



# **EPA REGION 1 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE END-OF-YEAR REPORT**



**FISCAL YEAR 2017**

**OCT•1•2016 - SEP•30•2017**

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# OPENING STATEMENT

**Date: May 30, 2018**

Dear New England Community,

The Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (OCRUA) and Regional Environmental Justice (EJ) Council are pleased to provide you with a copy of our fiscal year 2017 environmental justice (EJ) highlights. The work described in the attached “Region I Environmental Justice End-of-Year Report,” represents only a portion of the significant work performed successfully by staff in support of our statutory mission, of protecting human health and to safeguard the natural environment - air, water, and land.

OCRUA and the EJ Council administer the Region’s environmental justice program. By definition, environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

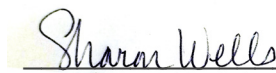
**Fair treatment** means that no group of people, including any racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic group, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

**Meaningful involvement** means that: (1) potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; (2) the public’s contribution can influence the regulatory agency’s decision; (3) the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision making process; and (4) the decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected.

Region 1 has and will continue to commit resources and advocate for the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people. Moreover, we will continue to strive to reduce overall pollution that may disproportionately impact communities with environmental justice concerns.



**Alexandra Dapolito Dunn**  
Regional Administrator



**Sharon Wells, Director**  
Office of Civil Rights & Urban Affairs

[www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice](http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice)

## **Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs**

Sharon Wells, Director, Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (OCRUA)

Deborah Brown, Special Assistant, Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs

Gevon Solomon, Environmental Justice Specialist

Brenda Escobar, Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist

Marelyn Vega, Environmental Justice Assistant

## **EJ Council Members**

Johanna Hunter, Office of Environmental Measurement & Evaluation (OEME)

Nancy Barmakian, Office of Site Remediation & Restoration (OSRR)

Hoshaiah Barczynski, OSRR

Sebastian Rodriguez, OSRR

Lynne Hamjian Office of Ecosystem Protection (OEP)

Stacey Johnson-Pridgeon, OEP

Doug Gutro, Office of Regional Administrator (ORA)

Marilyn St. Fleur, ORA

Kathleen Nagle, ORA

Sheryl Rosner, ORA

Karen McGuire, Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES)

James Chow, OES

Fred Weeks, Office of Administrative Resource Management (OARM)

Julie Ross, OARM

Tim Williamson, Office of Regional Council (ORC)

# NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Over the next four years, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will advance environmental justice to a new level and make a more visible difference in the environmental and public health outcomes for all people in the nation. Strengthening our collaborations with the communities we serve, our governmental partners and interested stakeholders will be key to achieving this vision.

Region 1 has been deeply engaged in executing EPA's national priorities through all of its offices and programs. Region 1 has worked to build and sustain an excellent EJ program and a quality workforce that reflects the social, cultural, and racial diversity of the communities we serve. Throughout this report, Region 1 has outlined some of our highlights consistent with National priorities. In FY2018, we will build on past work to achieve new priorities and themes. Below is an outline of EPA's National priority areas.

## National Priority Areas

### Core Mission

- Improving Air Quality
- Providing for Clean and Safe Water
- Revitalizing Land
- Preventing Contamination

### Cooperative Federalism

- Enhance Shared Accountability
- Increase Transparency & Public Participation

### Rule of Law & Process

- Compliance with the Law
- Create Consistency & Certainty
- Prioritize Robust Science
- Streamline & Modernize
- Improve Efficiency & Effectiveness

# STATE PARTNERSHIPS

Cooperative federalization is a standard practice for Region 1 when working with and alongside our state partners. Region 1 works closely with the New England states to make them aware of the national and regional policies and initiatives. These efforts include, but are not limited to in person meetings and sending the states updates during plan development through to finalization.

In the past, Region 1 has provided [EJSCREEN](#) training to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and held conference calls with other state offices.

To further demonstrate Region 1's effort in working with our New England State partners, OCRUA and OEP worked with states on the inclusion of comprehensive EJ language into the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP), Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP), MADEP, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM), and Vermont Department of Conservation (VTDEC) Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs). These are the first nationally with such comprehensive EJ PPA language and represents a major shift from the three sentence EJ summary located in the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) sections of the Region's PPAs. Note, the inclusion of this language is purely voluntary and it is not an express Performance Partnership Grant term and condition. The EJ PPA language is consistent with the goals of EPA's national priorities and Executive Order 12898. Moreover, the EJ PPA language will help the Region to reflect the jointly developed goals and priorities and translate them into voluntary plans at the operational level. Establishing EJ elements into the PPA is critical to better improving the health, welfare and environment of all persons. The PPA reflects the jointly developed EJ goals and priorities of the states and Region 1. The comprehensive EJ PPA language is located in the cross-media section of the PPA.



# HIGHLIGHTS BY DEPARTMENT

## Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs

EPA Region 1's Office of Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (OCRUA) is responsible for implementing the Region's EJ planning and supporting the EJ Council. Some highlights for FY 2017 include supporting national priorities, which will build on the foundation established by EPA's previous environmental justice priorities. Region I instated the first significant language in PPAs for all six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont). In addition, Region 1 finalized language for a University-wide MOU with the University of Massachusetts at Boston (UMASS Boston) to establish a basic framework for a relationship to promote urban water restoration and monitoring on the Mystic River, water quality awareness, scientific research, and marine and environmental education. Other Region 1 offices also have contributed significantly to the Region's EJ programming.

## Office of Environmental Measurement and Evaluation

The Office of Environmental Measurement and Evaluation (OEME) supports almost all facets of scientific work performed by the Region. In addition, OEME supports Citizen Science by helping community based groups monitor streams, rivers and beaches; providing tools for communities to track sources of illicit discharges; and introducing students to environmental protection and environmental careers. Notable OEME EJ highlights for FY 2017 include: air and water monitoring in EJ areas; Citizen Science; participating at educational events for students; supporting four New England tribes; and assisting with clean-ups.

Other projects include:

- New England Lakes and Ponds (NELP)
- EPA New England Volunteer Monitoring Equipment Loan Program
- Charles River Water Quality Monitoring
- New England Wadeable Streams (NEWS)  
Lead Safe Yards

## Office of Site Remediation and Restoration

The Office of Site Remediation and Restoration (OSRR) continues a robust EJ commitment. OSRR conducted 138 Brownfields Site Assessments in FY 2017. Overall, all aspects of OSRR's work showed increases in work performed in disadvantaged communities. Whether one is looking at OSRR's overall brownfields activities, its Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures compliance and enforcement work, its Resource Conservation and Recovery Act corrective action work, its Underground Storage Tanks enforcement or its Polychlorinated Biphenyl clean ups, the Region has a dynamic outcome focused remediation and restoration program that protects human health and the environment and promotes economic vitality in diverse communities.



## Office of Ecosystem Protection

The Office of Ecosystem Protection (OEP) maintains an extensive and elaborate EJ commitment as demonstrated by a sampling of projects outlined in this report. Many programs in OEP continue to work to integrate environmental justice actions and activities into their daily work. OEP Managers regularly come together as part of their weekly managers' meeting to discuss these EJ efforts and also plans for the future. The Deputy Director attends sessions with the EJ Council and brings that information back to OEP as needed to coordinate with ongoing efforts.

## Office of Environmental Stewardship

The Office of Environmental Stewardship (OES) focuses significant resources on EJ goals in both its enforcement and assistance work. For enforcement in FY 2017, approximately 19% of inspections, 17% of administrative orders, 27% of administrative complaints, 33% of cases referred to the U.S. Department of Justice, 32% of final administrative settlements, and 18% of entered judicial Consent Decrees concerned violations in EJ areas. Over half the pollutants reduced or eliminated as a result of enforcement actions were in EJ areas. The dollar value of work in EJ areas required by these cases is about \$117 million. With regard to assistance and pollution prevention, OES considers environmental justice opportunities when deciding where in New England to offer technical assistance and outreach to businesses, institutions, partners and the public. Whenever possible, they target assistance to communities with significant environmental burdens. OES offer a variety of types of assistance focusing on pollution prevention/ source reduction, toxics use reduction, reducing and diverting food waste, stormwater management, and multimedia compliance assistance. OES offers direct assistance, and they also award grants to New England states and other community organizations and institutions to achieve the agency's assistance and outreach goals.

