



# Mystic River Watershed Stormwater Management Community Support

## Information Session

Notes will be available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/mysticriver>

# Agenda

An aerial photograph of an industrial city, likely Pittsburgh, featuring a river, a bridge, and numerous industrial buildings with smokestacks. The image is slightly blurred and has a warm, orange-tinted overlay.

- Introductions
- Project overview
- Open Discussion
- Wrap up

# Background: Mystic River Watershed Eutrophication Analysis (2016-2018)

Freshwater issues in the Mystic due to Eutrophication:

- excessive algal growth
- cyanobacteria blooms
- excessive aquatic plant growth (including invasives)

Nutrient sources: stormwater runoff, illicit sewer connections, CSOs, SSOs, erosion

The background image shows a river scene. On the left, there is a concrete structure, possibly a weir or a small dam, with water flowing over it. The water is a murky green color. In the background, there is a dense line of green vegetation, including tall grasses and some larger plants. The overall scene suggests a natural, somewhat overgrown river environment.

# Background: Mystic River Watershed Eutrophication Analysis (2016-2018)

The results of this study will  
estimate nutrient load reductions  
needed for the Mystic River Watershed  
and look at high-level stormwater  
management options

# Making Water Quality Progress through Stormwater Management Innovation

- Happens at the local level
- Is unique to each community
- Can reduce stormwater management costs
- Provides co-benefits  
(e.g., flood control, recreation)



Source: MyRWA



# Topics of Meetings

- Stormwater management challenges
- New research and technologies
- Low-cost and small-scale best management practices (BMPs)
- Stormwater management opportunities in routine projects
- Successful innovative stormwater management in New England – How can this be applied locally?



# The project team:

We are convening a group of subject matter experts

- UNH Stormwater Center
- Eastern Research Group (ERG)
- EPA and MassDEP
- MyRWA

to meet with you to discuss challenges and solutions  
specific to your stormwater management program



# The timeframe

The expert team (including municipal representatives) will meet periodically (est. 5 meetings) from November to May

To develop a workplan / next steps by June



# Benefits

- Discuss local stormwater challenges with a team of experts
- Learn about the latest research and innovations
- Create a stormwater management strategy to implement innovations over the next few years

# Application Process

1. Review the solicitation in your inbox or on our website at [www.epa.gov/mysticriver](http://www.epa.gov/mysticriver)
2. Webinars and question period
  - Webinars: Sept 11 & 13
  - Question period thru Sept. 14 (email to [whittle.caitlyn@epa.gov](mailto:whittle.caitlyn@epa.gov))
3. Write a letter of Interest
  - 1-3 pages

## **Important dates:**

- **September 21 – Letters are due**
- **October 1 – Selections complete**

# Selection Criteria

The timeliness of this effort to the community:

1. What work has your community been doing in the past few years to address stormwater runoff and pollution?
2. What are your plans, aspirations or concerns moving forward in the next few years? What are the biggest challenges that your community faces in effective stormwater management?



# Selection Criteria

The level of commitment from key individuals in the community:

3. Why is your municipality ready to move to the next level on stormwater management?
4. Who would participate on behalf of your municipality, why they are the right people, and have each of the people and organizations named committed to full engagement?

# Selection Criteria

Willingness to start the process of identifying challenges and opportunities in stormwater management:

5. What are the most important natural water resources in your community?
6. What is your municipality's experience with green infrastructure? Does the knowledge or experience differ across municipal departments?
7. Are there other water resources challenges you are dealing with in your town (e.g. flooding, groundwater recharge, erosion, beach closures, etc.)?

An aerial photograph of an industrial city, likely Pittsburgh, showing a river winding through the landscape. In the background, numerous tall smokestacks rise from a dense cluster of industrial buildings. The foreground features a mix of green trees and urban structures. The overall scene is captured in a slightly hazy, warm-toned light, possibly during sunrise or sunset.

# Discussion

- What questions do you have about this opportunity?

Feel free to type your questions in the chat box



# For More Information...

- We will be accepting written questions until Friday 9/14
- Answers to all questions will be posted on our website: <https://www.epa.gov/mysticriver> on Monday
- Reminder: letters of interest are due 9/21 via email to [whittle.Caitlyn@epa.gov](mailto:whittle.Caitlyn@epa.gov) and [warner.Suzanne@epa.gov](mailto:warner.Suzanne@epa.gov)