



# Ensuring Enough Water for All

Increasing population and development, combined with the effects of climate change, raises the concern that we could run out of clean, fresh water necessary to sustain natural resources, including fish and wildlife, business, recreation, and development for centuries to come. Watershed associations work hard in their communities to ensure there is **enough water for people, fish, wildlife, and the environment**.

## Success Stories

- Earned a MassDEP Water Management Act grant to support a rebate program to incentivize installation of water efficient fixtures in four partner towns (NepRWA).
- Championed an outdoor irrigation restriction bylaw that resulted in the saving of 300,000 gallons per day in Scituate and allowed streamflow releases from reservoirs (NSRWA).
- Influenced decisions on locations of new community wells; encouraged the consideration of impact on water levels in ponds through commentary at Board of Selectmen and other meetings; helped form the new Water Conservation Committee (HPWA).
- Helped implement Kingston bylaws to conserve water; influenced decision to locate sewer treatment plant in aquifer recharge area rather than losing fresh water to Kingston Bay, pushed to re-establish the Central Plymouth County Water District Commission to improve regional management of resources (JRWA).
- Provide leadership and expertise to towns on water supply management, infrastructure improvements that restore streamflow, conservation measures, recharge, improved regulatory standards, and more (all).
- Advocated for improved NPDES MS4 permit structure (JRWA, NepRWA, NSRWA, STB, BCWC).

## What Can Legislators Do?

The Watershed Action Alliance of Southeastern Massachusetts greatly appreciates your efforts to protect water resources in your district, and we want to help you! Our 14 member organizations are very knowledgeable about the environmental issues in your region, and we have subject matter expertise that we want to share with you. With our long histories of environmental success and our extensive local partnerships, we are uniquely positioned to help your constituents by efficiently using and leveraging the Commonwealth's financial investment in environmental protection. Please consider supporting WAA's Top Five legislative priorities for FY23:

1. Prioritizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund investment in water infrastructure and climate resiliency projects.
2. Making non-profit organizations eligible for climate resiliency funding through the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program (Energy and Environmental Affairs).
3. Supporting H.2198 An Act relative to the preservation of water resources in Chapter 40B applications.
4. Supporting H.898/S.530 An Act relative to maintaining adequate water supplies through effective drought management.
5. Supporting the Green Budget FY23, including line items for DCR, DER, DEP, EEA, and MVP program.