



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# NRCS Flood Reduction & Disaster Projects (PL-566 & EWP) Update

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION  
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# PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954

Provides technical and financial assistance to Sponsors to help plan and implement authorized watershed projects for:

- Flood Prevention
- Watershed Protection
- Public Recreation
- Public Fish and Wildlife
- Agricultural Water Management
- Municipal and Industrial Water Supply
- Water Quality Management

# PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954

## Eligible Sponsors



Local Units or  
Subdivisions of State  
Government



State Government  
(water management  
districts, drainage  
districts, etc.)



Other Governmental  
Entities



Indian Tribes and  
Tribal Organizations

# PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954

## PROGRAM GOALS

Purpose and Cost Share		
Goal	Engineering	Construction
Flood Prevention	100%	100%
Watershed Protection	100%	Varies
Fish/ Wildlife/ Public Recreation	100%	Up to 50%
Agricultural Water Management	Up to 100%	Up to 75%
M&I Water Supply	0%	Up to 50%
Water Quality Management	Up to 100%	Varies

# PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954

## Current Active Projects In Rhode Island



**Pocasset River Watershed:** Cranston and Johnston – currently in Design Phase.  
(Approx \$70M for implementation phase)  
Focus on Flood Prevention and Watershed Protection.



**Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed:** Southern RI, Western CT - currently in Planning Phase. Focus on Flood Prevention and Watershed Protection.



**Woonasquatucket River Watershed:** Providence County - currently in Planning Phase. Focus on Flood Prevention and Watershed Protection.



# PL-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954

## Current Active Projects in Rhode Island (Cont.)

- Deep Pond and School House Pond Watershed – Tribal land, Washington County
- Winnapaug and Salt Ponds Watershed – Tribal land, Washington County
- Palmer River Watershed – Warren
- Pawtuxet River Watershed
- Paradise Brook and Maidford River Watershed
- Bailey Brook Watershed – Middletown
- Runnins River Watershed – East Providence
- Blackstone River Watershed
- Elizabeth River Watershed – Newport

# Emergency Watershed Protection Program



# Emergency Watershed Protection Program

## Authorized in 1950

- Drought added in 1978
- Floodplain Easements added in 1996

## Activation of the EWP Program

- Presidential Declaration
- NRCS State Conservationist Declaration
- Letter of request from Sponsor



# Emergency Watershed Protection Program

## Eligibility Criteria

- Damage was a result of a natural disaster?
- Recovery measures are for runoff retardation or soil erosion prevention?
- Threat to life and/or property?
- Event caused a sudden impairment in the watershed?
- Imminent threat was created by this event?
- Structural repairs, not repaired twice within ten years?
- Economically defensible?

**Must answer “Yes” to all these questions!**

# Emergency Watershed Protection Program

## Current Open EWP Projects In Rhode Island

- East Providence
- Middletown
- Johnston
- Cranston
- West Warwick
- Lincoln
- North Providence
- Providence

# Questions?

## Contact Information

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