

RI Climate Change Dashboard

Natural & Working Lands Module



Rhode Island Climate Change Dashboard

RIEC⁴

Rhode Island is working to combat climate change on many fronts, and this dashboard is designed to highlight some key metrics. Explore different initiatives and actions being taken: **start by clicking on the images below.**



Clean Energy



**Energy Efficiency
& Buildings**



**Health, Justice
& Resilience**



Clean Transportation



Reduced Emissions



Green Jobs




STATE OF RHODE ISLAND


Climate Change

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RI Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) 

Act on Climate 

Resources 

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RI Climate Dashboard

Clean Energy in Rhode Island

Clean Energy Portfolio

Renewable Energy Certificates

Renewable Energy Certificates

Renewable Electricity Procurement

Clean Energy in Rhode Island: Status and Programs



Did You Know?

Energy efficiency is using less energy to provide the same service (for example, purchasing a more efficient heating system)

NWL Section Pages

- Natural & Working Lands (Intro)
- Forests
- Urban Trees
- *Wetlands (future iteration)*
- *Farms (future iteration)*

Did You Know?

Energy efficiency is using less energy to provide the same service (for example, purchasing a more efficient heating system). Renewable energy uses a clean energy source like wind or solar (one that is not fossil fuel-based). It is best to ensure your home or business is as efficient as possible before figuring out how much renewable energy is needed.

Rhode Island has set ambitious renewable energy goals and is home to the first offshore wind farm in the country. Our renewable energy programs offer homeowners, renters, businesses, and municipalities a variety of opportunities to enjoy the benefits of diverse clean technologies.



In This Section →

1. RI Clean Energy Portfolio
2. Renewable Energy Certificates
3. Renewable Electricity Procurement

Use navigation boxes above to explore the data.

Why It Matters

A 400MW offshore wind farm can produce approximately one-quarter of all the electricity used by Rhode Islanders annually – **without contributing to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions.**

Transitioning Rhode Island to a clean energy economy and meeting the goals of the Act on Climate will enhance economic growth and the health and well-being of all Rhode Islanders.

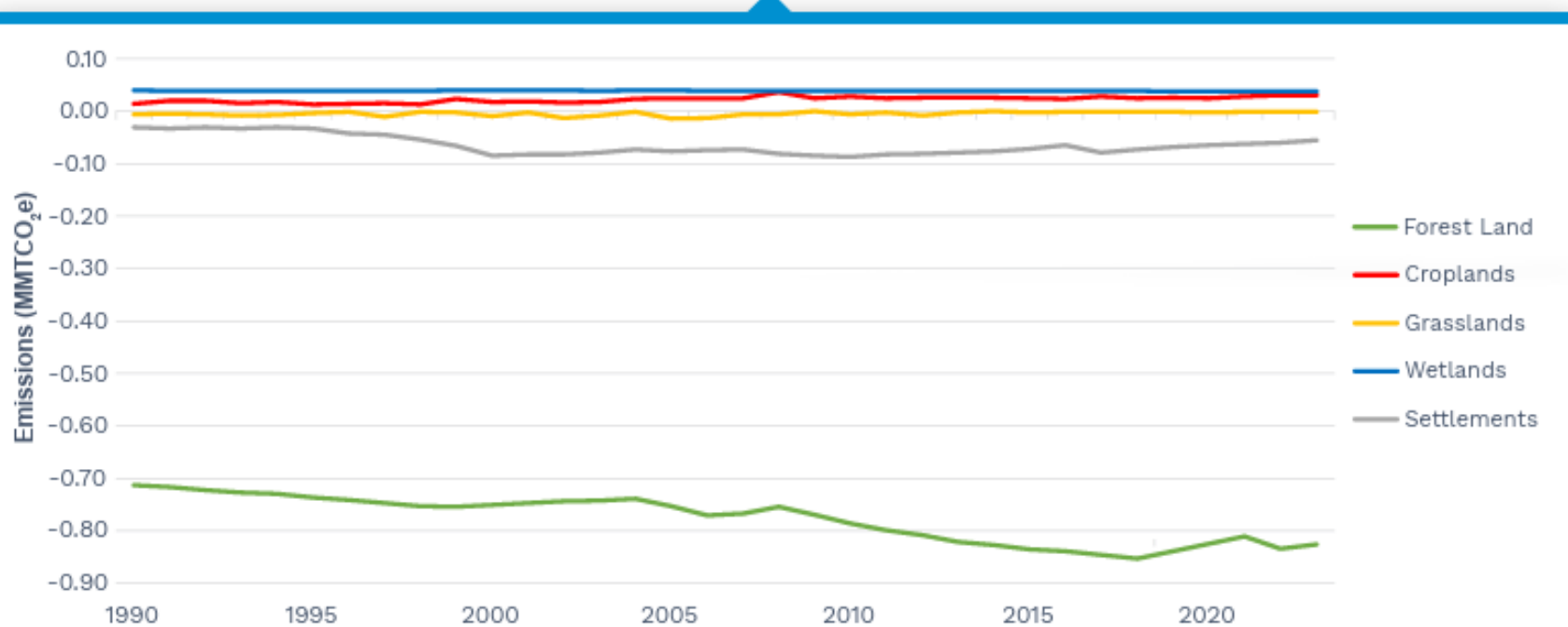
[Learn More about Renewable Energy in Rhode Island](#)