## Office of Administration and Resources Management

The Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM) focuses significant resources on environmental justice goals in both its economic development and resiliency planning work. In previous years, OARM donated 204 units of IT equipment worth approximately \$20,000 to various entities serving environmental justice communities located in the Randolph, Massachusetts and Bridgeport, Connecticut. The types of equipment donated included laptops, CPUs, monitors, printers, and keyboards.

Small Business (SB) Contracting Training Event (Roxbury, MA): OARM participated in a Small Business Administration (SBA) sponsored event in Roxbury, MA to help SBs learn about contracting resources available. An EPA presentation focused on use of the Federal Government Procurement Data System Next Generation (FPDS-NG) as a tool to do contracting market research, analysis, and opportunity identification.

SBA Contracting Chat: OARM has participated in a SBA sponsored small businesses teleconference chat designed to help SBs learn about government contracting opportunities. While outreach was primarily conducted on the SBA website, they provided special emphasis on reaching out to SBs in the Lawrence, MA area by using SBA's small business dynamic business search to identify certified Lawrence Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) and then sending them an email to invite them to participate and increase their awareness of SBA.

Connecticut (CT) Disparity Study Support: The OARM SB Coordinator assisted CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) in their efforts to provide feedback for a disparity study being conducted for the first time in over 30 years in CT by the Connecticut Academy of Scientist and Engineers. In particular, during several meetings OARM helped DEEP officials identify and frame certification issues they face in identifying available certified DBE.

The OARM SB Coordinator conducted planning with the Metropolitan District (MDC) in Hartford CT and identified some approaches to help Hartford CT area small businesses address the need for resiliency to support their contracting efforts with CT MDC and other organizations. The goal was to help small businesses to recover from a negative event and preparing before such an event occurs so as not to adversely impact a firm's ability to remain successful. Accordingly, resiliency was planned to be addressed in several MDC outreach activities in FY2017 with EPA involvement.

# OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Like most offices, OCRUA has had a robust year. The following describes some of its highlights.

## Performance Partnership Agreements

Performance partnerships are designed to take best advantage of the unique capacities of each partner and achieve the greatest environmental results. Region I is the first EPA region to expand the scope of the PPA language to include environmental justice as part of all six New England states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) in order to better promote joint planning and priority setting based on information about environmental conditions and program needs; use a balanced mix of environmental indicators and traditional activity measures for managing programs and measuring results; focus on key environmental justice areas critical in a particular state, and improve public understanding of environmental conditions and engagement in protection efforts.

## Pop Up Market

Often, EPA works with EJ communities to address environmental and public health concerns by facilitating discussions and helping the community and area stakeholders identify plans to work towards solutions. One example of this effort is OCRUA's work with the Bridgeport East End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone to address the East End's designation as a food desert and establish a community grocery store in the

neighborhood. The Region is working with numerous community organizations to open the Bridgeport East End Pop Up Market. The Pop Up Market will sell locally sourced, quality food residents want at an affordable price. The Market will be a place where you can purchase essential foods in a pleasing environment. It will be a safe space where you can shop, drink a cup of coffee, or meet and talk with friends and neighbors. The Pop Up Market will also be a place where the community could receive interesting and helpful health information and artists can showcase their work. This community-run grocery store would not be possible without the effort of the East End community. The anticipated grand opening of the East End Pop Up Market will be June 19, 2018.

**The Space** The East End Pop Up Market is located at 1841 Stratford Avenue and will be a warm, inviting space that addresses the needs of the community. It is approximately 900 square feet. The space was made possible through a generous two-year donation from Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust.

**Jobs** The Pop Up Market will be a place focused on uplifting the East End community through community education and job training. They will be hiring a manager in January, and in the future will hire more staff from the community. Interested applicants can visit the Facebook page for the application and instructions.

## EJ Funding Awards

In 2017, Region 1 awarded three \$30,000 Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) awards to the Childhood Lead Action Project, Groundwork Rhode Island, and New Haven Urban Resources Initiatives. The EJSG program provided funding to support projects that address local environmental and public health issues within communities facing environmental justice concerns. Project descriptions for FY 2017 include:



**Rhode Island** - Childhood Lead Action Project's *The Lead-Safe Blackstone Valley* initiative will work in three of Rhode Island's high risk communities to reduce the incidence of childhood lead poisoning, improve the safety of rental housing, and increase the capacity of Central Falls, Pawtucket, and Woonsocket residents to address lead issues. Project activities include promoting effective lead prevention practices, developing Lead 101 and worker safety trainings, and providing training and technical assistance. These cities have a very high incidence of lead poisoning and are home to substantial low-income/minority populations.



**Rhode Island** - Central Falls, RI suffers from localized flooding along with little greenspace and tree cover. To address this, Groundwork Rhode Island proposes to work closely with Central Falls High School to develop a youth-based environmental program focused on stormwater management, green infrastructure, public green space, trees, and solid waste disposal. Students will receive training from a Landscape Architect, Urban Planner, and related professionals on design, master planning, and urban sustainability. Students will conduct outreach to Central Falls residents and, based on community input, will design a Community Greening Plan to include three green infrastructure demonstration projects.



**Connecticut** - New Haven Urban Resources Initiative's GreenSkills program will address local air and water quality issues in New Haven through an integrated strategy of maintaining bioswales, planting street trees, and stewarding community parks; while also providing green job training for approximately 38 local residents. Bioswales are landscape designs that remove silt and pollution from surface water runoff, and tree plantings will be targeted for low tree canopy areas in underserved neighborhoods. The New Haven area suffers from both water and air pollution due to combined sewer overflows and high levels of particulate matter in the air. Proposed project activities include: 1) planting 500 street trees, 2) engaging 300 local residents as tree stewards, and 3) maintaining 20 bioswales.

## EJSCREEN

The Region continues to provide [EJSCREEN](#) training to public and private entities. The goal is for groups to be able to use the tool to better inform environmental decision-making.

## University of Massachusetts Boston (UMASS Boston) Memorandum of Understanding

EPA and UMASS Boston entered into a MOU in October 2016. OCRUA recognized about five years ago that it could do more to increase its participation with Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) in New England and at Historic Black Colleges and Universities. The principal collaboration mechanism has been through recruiting and training. OCRUA and the Lab have invested resources to also reach young people who will likely attend a MSI like Bunker Hill Community College, Roxbury Community College or UMASS Boston. In 2010 EPA Region I entered into a program specific MOU with UMass Boston to establish a basic framework for a relationship to promote urban water restoration and monitoring on the Mystic River, water quality awareness, scientific research, and marine and environmental education. Over the past two years, Region I's OCRUA has been working closely with UMASS Boston's placement office, Dean of the Environmental Program and the diversity STEM Program Director. Last year alone, Region I has participated in four recruiting events at UMASS Boston, and met with well over 100 students, faculty and administrators. UMASS Boston students are showing up more at the interview stage and some have been hired recently. The MOU is consistent with other MOUs negotiated by HQ and other Regions. It focuses on creating a range of partnerships like recruiting, EPA guest lecturing at UMASS Boston, equipment donations, faculty/EPA collaborations and making the School more aware of funding opportunities.

## Environmental Education

### Upward Bound

In July of 2017, OCRUA worked with OEP to coordinate opportunities for two students from Boston University's Upward Bound Math and Science Program to shadow EPA staff as an opportunity to learn about some of the ongoing environmental work conducted across New England. The environmental education and interactive field trips included:

- A tour of the Belle Isle Marsh with EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation that focused on learning about marsh regulation, protection, and restoration. Students also met with the Marsh Manager, Sean Riley.
- A groundwater field trip to Falmouth, MA to tour several sites related to nitrogen pollution in groundwater, where students had the opportunity to trace groundwater and nitrogen through a watershed from upland recharge areas to discharge into a coastal embayment. The Upward Bound students learned about coastal eutrophication, the environmental problems caused by excess nutrients, how EPA measures and test groundwater, and what is being done to control nutrient pollution on Cape Cod. They were able to measure pH, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity alongside the research scientists in the field.
- A Massachusetts Water Resource Authority tour of the Deer Island Sewage Treatment Plant, where the students learned how wastewater is managed in the greater Boston area.

