

Welcome to DEEP's Municipal News Bulletin, a place where you can find curated information relevant to local government and a way for DEEP to connect with our municipal partners.

No images? [Click here](#)



Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS & PLANNING



Municipal Bulletin

Welcome to DEEP's Municipal News Bulletin, a place where you can find curated information relevant to local government and a way for DEEP to connect with our municipal partners.

DEEP is also pleased to announce that it has created a new municipal liaison function coordinated by the Office of Innovative Partnerships and Planning (IPP) within the Commissioner's Office. IPP will serve as your point of contact, facilitating communication and awareness of municipal projects, funding opportunities, and regulatory information.

DEEP seeks meaningful feedback on our programs and an exchange of information that will result in greater understanding, participation, and success in environmental outcomes and for the people of Connecticut.

Please write to us at DEEP.Concierge@ct.gov if you have any questions as we build out this municipal

service. You've received this Bulletin because you've signed up for related lists. If you are interested in receiving further municipal information from DEEP, please [sign up here](#).



Funding Opportunities

Currently Open

Sustainable CT Community Match Fund is Offering a Summer Boost for Food Waste

Diversion Projects - Any food waste Community Match Fund project launched between **May 13** and **August 13, 2023**, will receive a \$1.50 match per \$1.00 raised through crowdfunding; to be eligible, projects must be located in a Sustainable CT registered town, be publicly accessible and have a clear public benefit, and align with Sustainable CT's mission of creating equitable, sustainable communities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund's Solar for All

Program – This program will use \$7 billion to fund residential distributed solar programs that serve low-income and disadvantaged communities nationwide; the deadline to submit a Notice of Intent is **July 31, 2023**, with full applications due **September 26, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

U.S. Department of Energy Announces \$125 million Recycling, Reprocessing, and Battery

Collection Funding Opportunity - This program will provide funding to support the recycling of consumer electronics batteries and battery-containing devices to help build a robust domestic critical material supply

chain for EV batteries in the United States; concept papers are due **August 17, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

New NOAA Competitive Grant Program to Invest in Collaborative Approaches to Coastal Resilience at Regional Scales Through the Climate

Resilience Regional Challenge - Approximately \$575 million in federal funding is available for projects that build the resilience of coastal communities to extreme weather and other impacts of climate change, including sea level rise and drought through regional collaborative building and strategy development projects or implementation of resilience and adaptation actions. Eligible entities include “counties, cities, or other political subdivisions of a coastal state” ([Climate Resilience Regional Challenge FAQ \(noaa.gov\)](#)). Letters of intent are due by **August 21, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

US DOT’s Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving

Transportation (PROTECT) Program has broad eligibility for all levels of government to apply for this grant under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The purpose of the PROTECT program is to plan for and strengthen surface transportation to be more resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters. PROTECT funds projects that address the climate crisis by improving the resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail. The closing date for applications is **August 18, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Long Island Sound Resilience Grant Writing Assistance Program Remains Open - With funding from US EPA through the Long Island Sound Study, New York Sea Grant and Connecticut Sea Grant announce a funding opportunity open to municipalities and community organizations to facilitate the hiring of grant preparation and writing support to assist with the development of a grant application for sustainable and resilience focused projects that will impact communities within or partially within the Long Island Sound Coastal boundary. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all funding has been allocated or until **September 30, 2023**.

[LEARN MORE](#)

CT DEEP is Currently Accepting Grant Applications for Two Land Programs - DEEP is accepting applications from municipalities, land trusts, and water companies for the next round of the competitive Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program and from targeted and distressed communities for the Urban Green and Community Garden Grant Program. The application deadline for both programs is **October 2, 2023**.

Learn More:

[OPEN SPACE AND WATERSHED AQUISITION](#)

[URBAN GREEN AND COMMUNITY GARDEN](#)

Second Round of Beverage Container Recycling Grant Awards in Urban Centers and Environmental Justice Communities

– These grants provide funding for new beverage container redemption centers that are located in communities that lack reliable and convenient access to beverage container redemption locations, with priority given to remaining, qualified round one applicants, first-time redemption center owners and those that are locally-

owned, minority-owned and women-owned, and applicants located in environmental justice communities and urban centers with a population greater than 25,000 that are currently not served by a redemption facility. **Grants will be made to priority areas on a rolling basis until October 31, 2023**, at which time any remaining grant funds will be awarded to other qualified applicants.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Funding Opportunities

