

# STATEWIDE PLANNING e-NEWS

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## RI American Planning Association

The American Planning Association Rhode Island Chapter's annual awards and holiday party is Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at Forty 1° North, 351 Thames Street, Newport. The party is \$36 per person with a cash bar. Please RSVP by December 2, 2011



to Meredith Brady at [Meredith.brady@dot.ri.gov](mailto:Meredith.brady@dot.ri.gov).

## Statewide Planning Program Wins \$1.9 million HUD Sustainable Development Grant

The Rhode Island Division of Planning has won a \$1.9 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to create a new statewide housing and economic development plan. The plan, called "A Sustainable Rhode Island," will deal with gaps in the state's Guide Plan having to do with housing and economic development.

Anticipated project benefits include

- The identification and delineation of specific geographic areas within the State that are most suitable for infill and development including areas most appropriate for infrastructure investment.
- Capacity building within state and

local government and among participants in the planning process by increasing skills and technical expertise in sustainable development.

- Utilization of a public participation strategy to reach target populations, engaging them in the planning process and ensuring sustained participation throughout the RPSD implementation.

The grant is part of \$97 million in Sustainable Communities grants HUD is making this year.

Groups expected to be involved in the planning process funded with the Rhode Island grant award include Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Rhode Island Department of Health, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Grow Smart Rhode Island, and Rhode Island Legal Services.

## Transportation Improvement Program 2013-2016

Applications for the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) were received from 41 applicants including 36 communities and 5 organizations. A complete list of the applicants and applications may be viewed on the Statewide Planning web page at [www.planning.ri.gov/misc/TIP2013.htm](http://www.planning.ri.gov/misc/TIP2013.htm).

All applications were presented at one of the four regional public hearings held by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) during November. All the appli-

cations will be reviewed by the TAC according to the Project Selection Criteria which was part of the Guide to the TIP Development Process. After all the proposals have been reviewed and ranked, RIDOT and RISPP staff will prepare a draft TIP document which is expected to be ready by late February. This document will include text outlining policies and themes of the TIP, the transportation planning process, the organization of transportation planning in Rhode Island, and an analysis of the projects included in the document for funding. The document will be presented at a TAC public hearing for review.

## Division of Planning Committee Meetings



### Technical Committee

The meeting scheduled for December 2 **has been cancelled**. For the latest schedule information please see the Committee Calendar at [www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm](http://www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm).

### State Planning Council

Scheduled for December 8 at 9:00 a.m.; Conference Room A on the second floor of the Justice William E. Powers Building; Department of Administration; One Capitol Hill; Providence. For the latest schedule information please see the Committee Calendar at [www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm](http://www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm).

### Rhode Island Water Resources

Scheduled for December 18 at 1:00 p.m.; meeting location will be posted on the Secretary of State's website at <http://sos.ri.gov/>. For the latest schedule information please see the Board calendar at [www.wrb.ri.gov/meetings\\_schedule.html](http://www.wrb.ri.gov/meetings_schedule.html).

### Transportation Advisory Committee

No December meeting is scheduled. For the latest schedule information please see the Committee Calendar at [www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm](http://www.planning.ri.gov/misc/calendar.htm).

### Rhode Island Housing Commission

No December meeting is scheduled. For the latest schedule information please see the Commission Calendar at [www.hrc.ri.gov/calendar/index.php](http://www.hrc.ri.gov/calendar/index.php).



## Office of Training and Development

The Office of Training and Development schedule of classes for fall 2011 is available at [www.admin.ri.gov/otd/](http://www.admin.ri.gov/otd/). This schedule includes computer classes on Microsoft Access, Excel Power-Point, and Word. Additionally a course on Interpersonal Communication Skills is available. Check the website for classes, times, and registration information. Please contact Melissa Day at 222-2178 or at [mday@gw.doa.state.ri.us](mailto:mday@gw.doa.state.ri.us) if you have any questions, or have any suggestions for future course offerings.

