

Join us for:

## Trash Reduction in the Mystic River Watershed

(Virtual) workshops for municipalities and community groups in the Mystic River Watershed

**What:** EPA and MyRWA are hosting three (3) free information & discussion sessions on how to reduce the harmful inflow of trash into the Mystic River, aiming to begin to develop a shared trash-reduction campaign in the watershed. Sessions will include high-level context from EPA, MassDEP, MyRWA, and others, case examples from within and outside the Mystic Watershed, and time for participant discussion and exploration of the opportunities and challenges of enhancing water quality in the Mystic.

**Participants:** Municipal staff, community leaders, representatives of nonprofits, and volunteers who work on water quality and related topics in the Mystic River Watershed are welcome.

**Why:** Many of us may be familiar with the huge problem of trash in oceans worldwide -- but did you know that most trash in our oceans comes from rivers, and most trash in rivers comes from the land? Join us to learn how reducing the sources of trash in our communities, and capturing escaped trash before it enters rivers, can lead to cleaner water far beyond the Mystic River watershed. Learn in a casual, interactive setting about strategies from EPA, MassDEP, and other municipalities in the watershed and across the country.

**Hosts:** EPA and MyRWA

[Click HERE](#) to RSVP for (any of) the virtual sessions

### Sessions:

#### **Session #1| April 2, 2021 | 1 – 3 PM ET**

**Title:** Trash Reduction & Capture: Lessons Learned and Best Practices, Part I

**Content:** This first session will include presentations on implications of trash in the Mystic River and potential solutions; examples of trash capture initiatives in Washington, D.C.; and applying curb guards in commercial and industrial areas.

**Presenters:** Matt Robinson, Environmental Protection Specialist, D.C. Department of Energy & Environment; Laura Schifman, Ph.D., State Stormwater Coordinator, MassDEP

**Session #2 | April 14, 2021 | 3 – 5 PM ET**

**Title:** Trash Reduction & Capture: Lessons Learned and Best Practices, Part II

**Content:** This second session will include presentations on trash reduction initiatives in Santa Monica Bay, California, and the New York/New Jersey State Parks as well as trash capture efforts in the Hudson River Watershed.

**Presenters:** Grace Lee, ReThink Disposable Program Director, Clean Water Action; Josh Kogan, Coordinator, Wet-Weather Programs, EPA Region 2

**Session #3 | May 6, 2021 | 9 AM – 12 PM**

**Title:** Working Session: How to Coordinate & Advance Trash Reduction in the Mystic River Watershed

**Content:** Participants will work together to explore possible projects and identify shared priorities for regional watershed-wide trash reduction activities that would make a meaningful difference to the Mystic River now and into the future.