Coming Soon

Energy Futures Grant Notice of Intent Released, Funding Opportunity Announcement Anticipated to be Released in Summer/Fall of 2023 - This grant will provide \$27 million in financial assistance and technical assistance to at least 50 multijurisdictional teams (ideally 3-4 or more state, local, and tribal government partners) that will partner with community benefit organizations to turn innovative (novel or early action) ideas into solutions that address barriers to clean energy deployment, provide measurable benefits to communities and support Justice 40.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The Urban and Community Forestry Program at CT DEEP is gearing up for its most robust menu of grant offerings ever! Funding for the Urban Forest Equity Grant Program and Urban and Community Forestry Planning Grant Program is anticipated to be announced this coming Fall. The Urban Forest Equity Grant will provide funding to increase equitable access to trees and the benefits they provide in [disadvantaged communities](#)

throughout Connecticut. The Urban Forestry Planning Grant will support planning projects such as tree inventories and management plans.

Contact Danica Doroski Danica.doroski@ct.gov for more information.

Next Round of EPA's Environmental Justice Grants, Funding and Technical Assistance

Anticipated in Fall of 2023 - The EPA offers several grant programs to provide funding for financial and technical assistance to carry out Environmental Justice activities to benefit underserved and overburdened communities, including the Environmental and Climate Justice Program, the Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Program, and the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program.

LEARN MORE

Healthy Communities Grant Program for New England Anticipated in Winter of 2024

The Healthy Communities Grant Program is EPA New England's main competitive grant program to work directly with communities to reduce environmental risks to protect and improve human health and the quality of life.

LEARN MORE

New Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund Coming to Build Capacity for Organizations in Communities Affected by Disproportionate Environmental and Human Health Risks

The Long Island Sound Community Impact Fund (LISCIF) is a partnership between Restore America's Estuaries, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Long Island Sound Study to provide technical assistance for organizations in historically underserved areas and support proposals which

ultimately improve access to the Long Island Sound, while reducing overall environmental health risks.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Events

July 17, 2023 Webinar – Introducing the Connecticut Environmental Justice Screening Tool - Join UCONN and CIRCA for a guided tour of the Connecticut Environmental Justice Screening Tool's interface, features, and datasets, which will equip policymakers, urban planners, environmental advocates, or those just interested in environmental justice with valuable knowledge on leveraging geospatial data for positive community impact.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

July 17, 2023 Watershed Academy Webinar – Addressing Nonpoint Source Pollution through EPA's National Nonpoint Source Program - Registration is now open for EPA's Watershed Academy webcast on the national nonpoint source program and the various ways this program helps restore water quality across the United States.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

July 24, 2023 9am Stakeholder Engagement Session on the new Draft Guidance for Siting Solar on Agricultural Lands from [STEPS](#) and potential bid preferences for agrivoltaics in the next Shared Clean Energy Facility Program procurement. Click [HERE](#) to register for this virtual public meeting. DEEP welcomes all comments and poses specific questions for consideration in the [Public Notice](#). Please send

comments to Deep.EnergyBureau@ct.gov with the subject line “Agrivoltaics Comments.”



Announcements

Governor Lamont announces \$8.8 million in funding from DEEP to support 21 climate resilience plans and project development grants for municipalities, COGs, and nonprofits around the state. Congratulations to the recipients of the inaugural round of DEEP’s Climate Resilience Fund.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Governor Lamont commits \$85 million in funding administered by DEEP to address flooding mitigation in north Hartford and sewage overflows in streets and basements, where residents have been chronically impacted.

[LEARN MORE](#)

DEEP announces \$1.6 million in beverage container recycling grant awards in urban centers and environmental justice communities. The grant program supports the establishment and expansion of beverage container redemption centers. Congratulations to the first round of award recipients in East Haven, Hartford, Manchester, New Britain, Vernon, West Haven, Woodstock, and Middletown.

[LEARN MORE](#)

US Treasury and IRS issue proposed guidance on elective pay and transferability mechanisms established under the Inflation Reduction Act for clean energy investments made by local governments.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Governor Lamont announces release of \$6 million in Volkswagen settlement funds to expand electric vehicle charging stations in Connecticut. Approximately \$1.8 million is being awarded for electric vehicle supply equipment deployment at state government sites to advance the sustainability goals of Governor Lamont's Executive Order No. 1, with an additional \$3.3 million awarded for municipal projects, ten of which are located in environmental justice communities.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford CT 06106-5127
Phone Number: 860-424-3000

You are receiving this email because you opted in to updates from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)