[← Return to Main Page](#)

Natural and Working Lands (Intro)

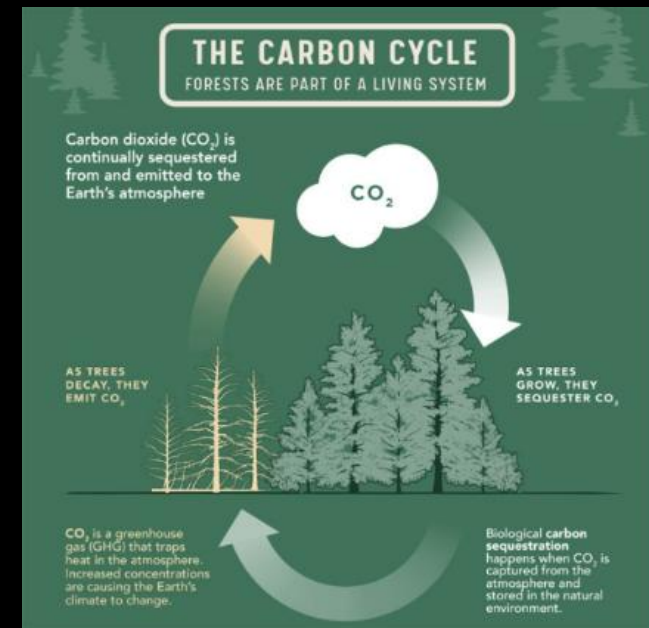
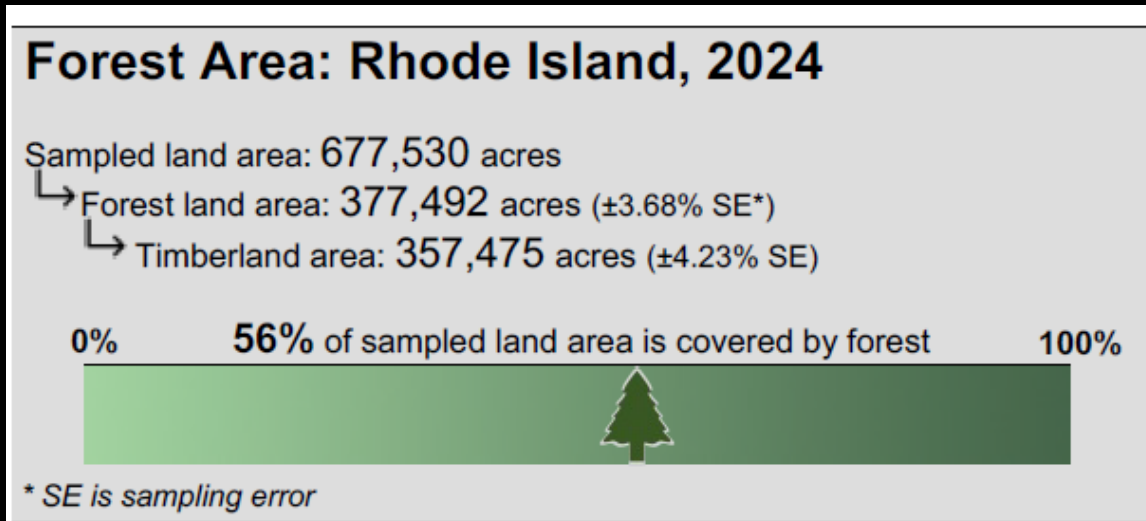
- Natural ecosystems are both sources and sinks of emissions.
- NWL offset 7.9% of the state's GHG emissions in 2023.
- RI's carbon sink is forests and urban trees.
- Act on Climate emissions reduction mandates and net measurement.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND REMOVALS FROM NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS



