



Massachusetts Rivers Alliance  
Creating a Revenue Stream for Stormwater Management

## Massachusetts Stormwater Collaboratives (as of April 2016)

### **Buzzards Bay Stormwater Collaborative**

<http://stormwater.buzzardsbay.org/>

**Lead organization:** Buzzards Bay Action Committee (BBAC) <http://buzzardsbayaction.org> (with Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program)

**Contact:** Jeff Osuch, [josuch@buzzardsbayaction.org](mailto:josuch@buzzardsbayaction.org)

**Participating communities:** Dartmouth, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Mattapoisett, and Wareham (proposed expansion: Marion and Bourne)

**Description:** Focus is to map stormwater networks and monitor discharges contributing to shellfish bed and bathing beach closures and other water quality impairments. Involves a comprehensive stormwater GIS mapping and monitoring program by town staff and program staff & interns. Buzzards Bay NEP will maintain the GIS system. Includes a crowdsourcing component for photographs of stormwater discharges submitted by the public. Will seek funding for stormwater treatment design and construction for priority sites. Currently funded by 2015 \$200,000 EPA Healthy Communities Grant. Builds on previous Stormwater Mapping Collaborative funded by a 2005 CZM grant.

### **Central MA Regional Stormwater Collaborative**

<http://www.centralmastormwater.org>

**Lead organizations:** Town of Spencer (Adam Gaudette) and Town of Charlton (Robin Craver)

**Contact:** Robin Craver, [robin.craver@townofcharlton.net](mailto:robin.craver@townofcharlton.net)

**Participating communities:** Auburn, Boylston, Charlton, Dudley, Grafton, Hardwick, Holden, Hopkinton, Leicester, Millbury, Monson, Northbridge, Northborough, North Brookfield, Oxford, Palmer, Paxton, Rutland, Shrewsbury, Southbridge, Spencer, Sterling, Sturbridge, Upton, Uxbridge, Ware, Webster, Westborough, West Boylston, Wilbraham

**Description:** Formed in 2011 with funding from a MA Community Innovation Challenge Grant, and now including 30 communities. Working with engineering consultants Tata & Howard, Inc, Verdant Waters and other partners, the Collaborative has created or compiled a number of products and tools to help members meet MS4 permit requirements. These include staff training programs, a template for Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans, standard operating procedures for a variety of tasks (e.g., outfall inspection, catch basin cleaning, and mapping), an online mapping and inspection platform for infrastructure mapping, water quality tools, IDDE resources, stormwater bylaws, information on funding and educational information for residents, businesses and town staff. Shared equipment includes tablet devices, WiFi units, water quality monitoring kits, EnviroScape tables, and survey devices.

### **Connecticut River Stormwater Committee**

<http://www.pvpc.org/>

**Lead organization:** Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC)

**Contact:** Patty Gambarini, PVPC, [pgambarini@pvpc.org](mailto:pgambarini@pvpc.org)

**Participating communities:** Agawam, Chicopee, Easthampton, Granby, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Northampton, Southwick, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield

**Description:** PVPC coordinates a coalition under an MOU with 13 communities to promote education and outreach about stormwater. With the Mass Bay Estuary Association, made available *Think Blue* and *Greenscapes* educational campaigns. Conducting research on effective messaging on bacterial contamination (e.g. for pet waste). Promoted a local version of EPA's *Soak Up the Rain* campaign. Worked with City of Springfield to design and build rain gardens. Co-sponsored a Green Infrastructure workshop and vendors' fair with EPA ORD and the U. Mass. Water Resources Research Center. Collaborated with EPA on a Stormwater Financing workshop. Created a Pioneer Valley Green Infrastructure Plan and Toolkit.

### **Massachusetts Statewide Stormwater Coalition**

[http://www.centralmastormwater.org/pages/CRSC\\_Municipal/Statewide](http://www.centralmastormwater.org/pages/CRSC_Municipal/Statewide)

**Contact:** Robin Craver, [robin.craver@townofcharlton.net](mailto:robin.craver@townofcharlton.net)

**Description:** At a June 23, 2105 meeting coordinated by MassDEP, six groups agreed to create an informal coalition to share tools, manage costs, and improve inter-community and inter-watershed collaboration, with other groups expressing interest. Efforts are currently underway with MassDEP support to coordinate formation of a statewide stormwater coalition.