### Title VI Review with MassDEP

Region I, EPA's Office of Civil Rights, Office of General Counsel and MassDEP began discussions in order for MassDEP to produce a [Title VI](#) plan, including a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) plan. Title VI prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance (e.g., states, universities, local governments) from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin in their programs or activities. MassDEP wanted to focus on a robust complaint process. MassDEP is the first state program in Region 1 to participate in OCR's Title VI outreach program.



# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION



Monitoring at Van Hillern St. (Dorchester, MA)



Interstate 84 (Hartford, CT)



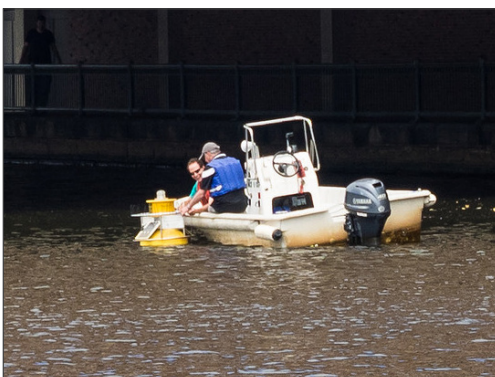
Interstate 95 (Downtown Providence, RI)

The Office of Environmental Measurement and Evaluation (OEME) provides state-of-the-art monitoring, environmental sample analysis, evaluation, and technical expertise to Region I staff working on EJ issues. The office develops its own programming, especially partnerships with federally recognized tribes, community groups, and NGOs providing youth programming. OEME supports most facets of scientific work performed by the Region. In addition, OEME supports Citizen Science by helping community based groups monitor streams, rivers and beaches; by providing tools for communities to track sources of illicit discharges; and by introducing students to environmental protection. Notable EJ highlights of FY 2017 include: air and water monitoring in EJ areas, Citizen Science, educational events for students, support for tribes, and assistance with Brownfields clean-up efforts.

## Air Monitoring: Near Road Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) Air Monitors

To determine compliance with the 2010 NO<sub>2</sub>, EPA established new ambient air monitoring and reporting requirements for NO<sub>2</sub>, including monitors near major roads in urban areas (based on population), as well as in other locations where maximum concentrations are expected. This monitoring network collects data that are compared to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for NO<sub>2</sub>. The first three sites in New England operating are all located in EJ areas: 1) Hartford, CT, 2) Von Hillern St., immediately off the southeast expressway in Dorchester, MA, and 3) downtown Providence, RI. These sites are measuring a variety of pollutants including CO, NO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> using a BAM, black carbon with an aethalometer, indoor/outdoor temperature, and wind speed and direction. A second site is required in the Boston area and is now installed near the Rte. 3/495 intersection in Lowell/Chelmsford, just north on I-495.

In addition to the four population-based sites described above, EPA required Regional Administrators to identify an additional 40 monitors that would be located in areas representing susceptible and vulnerable (S/V) populations, where these populations are exposed to NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations that could cause the local population to be at risk (due to emissions from motor vehicles, point sources, or area sources). Region 1 has four of these S/V sites located at Criscuolo Park in New Haven, CT; Dudley Square Roxbury in Boston, MA; Kenmore Square in Boston, MA; and the Liberty Street Parking Lot in Springfield, MA.



EPA staff service the water monitoring buoy outside Boston's Museum of Science.

## Urban Waters Monitoring

OEME continues to work with watershed community partners to provide monitoring support. From 2015 to 2017, OEME provided major support to the Mystic River Watershed Association in conducting a watershed loading study. For this study, OEME provided: technical support, Sampling and Analyses Plan review and approval, and equipment loans of three automatic samplers. The Regional Lab conducted chemical analysis of 747 samples, including chlorophyll a, total phosphorus and ortho-phosphate samples. The results from this project will allow for the establishment of pollutant loading targets for restoring the Mystic River. OEME provided the Mystic River Watershed Association with bacteria lab analyses that they used to identify sewage contamination in storm water throughout the watershed. In 2017, OEME operated a water monitoring buoy in the Mystic River and the Charles River with the results published on EPA's website. The Museum of Science in Boston Charles River exhibit featuring the results collected from the real time monitoring data collected from the buoy on the river. Many EJ communities reside along the Mystic River.

## Lawrence

In 2017, OEME operated two real-time monitoring sites in the Merrimack River, as part of a ORD modelling project. The upstream site is located at the Andover, MA drinking water intake building and the downstream location is in the Lawrence, MA drinking water plant. Measurements are collected every 15 minutes at each site for Total Organic Carbon (TOC), phosphate, and sonde parameters (temperature, specific conductance, pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, chlorophyll and phycocyanin). In addition, a nitrate sensor is installed at the Lawrence site. During the deployment of the field sensors, EPA collected and analyzed 205 grab samples for chlorophyll, nitrogen and phosphorus levels by fixed lab methods for comparison with the field data to ensure the sensors were providing useable data. This past winter, ORD's National Risk Management Research Laboratory analyzed the data and developed a Nowcasting model to help Lawrence optimize its drinking water treatment plant and to predict bacteria levels in the River for recreational use in the Lawrence area. The Andover site was recently taken off line for the winter and will be re-established this summer, if needed, for model validation.

## Citizen Science

### Biology Mobile Lab & Cyanobacteria Training

OEME's mobile laboratory has been outfitted as an on-site training base for introducing and training groups around the Region on the Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative. The mobile training program is designed to take people through all of the principal tiered components of the program from

bloomWatch, cyanoScope, and cyanomonitoring with hands-on training at the waterbodies of their interest and concern. Individuals were walked through how to download the bloomWatch App to document Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) occurrences, how to take water samples and identify cyanobacteria genera while uploading to the cyanoScope crowdsourcing database, and how to consistently monitor the transition of green algae and cyanobacteria pigment concentrations through the course of the year. Since June of 2016, OEME has introduced the program through hands on trainings to almost 250 individuals. This has included EJ areas such as inner city lakes in Worcester and tribes in the upper Midwest. Trainings have included city municipal planners, public water suppliers, the National Park Service, universities, middle school and high school educators, and many other entities.

## Student Events

### Tribal Student Educational Event

On August 1, 2017, OEME staff took the Biology Mobile Lab to the Penobscot Indian Nation Community Center, Indian Island, ME, for a tribal youth event. OEP tribal program staff also attended. They trained the tribal youth on water quality and ecological monitoring as well as showcased the EPA's mobile lab field capabilities.



EPA staff lead Penobscot Tribal youth in water quality exercises as part of the annual Tribal student educational event (Indian Island, ME).

## Assistance

### Tribal Environmental Programs

In 2017, the OEME Quality Assurance Unit collaborated with the Micmac, Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribal nations of Maine on updating quality management plans for their organizations. Fifty-eight nutrient analyses for water samples were conducted for the Maliseets (29 each samples for ortho-phosphorus and total phosphorus). Technical assistance and training on the Milestone DM80 Mercury Analyzer was provided to the Wampanoag Aquinnah. Additionally, technical assistance visits were conducted for the Wampanoag Aquinnah for air and water monitoring and for the Narragansett tribe for water monitoring.

### Assistance on Project Planning

The OEME Quality Assurance Unit assisted the EJ communities of Boston and New Bedford, Massachusetts, Providence, Rhode Island, and Bridgeport, Connecticut. OEME also assisted the Tribal Nations of Maine. EPA reviewed project plans for sampling and analytical programs and Quality Management Plans.

# OFFICE OF SITE REMEDIATION AND RESTORATION

Region 1's Office of Site Remediation and Restoration (OSRR) has some substantial project specific successes in EJ areas, which are outlined below. These projects are a representative description of projects in EJ areas in the Region.

## Cooperative Federalism and Community Work in Lawrence, MA

The City of Lawrence is among the poorest communities in New England (92 percentile)<sup>1</sup>, while also having among the highest minority populations (95 percentile)<sup>2</sup>. The City's post-industrial legacy of contamination and the presence of over 270 State-recognized [brownfields sites](#) poses a significant burden on the community. Against the backdrop of these environmental justice concerns, EPA, MassDEP, the City of Lawrence, and the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (MVPC) have been coordinating their efforts over the past several years to achieve positive outcomes and a healthier community in Lawrence. This spirit of interagency cooperation spans the federal, state, and local levels and has included quarterly interagency meetings and a prominent EPA-funded Brownfields areawide planning (AWP) project for a downtown neighborhood. As a result of this process, MassDEP made the City a top priority by dedicating the majority of its 2016 statewide Brownfields assessment grant funding (\$400k) for Lawrence.