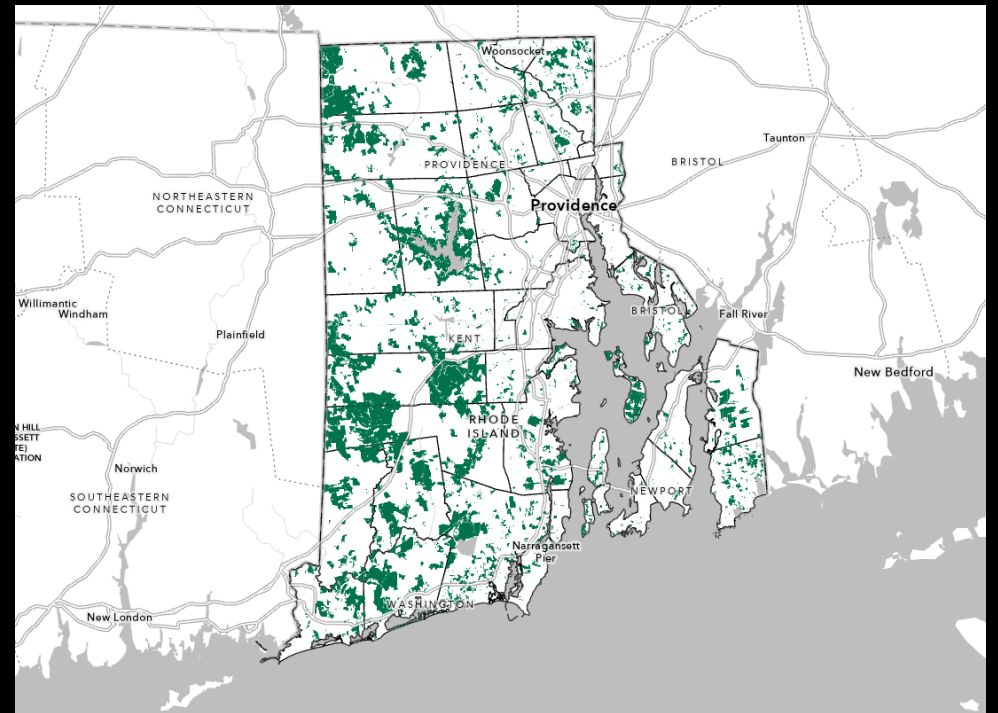
Forests

- 56% of Rhode Island is forested.
- As trees grow, they capture carbon dioxide.
- As trees die, they release carbon dioxide



Forests (con't)

- 124,000 acres of RI forest permanently protected.
- DEM and partners manage forests to maintain resilient ecosystems.
- Prescribed burns to reduce wildfire risk, selective thinning to mitigate pest outbreaks.