## University of Rhode Island Landscape Architecture Lectures 2011 – 2012

The University of Rhode Island has begun the 2011 - 2012 Landscape Architecture Lectures series. All lectures are held in the Weaver Auditorium on the Kingston Campus of the University of Rhode Island. This series is co-sponsored by the College of the Environment and Life Sciences, the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association. All lectures are free and open to the public; the lecture hall is handicapped accessible. General questions about the series may be directed to Deb Hughes at [Dmhughes@ds.uri.edu](mailto:Dmhughes@ds.uri.edu) or at 874-2983

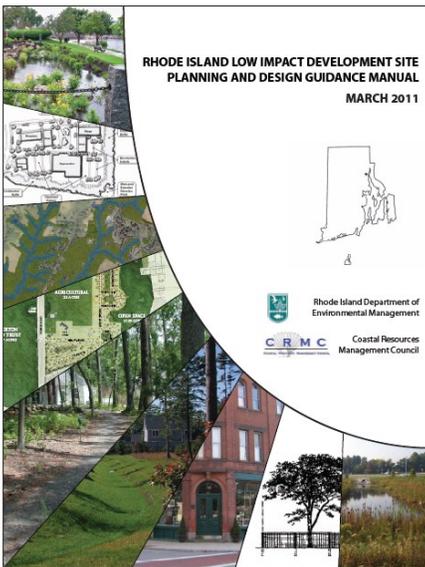
- December 1 - Keith LeBlanc; Principal, Keith LeBlanc Landscape Architecture; Boston, MA. *Site Responses for Residential Design*.
- February 23 - Catherine Weaver; Principal, Tupelo Gardenworks, Wakefield, RI. *Challenges From the Field*.
- March 8 - Marc Miller; Lecturer in Landscape Architecture, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. *Prototyping Topography: Landscape, 3d Printing and Practice*.
- March 22 - Calvin Ahbe; Principal, Ahbe Landscape Architects; Culver City, CA. March 22.
- April 19 - TBA.

## Division of Municipal Finance

**Municipal Memo:** This Legislative Reference Service can be found at [www.muni-info.ri.gov/legislation](http://www.muni-info.ri.gov/legislation). Both current and past issues are available at this site.

**Directory of City & Town Officials:** This 2011 directory, updated through November 8, is available at [www.muni-info.ri.gov/publications](http://www.muni-info.ri.gov/publications). Paper copies of the directory are also available; please contact Susan Moss at 222-4468 or at [Susan.Moss@dor.ri.gov](mailto:Susan.Moss@dor.ri.gov) for specifics.

## Low Impact Development (LID) Site Planning and Design Workshop



This workshop will present an overview of the new *Rhode Island Community LID Site Planning and Design Guidance Manual* (the LID Manual). The LID Manual provides communities with specific guidance, case studies and economic justification that can be used to revise existing land use regulations to more effectively avoid and reduce the impacts of development to water quality, habitat, and community character while at the same time helping to reduce municipal service costs, increase property values, and preserve community character.

This companion guidance to the new *Rhode Island Stormwater Design and Installation Standards Manual* (the Stormwater Manual) will help communities to more effectively meet LID standards and requirements as outlined in the Stormwater Manual. This workshop will not focus on the engineering techniques outlined in the Stormwater Manual. The intended audience for this workshop includes planners and other municipal staff and officials (3.0 AICP CM credits offered), designers, builders, non-profit staff, etc.

The workshop will be presented Wednesday, December 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, (registration and coffee begin at 8:30 a.m.) at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Room 300; 235 Promenade Street; Providence. There is no charge for the workshop but pre-registration is required; please contact Jennifer West, Narragansett Bay Research Reserve Coastal Training Program Coordinator at [jennifer@nbnerr.org](mailto:jennifer@nbnerr.org) or 222-4700 x 7413. Refreshments will be provided.

## ArcGIS Classes

### Introduction to ArcGIS 10

This three-day hands-on computer course provides an introduction to the capabilities and functionality of ESRI's ArcGIS 10, software. Using the current version of the software, you will learn how to use ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox. In addition, you will be taught the fundamentals of working with GIS data; how to query a GIS database; edit spatial and attribute data; and how to present data using maps, reports, and graphs. There will also be extensive work with the [Rhode Island Geographic Information System \(RIGIS\)](#) database.



All students receive hands-on software instruction, course books with exercises and with accompanying training data. Upon successful completion of the course, students receive a URI Certificate of Course Completion. Classes are taught at [URI's Kingston campus](#).