These focused and cooperative efforts helped position Lawrence for a very successful year in 2017 in terms of funding opportunities and new investment. In 2017, the City was awarded Brownfields grants for assessment (\$350k) and cleanup (\$200k) for the Tombarello Site, a former junkyard where EPA conducted a time critical removal action that is now becoming a prime candidate for redevelopment. The City also was awarded the only Brownfields job training grant (\$200k) in Region 1 this year, which will fund the Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board's training programs for disadvantaged local residents seeking careers in the environmental cleanup/construction fields. MVPC also received a new assessment grant (\$300k) in 2017 based on its plan to focus on Lawrence and two other nearby communities. Together, these new grants represent an investment in Lawrence of upwards of \$1M in new Brownfields funding, more than any other community in New England. EPA looks forward to continuing its partnership with MassDEP, the City, MVPC, and other stakeholders as Lawrence achieves more environmental outcomes and becomes a healthier community.

## Former Motel becomes New Hampshire's First Medical Detoxification Facility

The addiction epidemic continues to rise in the state, as does the need for treatment centers. Seeing the increasing need for its substance abuse treatment services, the Easter Seals Farnum Center launched a campaign in 2012 to move the Farnum Center to a new location, the former Queen City Inn site in Manchester. With more than 100,000 residents, Manchester is the largest city in the State of New Hampshire. It was the world's first

<sup>1</sup> EJSCREEN State percentile for Lawrence, MA

<sup>2</sup> EJSCREEN State percentile for Lawrence, MA



industrialized city and once housed the world's largest textile mill complex. Historically, the City has been a community where immigrants sought opportunities, and today Manchester remains an attractive destination for immigrant workers. Manchester is a modern, vibrant city but suffers from one of the highest poverty rates in the state. For many years this area has suffered with a burdened population struggling with substance abuse.

### **Property History**

The former Queen City Inn, located at 140 Queen City Avenue, operated as a motel between 1954 and 2012. The 3.5 acre parcel is bordered by Sundial Avenue, Brown Avenue, and Kennedy Street. Historically, the site was surrounded by gasoline stations and other petroleum facilities. In 2012, this Site was identified in Manchester's downtown revitalization plan and targeted for redevelopment.

Using its Brownfields community-wide assessment grant, the City of Manchester conducted Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) at the site. Contaminants found included benzo(a) pyrene and benzo(b) fluoranthene, which are commonly associated with coal tar. Based on the results of the Phase I and II ESAs, the site was able to be sold for cleanup and redevelopment.

### **Project Results**

After the City of Manchester spent its Brownfields Assessment Grant funding and key players, like the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services oversaw the assessments and site maintenance, the developer was comfortable and willing to acquire the property. A local developer, Anagnost Investments invested \$4.8 million to see this treatment center come to fruition by acquiring the property, funding the cleanup, and redeveloping the site. The Bishops Charitable Assistance Fund also granted \$10,000 toward the redevelopment. The cleanup involved removal of hazardous building materials such as asbestos and lead. Reusing the existing building and foundation structures reduced costs and afforded the opportunity to incorporate sustainability practices during construction. Ninety-six construction jobs were leveraged. The hard work and commitment to the needs of the community has resulted in the opening of the state's first non-hospital based medical detox unit, doubling the number of beds available to patients.

This state of the art treatment facility is located within 2 miles from the new Elliot Hospital and employs more than 100 people. The City has also seen an increase in the tax base since the property value has increased from \$1.6M to over \$2.4M, creating a larger tax revenue for the City. Most importantly, this redevelopment gives a burdened population with substance abuse needs a place to seek treatment.

### **Former Brownfields Site Becomes Gardner, Massachusetts Police Headquarters**

Understanding the need for police presence in downtown Gardner and recognizing that vacant property with more than two acres of land was



Former brownfield site becomes substance abuse treatment center after site clean-up.



Former Queen City Inn identified as Brownfield site in Manchester's 2012 downtown revitalization plan (Manchester, NH).

available, the City identified this site through the Downtown Urban Renewal Plan and acquired the property to develop its new police station. The Site is ideally located within the downtown commercial district and near the entrance of the City from Route 2. Most importantly, this site provides a central convenient location easily accessed by local residents within the community it serves.

### Property History

The site history included a variety of uses including a gas station, Studebaker dealership, and other commercial businesses. The 200 Main Street property was contaminated with petroleum products, asbestos, lead, cadmium, and arsenic. The City acquired the five contiguous parcels in 2012, along with the five underutilized buildings present.

The City of Gardner embarked on this project understanding that the construction would be funded through municipal bonding and debt services upon completion of the cleanup. Ultimately, the entire cleanup was funded through the municipality with a \$200,000 loan for environmental cleanup provided by the City of Gardner's Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund. The cleanup included excavation of soils contaminated with cadmium, arsenic, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

The total cost of the overall project was approximately \$13.7 million. The community was presented the concept and asked to comment on all phases of the planning for cleanup and redevelopment. This public process included public meetings and presentations where City Council members debated prior to voting on the final plan.

### Project Results/Success

This new state-of-the-art police station has transformed this former brownfield and the entire community around it. The project has also enabled the police to vacate their former location which was too small and was the subject of water damage, mold issues, and health concerns.

The new police station has fostered a heightened sense of community pride and has catalyzed further investment in the area. Following the success of this project, the City continues to advance its Downtown Urban Renewal Plan and is executing steps to redevelop the Rear Main Street area behind the police station. The City was awarded a \$1.2 million MassWorks grant to develop and construct Derby Drive, which will connect the police station to the new library approximately ½ mile away and was also built on a former brownfields site in 2004. By leveraging the MassWorks Grant and the efforts of the Gardner Redevelopment Authority, the City's development of this area continues to move forward through conceptual design and construction, leveraging 120 construction jobs so far. Cumberland Farms has also invested approximately \$4 million into a new 4,700 square foot facility adjacent to the site. This building also increased their employee footprint and enabled them to hire five new staff.

A local investor has since purchased the old police station, remediated the water and mold issues, and moved a biomedical business into nearly 2/3 of the building. The remaining portion of the building is slated for redevelopment as a deli. Getting this former police station back on the tax rolls is another big win for the City of Gardner.



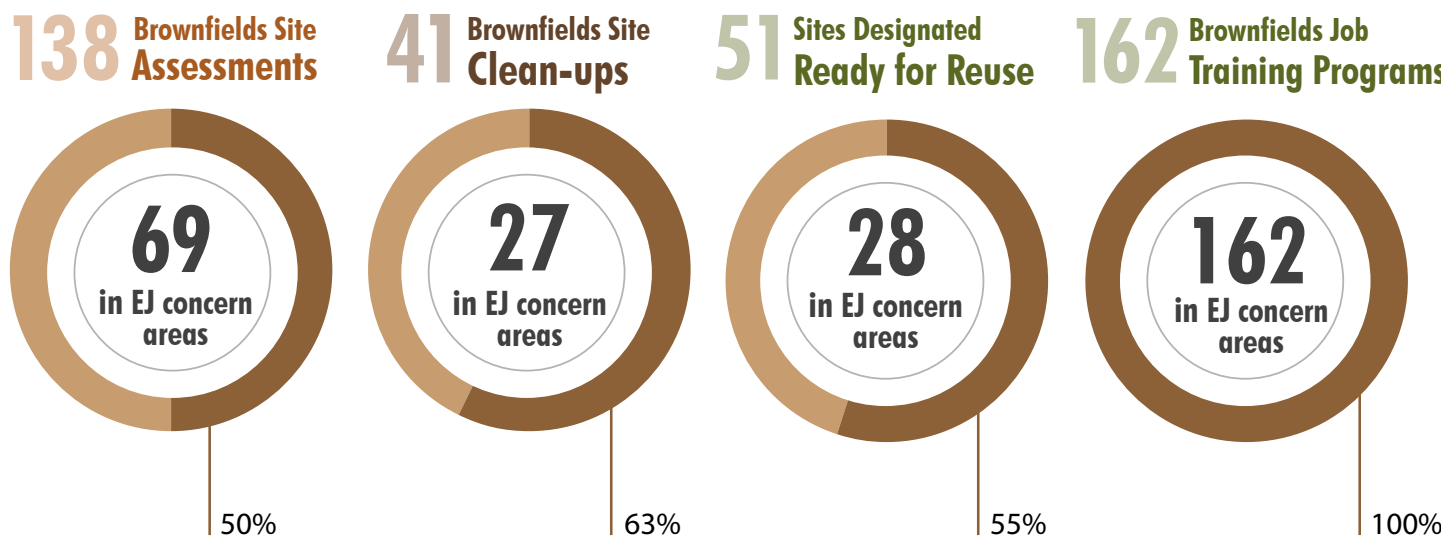
Brownfield site at 200 Main St. (Gardner, MA) prior to clean-up.