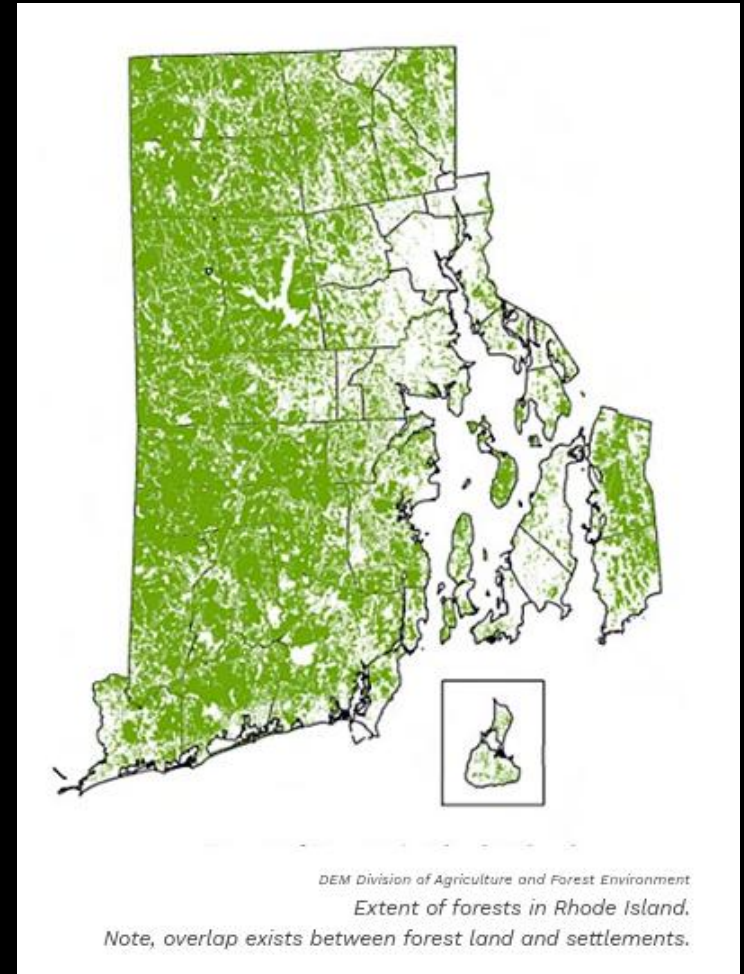
Forests

- Legislation protecting core forests from renewable energy infrastructure development.



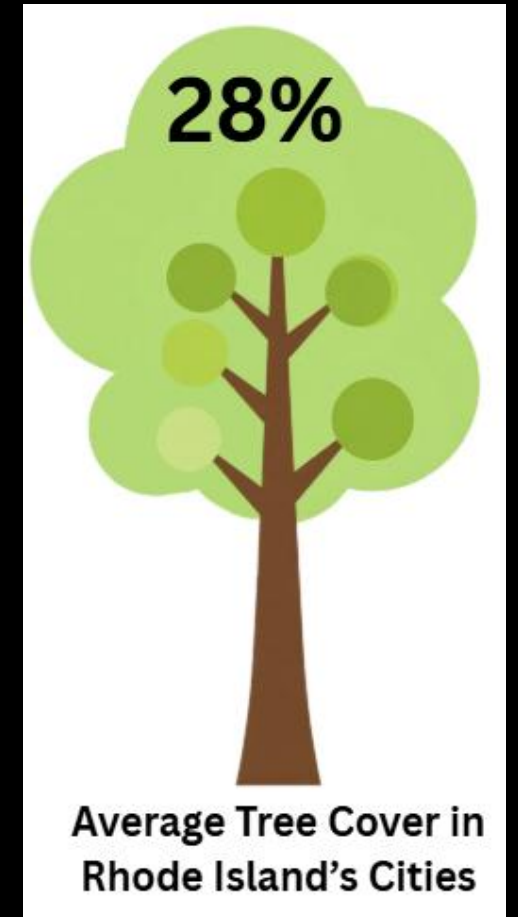
Forests (con't)

- Forests are RI's largest carbon sink.
- Absorbed emissions equivalent of 420,000 passenger vehicles in 2023.



Urban Trees

- RIDEM's UCF program supports sustainable management of urban forests.
- Since 2020, \$300k has been distributed across all 39 municipalities.
- Average tree canopy cover in RI city = 28%



Urban Trees (con't)

- Urban trees provide substantial carbon sequestration in RI.
- Urban trees also contribute to climate resilience.