### **Merrimack Valley Stormwater Collaborative**

<http://www.merrimackvalleystormwater.org/>

**Lead organization:** Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC)

**Contact:** Joseph Cosgrove, MVPC, [jcosgrove@mvpc.org](mailto:jcosgrove@mvpc.org)

**Participating communities:** Amesbury, Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Haverhill, Lawrence, Merrimac, Methuen, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, West Newbury

**Description:** A collaborative of 15 communities which meets monthly to work on regional approaches to cost-effective stormwater management. Focus on collaboration in education and training, sharing of equipment and infrastructure management databases, joint procurements for catch basin cleaning and water quality kits, and standardization of policies and procedures. Provided training workshops for town staff on effective housekeeping and stormwater management practices. Compiling information on residential best practices for car care, fertilizer use, etc. Initial funding by a Community Innovation Challenge Grant.

### **Neponset Valley Regional Stormwater Collaborative**

<https://neponsetstormwater.org/>

**Lead organizations:** Neponset River Watershed Association, with Metropolitan Area Planning Council

**Contact:** Ian Cooke, NepRWA, [cooke@neponset.org](mailto:cooke@neponset.org)

**Participating communities:** Boston, Canton, Dedham, Foxboro, Medfield, Milton, Norwood, Sharon, Stoughton, Randolph, Walpole, Westwood

**Description:** Includes water suppliers and conservation agents. Funded by a 2014 Community Innovation Challenge Grant. Website provides resources and education for local businesses, industries and homeowners. Model Stormwater Management Plans for public outreach and public participation. GIS analysis of impervious area. Conducted analysis of stormwater bylaws in participating communities. Applied MAPC Financing Toolkit for 2 towns.

#### **New England Stormwater Collaborative**

<http://www.newwa.org/resources/utilityresources/newenglandstormwatercollaborative.aspx>

**Participating organizations:** New England Water Works Association (NEWWA), New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA), and American Public Works Association, New England Chapter

**Contact:** nestormwater@gmail.com

**Description:** Formed in 2013 to provide a forum for information and education exchange, and advocate for sound stormwater management practices. Partnership defined by an MOU; led by a Steering Board and working committee including members from the 3 organizations. Conducted a 2014 survey to determine municipal needs. Awards annual New England “Stormy” Awards honoring innovative municipal and collaborative stormwater programs.

#### **Northern Middlesex Stormwater Collaborative (NMSC)**

<http://www.nmstormwater.org/stormwater-collaborative>

**Lead organization:** Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG)

**Contact:** [info@nmstormwater.org](mailto:info@nmstormwater.org)

**Participating communities:** Billerica, Burlington, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Littleton, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, Westford, Wilmington

**Description:** Formed in 2013, including 13 communities, with an Advisory Board of members for each community that meets bi-monthly. Resources include guidebooks, model and example bylaws and regulations, public education materials, EnviroScape table, public service announcements, and education materials and resources for municipalities, educators, residents, businesses and youth. Provides regionalization of stormwater mapping activities and planned regional procurement. Also provides assistance with reporting requirements and grant writing. Funded by two Community Innovation Challenge Grants.

#### **Southeastern Massachusetts Stormwater Collaborative (SEMSWC)**

<http://www.semastormwater.org>

**Lead organization:** Southeastern Regional Services Group

**Contact:** Moira Rouse, Regional Administrator

**Participating communities:** Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, Canton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Foxborough, Lakeville, Mansfield, Middleborough, Norfolk, North Attleborough, Norton, Plainville, Raynham, Sharon, Stoughton, Taunton, West Bridgewater, Wrentham.

**Description:** Formed in 2014 with funding from a Community Innovation Challenge Grant. Designed to achieve efficiencies and cost savings through collaborative municipal staff education and training; a common website for information exchange, education and outreach; and an RFP for general consulting services (catch basin cleaning, mapping and water quality monitoring). Training on IDDE and Good Housekeeping for town staff.