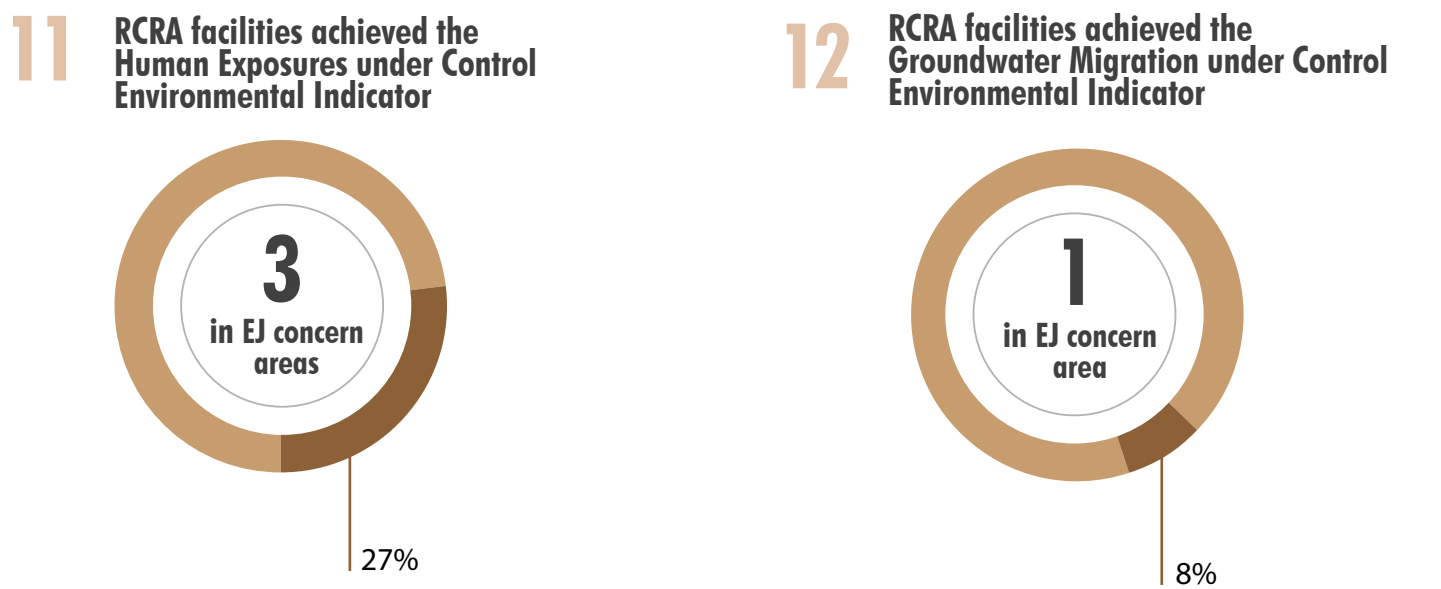
Former Brownfield site after clean-up, converted to Gardner Police Headquarters.

FY 2017 EPA Region 1 Completed:

Brownfields Statistics



Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)  
Corrective Action Statistics



Mirror Polishing and Plating	Waterbury	CT
Quinlan Russell	Meriden	CT
Callaway Golf Ball Operations Inc	Chicopee	MA

Callaway Golf Ball Operations Inc	Chicopee	MA
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## 16 RCRA facilities achieved the Construction Complete Status



19%

Honeywell Skinner Valve Dlx	New Britain	CT
Sandvik Wire and Heating Tech	Bethel	CT
Von Roll USA	New Haven	CT

## 6 RCRA facilities achieved the Ready for Anticipated Reuse Status



17%

Enthone Inc	West Haven	CT
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## RCRA Permitting Statistics

EPA did not issue any RCRA permits in FY17

### 6 Issued State RCRA Permits



33%

Colts Manufacturing Co	West Hartford	CT
UTC Research Center	East Hartford	CT



# Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) & Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Statistics

## 28 PCB Project Approvals



Center Plaza	Boston	MA
Mass Mills	Lowell	MA
249 Third Street	Cambridge	MA
City of Haverhill Water Treatment Plant	Haverhill	MA
The Kelly Company	Clinton	MA
Former HB Ives Facility	New Haven	CT
Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation - PCS 44/45	Bridgeport	CT
G&K Waterbury, AOC 16	Waterbury	CT
Bridgeport Landing Development	Bridgeport	CT
Former Bigelow Boiler Company (Parcel 198-A)	New Haven	CT
City of Norwalk - Ryan Park	Norwalk	CT

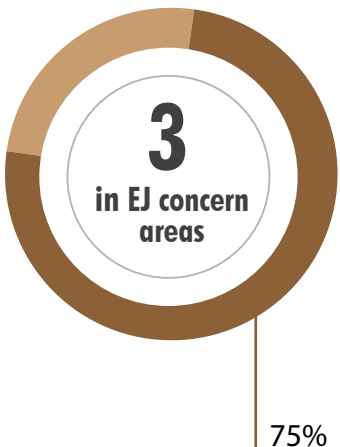
## PCB Projects in Schools and Universities

7 PCB Projects at Schools are pending and/or ongoing (either under a finalized approval or as interim measures)



New Haven	CT
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4 PCB Projects at Universities are pending and/or ongoing (either under a finalized approval or as interim measures)

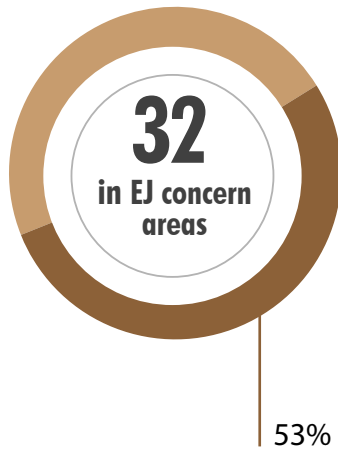


UConn - Edward V. Gant Science Complex- Phase 1	Storrs	CT
Harvard University - Smith Campus	Cambridge	MA
UMass Amherst Southwest Concourse	Amherst	MA

4 Quarterly PCB PIP meetings took place for Parker St. Waste Site in New Bedford

# Underground Storage Tanks (UST) Statistics

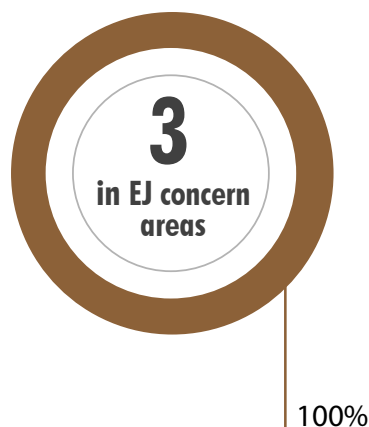
## 60 UST Inspections



Cove Road Mini Mart	Stamford	CT
South Greenwich Convenience Mart, Inc.	Greenwich	CT
Gulf Express (formerly Cumberland Farms)	Stratford	CT
Bridgeport Co #1 (3101)	Bridgeport	CT
North Bridgeport Central Office	Bridgeport	CT
East End Yacht Club	Bridgeport	CT
Ed's Garage	Canterbury	CT
BJ's Wholesale Club	Manchester	CT
7-Eleven #32523	Moodus	CT
Manchester Sunoco	Manchester	CT
Cigna Flight Operations	Windsor Locks	CT
US Postal Service	Hartford	CT
Brainard Airport	Hartford	CT
Colchester Mobil	Colchester	CT
US Naval Submarine Base	Groton	CT
NECG #6872	Colchester	CT
Charlestown Elementary School	Charlestown	NH
Pollution Control Facility	Berlin	NH
Sewage Pumping Station	Berlin	NH
Presby Steel LLC	Berlin	NH
Brown Elementary School	Berlin	NH
Hillside Elementary School	Berlin	NH
Berlin High School	Berlin	NH
Cumberland Farms #4030	Brattleboro	VT
Brattleboro Circle K	Brattleboro	VT
Fairpoint Communications	Brattleboro	VT
Brattleboro Neighbor Mobil	Brattleboro	VT
BDR Transport Gas	Brattleboro	VT
CE Bradley Laboratories, Inc	Brattleboro	VT
CE Bradley Laboratories, Inc (2 <sup>nd</sup> facility)	Brattleboro	VT
Sonny's Sunoco	Brattleboro	VT
7-Eleven #32510	Brattleboro	VT

