Report with grant funds before they may apply for other categories. The grants are available to municipalities and counties within the nine most impacted federally designated disaster counties.*

For more information: <http://www.nj.gov/dca/services/lps/pspag.html>

Deadline: Rolling basis; first come, first served.

💰 Green Communities Grant Program

Resource Type: Municipal grants to plan and prepare for drought, forest fires, extreme heat and hazard tree management.

What is it? The NJ Department of Environmental Protection has increased the pool of available grants offered to support municipal tree and forest management. This program is particularly important for areas that are vulnerable to drought, forest fires and/or extreme heat. The Green Communities program offers \$3,000 matching grants to municipalities and their consultants for the preparation of a Community Forestry Management Plan. (The match may be satisfied by in-kind municipal/volunteers services.) Upon adoption of the Plan, communities are then eligible for up to \$12,000 in additional funding for implementation, particularly for hazard tree management and tree replacement. In addition, technical resource tools are available to help municipalities calculate a tree cover goal that maximizes co-benefits from trees in mitigating heat island and flash flood risks, promoting groundwater recharge, improving air quality and providing carbon sequestration.

For more information: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/community/grants-gcg.html>

Contact: Alec McCartney, alec.mccartney@dep.state.nj.us, 609-292-2532

Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

👤 “Getting To Resilience” Expert Facilitation Support

Resource Type: Technical assistance for assessing a community’s plans and policies for emergency preparedness and community resilience.

What is it? The Getting to Resilience (GTR) self-assessment tool is available online, and walks municipal officials through the various plans, ordinances and programs that will help them with emergency preparedness and resiliency. Expert facilitation support is available to assist municipalities in the self-assessment, and is provided at no cost by resiliency experts from the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve and the New Jersey Resiliency Network. Additionally, by completing the assessment, municipalities will find out how their preparedness plans and projects can be worth valuable points through FEMA’s Community Rating System and the Sustainable Jersey municipal certification program.

For more information: <http://www.prepareyourcommunitynj.org/>

Contact: Lisa Auermuller, Watershed Coordinator, the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve auernull@marine.rutgers.edu, 609-812-0649 ext. 204; or the NJ Resiliency Network, info@NJresiliency.com

Deadline: No deadline for requesting assistance.

** The nine most impacted federally designated counties are: Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Union.*

ABOUT US

The NJ Resiliency Network is a post-Sandy initiative that matches municipal recovery and resiliency needs with resources provided by government, private, non-profit and academic organizations. Direct assistance is available free of charge to coastal and tidal communities. Broad-base assistance, such as workshops, webinars and online tools, are available to all NJ communities upon request. The NJ Resiliency Network is facilitated by Sustainable Jersey at The College of New Jersey, 380 Forcina Hall, 2000 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ 08628.

