Stormwater Utility Funding
In Rhode Island

NEIWPC
25th Annual Nonpoint Source Pollution Conference

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Topics

- Interest in Stormwater Utilities in Rhode Island
- Reasons for Investigating Utilities
- Overview of Process
- Next Steps
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Interest in Stormwater Utilities in Rhode Island

- Preliminary Feasibility Studies
  - Middletown
  - Westerly
  - Bristol
  - North Providence
  - West Warwick
Interest in Stormwater Utilities in Rhode Island

- Ongoing Studies
  - Middletown Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study
  - Upper Narragansett Bay Regional Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study
    - Providence, East Providence, Central Falls, Pawtucket, Warwick, Cranston
  - North Providence – ERU analysis
  - West Warwick – Capital Infrastructure planning and ERU analysis
Topics

- Interest in Stormwater Utilities in Rhode Island
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Reasons for Stormwater Utility Investigation

- Lack of funding to address:
  - Flooding
  - Water Quality Impacts
  - Aging/Deteriorating Infrastructure
  - Regulatory Compliance
- Regional nature of problems
Topics

- Interest in Stormwater Utilities in Rhode Island
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- Next Steps
2 or 3 Step Process

With or without SWAC

DIMS Study

Feasibility Study

Utility Implementation
DIMS Roadmap

Background Information → Compelling Case → Program Priorities

Cost vs. Revenue → Show Stoppers → Next Steps If “GO”

This can be done in one afternoon… maybe
Feasibility Study Roadmap

This can be done in four meetings… maybe
Our Regional Approach Logical Argument

1. We have real, growing, shared and unresolved stormwater problems
2. We can solve these problems and there will be tangible benefits
3. It will cost more than we are now spending
4. It will be more efficient and effective doing so together
5. A stormwater user fee is the best and fairest way to pay for the improvements
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Next Steps

- Middletown
- Upper Narragansett Bay Regional Stormwater Utility
  - Finalize Phase I report
  - Presentations to municipal officials and/or town/city councils
  - Seek additional funding for Phase II
Questions and Comments?

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