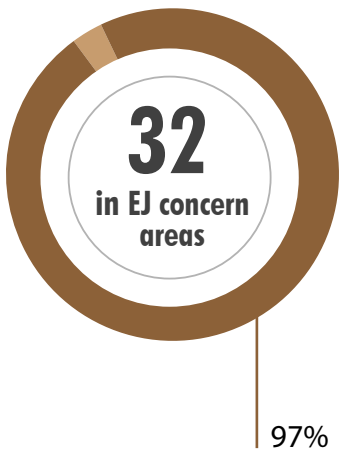
## UST Enforcement

### 3 UST Field Citations Issued



# CERCLA Statistics

## 33 CERCLA Site Assessments

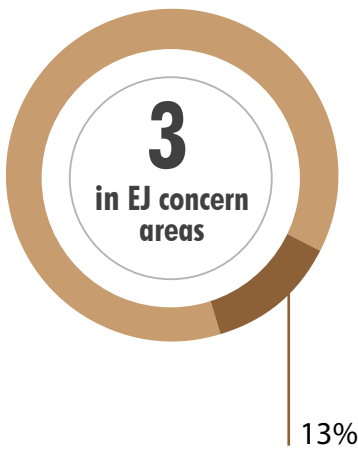


## 11 Removal Actions



Island Point	Lewiston	ME
Lonsdale Bleachery	Lincoln	RI

## 23 Removals Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation Events



Former Tomberello Property	Lawrence	MA
Liberty Street Ansonia Copper and Brass	Ansonia	CT
243 Montello St.	Brockton	MA

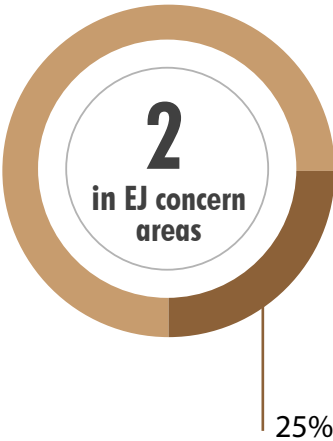
# CERCLA Statistics (cont.)

5 Record of Decision (ROD) Documents Issued



GE-Housatonic	Pittsfield	MA
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8 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) Documents Issued



New Bedford	New Bedford	MA
Eastern Surplus	Meddybemps	ME

3 Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Completed



New Bedford	New Bedford	MA
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## Healthy Air and Adaptation

### Air

Some of EPA's and the Region's top priorities are to improve air quality, take action on extreme weather events, increase resiliency, and clean up our communities. EPA's work on these priorities falls under the [Clean Air Act](#) and includes our developing strong regional programs, implementing technical policies and regulations for controlling air pollution and radiation exposure. These efforts help protect the health of EJ communities in New England by preventing pollution and increasing energy efficiency; improving indoor and outdoor air quality; reducing industrial air pollution and pollution from vehicles and engines; protecting the stratospheric ozone layer; reducing acid rain; and addressing extreme weather events and resiliency.

### Wood Smoke

Region 1 provided a presentation to the Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) on the "Region 1 Valley Identification (ID) Tool." The Valley ID tool is a GIS-based, user-friendly tool that helps identify populated valleys in New England that can trap wood smoke during wintertime inversions. Residential wood smoke is an issue in many tribal communities, and this tool can help tribes identify areas to target for outreach and mitigation efforts, such as workshops on best-burning practices and woodstove change-outs. This tool has been adapted for use in Region 3, and is currently in development for Region 2.

### Tribal Air Grant

EPA air grants support tribes with developing and implementing air quality management programs. The grants are used by Region 1 tribes for activities such as: identifying air quality issues; operating monitoring stations for pollutants; participating in the work of regional planning organizations; providing education and outreach to tribal leaders and community members; developing and adopting air quality regulations; and ensuring tribes are represented in regional and national policy developments and initiatives. In FY 2017, \$588,660 was allocated to six New England Tribes: the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians Pleasant Point Reservation, Passamaquoddy Tribe of Indians Indian Township Reservation, the Penobscot Indian Nation, Aroostook Band of Micmacs, and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). In addition, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe was awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,000 for radon outreach and education.

# OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION

## Near-port Community Capacity Building Project

In coordination with OCRUA, OEP staff are managing a project from EPA's Office of Environmental Justice under the Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Program. A one-year contract for \$39,000 will assist the Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island (EJLRI) to build the capacity of the communities around the Port of Providence (ProvPort), through community engagement activities that will include in-person facilitated discussions and on-site community and port tours. This project will leverage and build off an existing Collaborative Problem-Solving cooperative agreement between EPA and EJLRI that involves the development of an asthma hotspot action plan. Both projects aim to build engaging relationships between the local community and ProvPort, with an objective of reducing community exposure to harmful emissions and other pollutants.

## Indoor Air Quality and Asthma Prevention

EPA has been involved with EJ work in Claremont, NH through the EPA Regional Municipal Technical Assistance Initiative as well as through grant projects with the Center for EcoTechnology - CET (Bridgeport, CT) and North Brookfield, MA Public Schools. In New Hampshire, training was provided to municipal employees on healthy homes while partnering with the New Hampshire Lead and Asbestos Program to deliver comprehensive training on both regulatory and voluntary programs that affect public housing, indoor environments, and landlord/tenant issues. CET worked with organizations in Bridgeport, CT and neighboring communities to assist in stemming food waste from municipal waste streams by developing alternative disposal systems that are more environmental friendly, such as composting and remarketing food soon approaching their expiration dates. North Brookfield's project focused on using floor cleaning devices that do not use VOCs to alleviate poor Indoor Air Quality in their school buildings. In addition, the school system replaced a number of lead pipes and valves to improve drinking water quality in their school facilities.

## Indoor Air and Clean Green Healthy Schools Grants Awarded through Healthy Communities Grant Program

A grant for \$25,000 was awarded to the Stratford CT's Health Department to improve respiratory health outcomes of low income children with a history of uncontrolled asthma. This will be accomplished by intensifying asthma interventions to assess and mitigate indoor asthma triggers in their homes, as well as by improving home environments through more intensive family and community education efforts. In addition, the project will focus on working with owners of rental homes to implement mitigation efforts that improve indoor air quality in lower income areas of Stratford and surrounding communities in Bridgeport, CT.

A grant for \$25,000 was awarded to Central Maine Healthcare/Healthy Androscoggin in Lewiston, ME to expand their class offerings to focus more

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North Brookfield's project focused on using floor cleaning devices that do not use VOCs to alleviate poor Indoor Air Quality in their school buildings.

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on a healthy homes-based curriculum and include topics such as home health hazards, indoor air quality, tips on finding a healthy home, and how to mitigate environmental issues. The project will also create curricula that are more culturally appropriate for the current diverse immigrant and refugee populations, which have recently made the Lewiston/Auburn area their new home. This will involve translating many of the training materials into Somali, French and Arabic.

A grant for \$25,000 was awarded to Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Health and Safety for their project, Asthma Prevention through Peer Leaders' Team. The grantee seeks to achieve measurable improvements in addressing asthma and managing environmental triggers. They will also enhance the capacity of schools and community partners to address environmental health equities faced by high risk communities in Boston and Brockton schools. Among other things, the grantee aims to increase the number of youth educators reached and will engage the youth through peer led environmental health workshops. Additionally, they plan to present and promote model wellness policies and best practices for asthma friendly schools statewide through the new Massachusetts Asthma Advocacy Partnership on-line resource tool.

