



RI Climate Resilience Update

EC4 – November 2024



Rhode Island Climate Resilience

Statewide Collaboration

1. Planning

- Statewide Planning: *Resilient Rhody 2.0* – 2024 State of Resilience Report, 2025 Statewide Coastal Resilience Plan
- Local Planning: MRP Community Resilience Building Workshops, Municipal Annual Resilience Updates

2. Implementation

- Resilience Technical Assistance (Project Scoping, Policy Development, Design & Engineering)
- State + Federal Resilience Grants

3. Capacity Building & Partnerships

- Resilience EC4 Subgroup
- RI Resilience Partner Group
- State Resilience Office (Regional Resilience Coordinators) – Three (3) Regional Coordinators

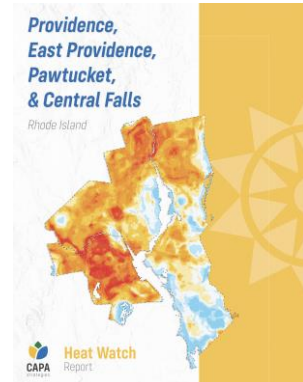
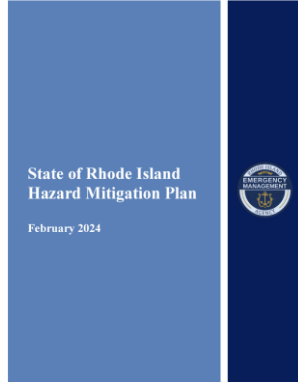
4. Transparency & Information Sharing

- Resilience Web Resources
- Annual *Rhode Island Resilience Summit*

Rhode Island Climate Resilience

Across Agencies & Partners

Statewide Plans



Local Planning

- MRP Community Resilience Building
- Local Comprehensive Plans
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Health Equity Zones

Data & Mapping



Rhode Island STORMTOOLS

Rhode Island Coastal Hazards, Analysis, Modeling & Prediction
RI-CHAMP

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program
GIS Data Hub

SLAMM (Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model) Maps

URI Environmental Data Center and RIGIS
Environmental Data Center



Project Scoping & Technical Assistance

- Coastal Hazards Application
- Designing for Resilience
- Microgrid Municipal Technical Assistance
- Municipal Ordinance Assistance

State of Resilience Report 2024

EO 23-07

Providing a snapshot of our current climate resilience efforts statewide.

Structure:

- **Collaborators & Introductory Letter**
- **Definitions, Goals, & Structure**
- RI Climate **Resilience Data Snapshot** (STAB Approved)
- RI Resilience **Standards & Permitting Requirements Snapshot**
- RI Resilience **Successes (Current Metrics) Snapshot**
- **Statewide Resilience Initiatives** (Government & Non-Governmental Planning, Outreach & Engagement, Technical Assistance, and Grant Programs)
- **Resilient Rhody 1.0 Goal Progress** Summary
- **Municipal Resilience Actions Summary** (Key Needs & Accomplishments)
- **Next Steps:** Overview of State Climate Resilience Plan 2025 Process & Deliverable

Statewide Coastal Resilience Plan 2025

R.I. Gen. Laws § 46-23.4-1 - Act on Coasts

Setting new goals, surveying our vulnerabilities, and determining our best practices for future investment.

Proposed Components:

- **Gap Analysis & 2025 State Resilience Goals** (Revised from *Resilient Rhody* 2018)
- **Assessment of Statewide Climate Change Vulnerabilities**
 - Utilization of federal & state resilience data to assess vulnerability of each of the infrastructural, economic, environmental, and societal asset types considered in *Resilient Rhody* 2018 (which encompasses and expands upon those named in Act on Coasts)
 - Climate impacts determined in *Resilient Rhody* will be considered (sea level rise, storm surge, intense precipitation, warming air & water temps, & changing biodiversity)
 - For each asset type, the analysis will consider short, medium, and long term scenarios (2035, 2050, and 2100)
- **RI Climate Resilience Best Practices**
- **Review of Funding/Financing Options & National Resources**
- **Municipal Resilience Priority Actions**

Statewide Resilience Collaboration

Who?

State Stakeholders:
Resilience EC4
Subgroup



RI Resilience
Partners: Non-Profits,
Universities,
Community Based
Orgs



Local Stakeholders:
Municipalities,
Communities, and
Businesses

What?

RI Resilience
Initiatives: Planning,
Grants, Assistance



RI Resilience
Standards &
Guidance



RI Resilience Goals &
Metrics for Success

Outcomes this will inform?

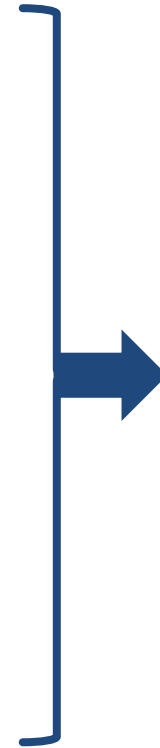
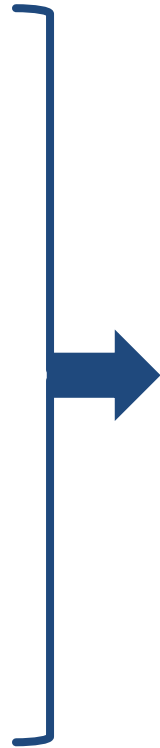
RI Climate Change
Website – Resilience
Resource + Action
Update (Winter 2024)



2024 State of
Resilience Report
(Winter 2024)



2025 Statewide
Coastal Resilience
Plan
(Winter 2025)



State Resilience Funding

Municipal Resilience Program Action Grants & Climate Resilience Fund Grants

- **Eligible Projects:**
Removal/Redesign/Relocation of vulnerable infrastructure, Green Infrastructure & Nature-Based Solutions
- **MRP Funds Available: \$10mm approved** through 2024 State Green Bond
- **CRF Fund Available: \$2mm approved** through 2024 State Green Bond
- **25% match** required



Upcoming Updates

NFWF National Coastal Resilience Fund

In June, RIDEM a proposal for **\$10 million in essential, locally-prioritized, and ready-to-proceed municipal climate resilience projects** statewide, spanning 10 municipalities.

- The proposed projects were awarded design funding through Municipal Resilience Program Action Grants and/or have completed design. The award would support **restoration implementation / construction**.
- Projects **address flooding & erosion concerns** in our coastal and riverine systems through Marsh/Wetland Restoration, Dune Restoration, Green Infrastructure, and Aquatic Connectivity.
- Anticipated to hear **November 2024**

Regional Resilience Coordinators

Early 2025 (Jan/Feb), RIDEM will be hiring on **3 Regional Resilience Coordinators** to support local municipalities on climate resilience grants and project management.

- DEM will be hiring **a coastal, an urban, and an inland position**.
- Aquidneck Island will receive coordination support through Aquidneck Land Trust.
- Municipalities will be engaged in the decision-making process through open house Q&As with finalist candidates.

Contact Information

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