

Lincoln's Climate Resiliency & Green Initiatives

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Photovoltaic arrays will be installed during the 2020 School Building Project making the School net-zero.
- Photovoltaic panels were installed at Codman Farm in 2019 making it the first solar energy system on a Town building. The combination of roof-top PV and a solar hot water system is expected to generate all of the electricity needed to operate the Farm, helping it achieve net-zero status.
- The Town is participating in the Town of Lexington's Technical Assistant Program (TAP) proposal to develop an EV Charging Strategy for the MAGIC sub region.

HAZARD MITIGATION

- Hazard mitigation takes action to reduce or eliminate risks to people and property from natural hazards such as floods, earthquakes, and hurricanes. The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act requires all municipalities who would like to be eligible to receive Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hazard mitigation grants to adopt a local hazard mitigation plan. This planning requirement does not affect disaster assistance funding.
- Lincoln's Plan was approved by FEMA on June 7, 2018 and is good for 5 years (June 2023). The plan can be found [here](#).

MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP)

- The Town was awarded a planning grant on May 29, 2018 to assess its vulnerability to climate change and to identify risks and strategies for creating resiliency in such areas as infrastructure and energy, agriculture and forestry, transportation and other service areas.
- The completed plan was approved by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on February 25, 2019 and Lincoln is now designated a state-certified MVP community, making it eligible for additional state grants to implement the plan's recommended actions. The plan can be found [here](#).

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY PLAN

- Lincoln, in collaboration with Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC) communities, (a sub-regional planning organization under Massachusetts Area Planning Council (MAPC) made up of 13 communities including Lincoln), developed a Climate Resiliency Plan which looks at community and regional vulnerabilities and strategies. The plan can be found [here](#).
- On February 23, 2021 the Town sent a letter of support to MAPC regarding the Town of Stow's project to build a climate resiliency coalition in the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord (SuAsCo) MAGIC region. The letter can be found [here](#). The Conservation Director, Michele Grzenda, is the Town's liaison.

STORMWATER / MS4 PERMIT

- Lincoln is a member community with the Charles River Watershed Association's "Climate Compact" group which seeks regional solutions to watershed based issues, including stormwater management.

- Lincoln is one of 260 Massachusetts communities regulated under the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and the 2016 Massachusetts Small Municipal Small Sewage Storage System (MS4) General Permit. The EPA has identified land disturbance and polluted stormwater runoff as a major source of water pollution. Under this permit, Lincoln is required to address regulation requirements which include adoption of a Stormwater Management Bylaw. The Town, with the help of a consultant, has developed a multi-year plan to address the requirements of this permit. The Town is currently in **Year 3** of this plan.
- **In Year 1, The Town completed the following requirements:**
 - o Developed and began public education and outreach program.
 - o Developed written IDDE plan including a procedure for screening and sampling outfalls.
 - o Completed mapping of outfalls, receiving waters, and impaired waters within the Town's urbanized area.
 - o Developed written procedures for site inspections and enforcement of sediment and erosion control measures.
 - o Developed written procedures for site plan review.
 - o Kept a log of catch basins cleaned or inspected.
 - o The Town submitted its Year 1 Annual Report to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) on September 20, 2019.
- **In Year 2, the Town completed the following requirements:**
 - o Developed a written catchment investigation procedure and added the procedure to the Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP).
 - o Enclosed or covered storage piles of salt or piles containing salt used for deicing or other purposes.
 - o Developed written operations and maintenance procedures for parks and open space, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment and added these procedures to the SWMP.
 - o Developed an inventory of all permittee owned facilities in the categories of parks and open space, buildings and facilities, and vehicles and equipment and added this inventory to the SWMP.
 - o Completed a written program for MS4 infrastructure maintenance to reduce the discharge of pollutants.
 - o Developed written Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs), included in the SWMP, for all of the following permittee owned or operated facilities: maintenance garages, public works yards, transfer stations, and other waste handling facilities where pollutants are exposed to stormwater.
 - o The Town submitted its Year 1 Annual Report to MassDEP on September 25, 2020.
- Lincoln is looking to adopt a Stormwater Management Bylaw at the 2021 Town Meeting. The most recent language of the Bylaw amendment can be found [here](#). Answers to frequently asked questions can be found [here](#). The Stormwater Management Bylaw includes two parts:

- Article I - Illicit Discharge Detection - The Board of Selectmen will administer and enforce Article I which prohibits pollutants and other non-stormwater discharge such as an indoor drains, sinks, toilets or washing machines from being discharged into the storm drain system or into a water course.
 - Article II – Stormwater Management - The Planning Board will administer the Stormwater Management program and adopt accompanying Rules and Regulations. The Stormwater Management Rules and Regulations will be adopted by the Planning Board at a Public Hearing following Town Meeting.
- In addition to the regional effort and adoption of the Stormwater Bylaw and Rules and Regulations, Lincoln, with the assistance of a consultant, has developed the following policy and plans:
- [Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination \(IDDE\) Plan](#)
 - [Catch Basin Management Plan](#)
 - [Stormwater Management Plan](#)
- Lincoln submits Annual Reports to EPA and MassDEP by September 30th of each year summarizing the progress of its SWMP. The NOI and Annual reports are available on the [EPA's website](#) as well as [clicking here](#).
- The Town continues its ongoing activities to protect the health of wetlands and watersheds through involvement with groups like the Charles River Stormwater Collaborative, MAGIC Stormwater Partnership, and SuAsCo River Stewardship Council.
- The Town conducts education and outreach on stormwater and natural resource protection. See the following examples:
- [Think Blue Massachusetts](#) "Fowl Water" video advertisement posted on Facebook, Instagram, & YouTube. Received 20,000 social media impressions from residents between June 2019 and June 2020.
 - Distributed a Think Blue fact sheet describing proper dog waste management with all dog license applications and renewals via the Town Clerk with 665 flyers distributed in Year 1.
 - Published a Letter to the Editor, "In Search of Storm Drains" outlining MS4 Permit requirements and ongoing mapping efforts on August 15, 2018 in Year 1.
 - Conservation Department hosted an ongoing series of conservation walks, 16 total between September 12, 2018 and June 5 2019, to introduce locals to conservation issues and connect residents to local natural resources.
 - Earth Day Town-Wide Cleanup - The Town hosted its annual cleanup day on April 22, 2019. The event focused on stream corridors, primarily along the Sudbury River along Route 117. 23 residents participated.
 - "BE A LEAF HERO" flyers detailing ways to reduce nutrients from leaf litter polluting stormwater were placed in main entranceway of Town Offices on October 23, 2020. Flyers were also sent to 25 local landscape companies on November 18, 2020. An article with the same information was posted in "News Acorns" section of Lincoln Squirrel on October 26, 2020 and on Lincoln Talk on October 28, 2020. That article was also circulated in the November 16, 2020 Concord Journal.

- Handbook on "Ecological Design, Construction, and Maintenance" was provided to all developers and interested residents. The Handbook is also available [here](#) for download from the Town's Conservation Commission website.
- The Town website includes free access, [here](#), to GIS data layers that, in part, pertain to stormwater. These layers include stormwater outfalls, catch basins, watersheds, and FEMA floodplain. These layers are continually updated.
- Town stormwater web page, [here](#), includes links to resources for residents, contractors and developers as well as external sites such as EPA and MassDEP.