A grant for \$25,000 was awarded to Health Resources in Action to build the capacity in individual states to address the impact of extreme weather events on vulnerable populations. The applicant proposes to showcase innovative tools, practices and/or projects from both within New England and other parts of the country (e.g., University of Michigan School of Public Health Heat Stress Vulnerability Analysis). They also plan to convene a regional capacity-building summit focused on asthma and impacts from extreme weather events, and will coordinate a learning community for the Center for Disease Control (CDC) funded New England Asthma Program for the six New England States.

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The grantee aims to increase the number of youth educators reached and will engage the youth through peer led environmental health workshops.

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## Clean Water, Protecting and Improving Urban Waters

### Mystic River Watershed Initiative

We are finishing work on Phase 1 (\$100k) and recently started to work on Phase 2 (\$100k) of this Mystic River watershed technical assistance project. The work will result in a total maximum daily load (TMDL) alternative for the Mystic River watershed that will set water quality targets for phosphorus for the lower basin of the Mystic River and the Upper Mystic Lake system as well as load reduction targets for the watershed which includes several lakes and ponds. The project is utilizing sampled data from several sources that will be incorporated into a model to determine what the appropriate instream water quality targets and load reduction targets should be.

## Drinking Water

A Healthcare and Drinking Water Sector Workshop and Table Top Exercise was sponsored by EPA with Connecticut Department of Public Health on September 7, 2017 in Hartford, CT. Approximately 70 water sector, hospital sector, and state/federal drinking water regulators attended. The focus of the morning workshop was on each sector's policies, procedures and roles during a drinking water emergency involving loss of clean drinking water at a hospital with speakers from several CT water utilities and hospitals. Additionally, a panel presented case studies and on the issue of Legionella and what roles each sector, agency has in dealing with an issue that could occur in a hospital served by a municipal water supplier. In the afternoon, there was a tabletop exercise discussion on a large area boil water advisory and how the various sectors would be preparing and responding, including ideas for opportunities to better work together in the future. This workshop was a pilot and will hopefully be replicated in other parts of the country by EPA HQ in future years.

On September 12, 2017 at the Boston Water and Sewer Commission's Roxbury office, EPA and the Massachusetts State drinking water and health agencies hosted the Massachusetts Drinking Water & Healthcare Emergency Planning Workshop. At this workshop, about 75 members of the water and health sectors discussed drinking water emergency issues that affect both sectors of this population served. Speakers from local and state agencies shared information on their roles and lessons learned in water loss emergencies (including the 2010 Massachusetts Water Resources Authority water main break) resulting in great education and insight for both sectors. In the afternoon, there was a discussion-based tabletop exercise focused on a large water main break and water loss issue impacting a large city and hospital. The resulting after action report will be shared with participants to go back to their organizations to further work on identified suggestions and improvements.

EPA's Drinking Water Program continued to work in 2017 with Lawrence MA on a water quality project with EPA Office of Research & Development (ORD) and the City of Lawrence to better protect their drinking water source, the Merrimack River. ORD is assisting with an ongoing vulnerability assessment for flooding and impacts to the water quality and critical infrastructure. The water strategy involves mapping and analyzing water quality data for future informed decision-making. This effort involves existing water quality data; additional data being gathered through deployment of two water quality monitoring stations; development of a real-time water quality/early warning system ([www.epa.gov/lowermerrimackriver](http://www.epa.gov/lowermerrimackriver)); mapping and analyzing flood zones, precipitation data, combined sewer overflows, E. coli concentration data, hospital emergency room visits for gastrointestinal illness, and potential exposure locations. By capturing local community knowledge of sensitive sights and locations where Lawrence residents boat, swim and fish, EPA scientists can also analyze potential microbial exposure. By considering demographic and language data, this information will enable the City to identify where Lawrence residents may be disproportionately affected by flooding and water quality issues. This data can ultimately be used to help inform the City's public communication strategies and emergency preparedness (including translation and appropriate signage) to protect residents from using the river for recreational purposes during times of compromised water quality. EPA made this information publicly available on a web page for the Lower Merrimack River that is available in English and Spanish.



## Healthy Communities Grant Program

The 2017 Healthy Communities Grant Program organized by the Urban Environmental Program is regionally designed, using funding from Office of Air and Radiation, Office of Indoor Air, Children's Health, Healthy Schools, Pollution Prevention, Lead, Toxics, Drinking Water, and Tribal. In FY 2017, 13 grants worth a total of \$300,000 were awarded to support projects across New England that protect and improve human health and the quality of life, advance resilience, and preserve/restore important ecosystems in communities at risk [areas needing to create community resilience], environmental justice areas of potential concern, and/or sensitive populations (e.g. children, elderly, tribes, urban/rural residents, and others at increased risk).

Region I's Urban Environmental Program has been working in Providence, RI with the Childhood Lead Action Project on their "Lead-Safe Providence" project. The project focuses on providing education, outreach, and collaboration within the city of Providence, RI with the goals of reducing the incidence of lead poisoning; increasing public lead safety knowledge and expertise of those performing renovation or repair on residences; increasing the understanding of Rhode Island's lead law at the city level; and building the capacity of low-income and minority populations to reduce their exposure to toxins. The project accomplishments include: providing lead safety and tenants' rights workshops in English, Swahili, and Arabic; creating/distributing lead-safe work practices pamphlets and hosting Spanish-language Lead Paint Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) classes; and convening a Lead-Safe Providence committee that brings together tenants and municipal officials to discuss lead law enforcement, data requests, and opportunities for collaborative efforts to improve lead safety for local residents.



OEP staff presented Lowell youth with certificates for completing the Summertime Job Skills program.

## Youth and the Environment Program

OEP provided New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission \$7,000 to fund an opportunity for youths from Lowell to learn professional environmental protection techniques at the Lowell, Mass. Regional Wastewater Utility this past summer. Since 1990, EPA's Youth and the Environment Program has focused on introducing economically disadvantaged inner city youth to career opportunities in the environmental field. The program promotes environmental education and provides high school students with increased awareness of protecting the environment and water quality within their own communities. This is the 26th anniversary for this summertime job skills program.

For the third year in a row, students were involved with developing a floating wetland system consisting of plants installed into a holding tank of primary clarifier effluent. The students also participated in field trips related to science, water quality and wetland systems. The program has provided the students with an understanding of chemical risks, minimizing the use of toxic substances, public health threats, and proper safety procedures where working at a wastewater treatment plant and within the collection system.

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

## Air, Water and Waste Safety through Toxics Reductions

### Clean Air Act (CAA) 112(r) Cases

CAA 112(r) ensures that extremely hazardous chemicals are handled safely – thus reducing the threat of explosion and release of toxic chemicals. In FY 2017, half the cases taken by OES under CAA 112(r) involved companies in EJ areas. These cases protect the densely populated EJ communities in which these facilities are located. In FY 2017, OES focused on improving compliance at facilities that use ammonia as a refrigerant. OES collaborated with the International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration (IIAR) and other EPA regions to identify certain key safety measures that should be in place for ammonia refrigeration systems, as these systems can pose serious risks and have been the source of several significant accidents in New England. Also, in FY 2017, in collaboration with IIAR and the Ammonia Safety Training Institute, Region 1 sponsored four Ammonia Refrigeration Safety trainings for industry, first responders, and state officials to review industry standards and safe chemical handling practices, contingency planning, and proper response procedures.

Three cases in Springfield, MA ensured the safe handling of extremely hazardous chemicals:

*Performance Foodservice operates a food distribution and refrigeration warehouse facility that uses anhydrous ammonia in its refrigeration system. Under this settlement, the company paid a cash penalty of \$184,717 for, among other things, failing to have a risk management plan (RMP), and also certified that its nine other facilities nationwide have properly calculated their ammonia inventories, are meeting certain key safety standards, and have filed RMPs for those facilities that have over 10,000 pounds of ammonia.*

*Solutia, Inc., a chemical manufacturer, uses several chemicals in its manufacturing processes, including vinyl acetate monomer, which it has on-site in excess of 2 million pounds. In its settlement, Solutia paid a penalty of \$15,222 and agreed to perform a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) that will cost approximately \$59,779. The SEP is designed to provide equipment to the local fire department, thereby improving the safety of responding personnel and the community.*

*Ineos Melamines entered into an expedited settlement for its failure to have a Risk Management Plan for a formaldehyde solution used in its chemical manufacturing process, and paid a \$9,300 penalty.*

In Lynn, MA, Demakes Enterprise operates a meat processing, cooking, packaging, and storage facility. An EPA inspection of the Demakes facility documented potentially dangerous conditions relating to its ammonia refrigeration processes. Since the inspection, the facility has come into compliance with the CAA's General Duty Clause, investing over \$300,000 in safety upgrades and compliance measures, and paid a penalty of \$132,183.

## Lead Paint Cases

OES attacks childhood lead poisoning by enforcing statutory provisions that require safe work practices by companies that are doing renovations or repairs on pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities, and that require landlords to give information to tenants on lead paint before signing leases.

### **Pike International LLC et. al. (New Haven, CT)**

A complainant alleged Disclosure Rule violations including failure to provide lessees of target housing with an EPA-approved lead hazard information pamphlet, to disclose the presence of known lead-based paint and/or records or reports concerning lead-based paint, to include the Lead Warning Statement as an attachment to, or within, the lease contract, to disclose the presence of known lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards or the lack of knowledge of lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards as an attachment to, or within, the lease contract, provide a list of any records pertaining to lead hazard information or a statement that no such records exists, as an attachment to, or within, the lease contract, and include signatures and dates for both tenants and lessors. The complaint alleged RRP violations including failure to provide owner/tenant with pamphlet, assign a certified renovator, maintain records, and obtain initial firm certification from EPA.

In FY 2017, EPA settled with Pike International. Under the agreement, Pike and its related companies paid a penalty of \$12,139 and agreed to spend at least \$109,246 on a lead abatement SEP at three of their properties. They also will institute a management system to ensure compliance with the Lead Paint Disclosure Rule and Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule, and will provide documentation of compliance with those rules.

### **MF Holding, LLC (Coventry, RI)**

Region 1 finalized a settlement with a property owner called 5 MF Holding, LLC, which violated TSCA by failing to disclose known lead-based paint and/or lead-based paint hazards in the course of leasing property. The settlement calls for the payment of a \$7,300 penalty and the

performance of a lead-based paint abatement SEP worth \$65,700, which will involve eliminating lead-based paint hazards through the abatement of windows, doors, trim, and stairwells at target housing owned by the company.

### **Brady Sullivan Properties (Manchester, NH)**

In June 2015, OES issued an order pursuant to Section 7003 of RCRA to Brady Sullivan Properties for the cleanup of dust and paint chips containing high levels of lead in residential apartments, common areas and offices in a mixed-use complex Brady Sullivan owns and manages in Manchester, which resulted from sandblasting activities. In 2017, OES followed up with a settlement assessing a \$90,461 penalty against Brady Sullivan.

### **Limoge (Essex Junction and Burlington, VT)**

Region 1 settled claims against two Limoge companies for failing to disclose known lead-based paint in the course of leasing properties. The companies paid a penalty of \$24,122 and implemented measures intended to promote their continued compliance with state and federal lead-paint regulatory requirements.

### **Micro-business settlements (Hartford, CT)**

Many of the entities performing renovations on target housing are small “micro-businesses” eligible for reduced penalties. Although these entities have a limited ability to pay, the cases against them are still important to enforce the lead-paint rules and deter other violators. OES settlements with micro-businesses in EJ areas in 2017 included K Falls Construction of Hartford, CT (\$2,130 penalty), and National Construction of New Haven, CT (\$2,003 penalty).

## Urban Gardening and Food Scraps to Compost



Compost piles recently established as part of a Healthy Communities grant project awarded to Stamford's (CT) West Side Neighborhood.



Urban garden planted on revitalized land from local composting efforts.

EPA awarded Charter Oak Communities located in Stamford, CT a two year \$25,000 Healthy Community grant in October 2016 to educate Stamford's West Side residents and businesses about farming and composting at their Fairgate Farm site. The West side neighborhood represents some of the lowest income, most diverse and industry-dense neighborhoods in the city. The onsite operator provides one-on-one outreach, hands-on composting demonstrations, and shares educational resources about the benefits of composting to residents, students, community partners and volunteers. The site hosts onsite composting of food scraps collected by residents and local organizations to enhance the farm's soils with the goal to encourage greater participation and volunteerism in Fairgate Farm's operation and composting initiative. In the last quarter, July through September 2017, the number of residents dropping off food scraps continue to increase with an estimated 3,000 lbs of waste diverted (an approximate 33% increase from the previous quarter). An estimated 2-3 yards of finished compost has been returned to gardens and the farm to revitalize and nourish the soil.

## Developing a Rhode Island Green Infrastructure Installation Training and Certification Program for Urban Entry Workers

The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council and Groundwork Rhode Island worked with local partners in Providence and Pawtucket Rhode Island to build on current job training programs to prepare local young adults for this emerging sector of the environmental workforce. Providence and Pawtucket have a high population density and are culturally and socio-economically diverse. Two workshops and 13 hands-on green infrastructure projects were completed. These projects focused on improving water quality and preventing pollution in urban waterways while also improving future entry-level job prospects and opportunities for training graduates.

## Reducing Diesel Emissions from Freight in Low-income Communities

In FY 2017, EPA Region 1's Assistance and Pollution Prevention (A&P2) program worked to reduce the impacts of freight vehicles (trucks, locomotives, ships) and the facilities where they operate intensively (terminals, yards) on low-income neighborhoods. This includes providing compliance assistance regarding EPA's locomotive engine and hazmat storage rules; helping Massachusetts address complaints about violations of idling limits represented in their Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan; promoting "good neighbor" fuel-saving strategies to industry via webinars and presentations on EPA's SmartWay Transport Partnership and Ports Initiative; recommending mitigation strategies for freight and passenger rail projects undergoing NEPA review; working with Northeast states, Federal Highway



Administration (FHWA) and Department of Energy (DOE) via webinars and meetings to promote alternative fueling infrastructure and idle-free facilities along Clean Freight Corridors; and advising the Ozone Transport Commission as it develops tools for states to reduce idling in the region.

## **Engaging and Educating Youth on Urban Environmental Issues in Providence, RI**

A&P2 awarded a two year Healthy Communities grant to the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, (WRWC) to “Promoting Healthy Urban Land and Water Resources through Education,” Providence, RI. A&P2 is working with WRWC to connect urban community residents with their natural surroundings through environmental education and instilling stewardship through a variety of programming targeting youth (K-12) and the general population. Providence has a comparatively high population density and represents a culturally and socio-economically diverse population. Project accomplishments include conducting a Parks Academy, River Adventurers Program, and a Fish in the Classroom Program. This project connects urban community residents with their natural surroundings through a variety of programming such as educating teachers on methods of using public city parks and rivers as outdoor classrooms, providing summer nature camps to urban youth, hosting a River Adventurers program for urban middle-school students, hosting greenway services days to educate people on safe uses of Woonasquatucket resources and their role in improving them, and conducting the Parks Academy to build and strengthen the capacity of volunteer groups and educators within the city to make parks safer and cleaner.

## **Support to Office of Sustainable Communities**

A&P2 participated in two Office of Sustainable Communities workshops in FY 2017 including: Local Food Local Places in Holyoke, MA in September 2017 and Healthy Places for Healthy People in Waterville, ME in June 2017. Connections were made in both communities including: providing composting technical assistance to Nuestras-Raices by Recycling Works Massachusetts in Holyoke and supporting creation of resources on food recovery and donation in the form of fact sheets on food donation liability, tax incentives and gleaning in Maine by the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic. EPA Region 1 continues to participate in Maine’s Food Recovery Coalition providing technical assistance.



Students participating in the River Adventures program, an environmental education program funded by a two-year Healthy Communities grant, in Woonsocket, RI.









**U.S. EPA**  
**Region 1 Environmental Justice**  
**End-of-Year Report**



**FISCAL YEAR 2017**  

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**OCT•1•2016 - SEP•30•2017**

**MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT**  
**FAIR TREATMENT**

**EPA 901-R1-8001**