The course will be offered twice, January 10 through 12, 2012 and March 19 through 21, 2012. Registration for the course is \$750 and pre-registration is required. For more information and to register please visit [http://geospatial.uri.edu/training/registration\\_geo.htm](http://geospatial.uri.edu/training/registration_geo.htm).

### Working with ArcGIS Online

This half-day training will introduce students to ESRI's new online mapping service available at [ArcGIS.com](http://ArcGIS.com). The training will explore the ready to use maps available, and also explore the basic functionality of the applications available. This workshop will explore the mapping and querying tools available in ArcGIS Explorer Online application, and the ArcGIS Viewer application. There will also be a focus on the maps available from RIGIS and on creating your own maps. You will create your own maps, your own data and share these maps via email, Facebook, Twitter or embed the code into your own website.

The course will be offered three times, January 4, 2012; January 17, 2012; and March 22, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day. Registration for the course is \$100 and pre-registration is required. For more information and to register please visit [http://geospatial.uri.edu/training/registration\\_geo.htm](http://geospatial.uri.edu/training/registration_geo.htm).

## WTS-Rhode Island

### Event Stipend Program

WTS-Rhode Island is currently accepting applications for their Event Stipend Program from professionals in the field of transportation whose employers do not reimburse them to attend WTS events. Up to three applicants will be selected to receive reduced event rates and serve on a WTS-Rhode Island committee for this two-year program. The deadline for applications is Friday, December 9. For more information please contact Maureen Chlebek, WTS-Rhode Island Membership Committee Chair at

[Maureen.chlebek@mcmtrans.com](mailto:Maureen.chlebek@mcmtrans.com). For the Event Stipend Program flyer, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/3oyx289>.

### Holiday Social

Please join WTS-Rhode Island for their annual Holiday Social on Thursday, December 8 at 5:00 p.m. at the new Jacky's Waterplace and Sushi Bar in Providence. To register for this event please contact Stephanie Dvelis at 333-2383 or at [wtsrhodeisland@gmail.com](mailto:wtsrhodeisland@gmail.com) by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7. For the Holiday Social flyer, visit <http://tinyurl.com/77919ya>.

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## Grow Smart Rhode Island's Power of Place Summit

Grow Smart Rhode Island's 4th biennial Power of Place Summit will take place at the Rhode Island Convention Center on Friday, May 11, 2012. Check the [Grow Smart RI](#) website for details on partnership opportunities, workshop proposals, and more information.

## Economic Development Investment Assistance

The Office of Strategic Planning & Economic Development is seeking proposals for projects from eligible applicants interested in applying to the federal Economic Development Administration for public works or planning grants in Fiscal Year 2012. This is an opportunity to submit proposals for projects using federal funds to implement some of the state's long-range economic development objectives and policies on the local and regional level. Project proposals will undergo a selection process. Selected projects that meet federal and state criteria will become part of a "Priority Project List" that will be presented to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). This will qualify these projects to compete for grants under the EDA's Public Works and Development Facilities Program. Application are received on an ongoing basis but must be received no less than 60 days prior to the beginning of the federal fiscal quarter in which the applicant intends to apply for funds.

Potentially eligible CEDS applicants include cities and towns, public agencies, academic institutions, and local and regional non-profit economic development organizations. Please contact [Robert Griffith](#) if you are interested submitting a proposal and/or if they are interested in receiving application instructions and materials.

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## Grow Smart Rhode Island Land-Use Training Collaborative / Narragansett Bay Research Reserve Calendar

This calendar is available for use by elected and appointed municipal officials and planners, citizen advocates, the natural resource protection community and the design and development community. The calendar can be found at [www.communityconnectionri.org](http://www.communityconnectionri.org). Please visit Grow Smart RI at [www.growsmartri.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=489](http://www.growsmartri.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=489) for information about including a listing.



### RIGIS Upcoming Event Calendar

The RIGIS (Rhode Island Geographic Information System) home page has an event calendar listing upcoming GIS programs and events. The 'Event Calendar' link provides basic information on the programs and events is displayed. If you are interested in adding an event to this calendar, please submit the details to [RIGIS Coordinator Shane White](#) for consideration.

## U.S. Census

### American Community Survey (ACS)

The American Community Survey (ACS) is conducted every year to provide up-to-date information about the social and economic needs of your community. The ACS shows how people live--our education, housing, jobs and more. In the past this detailed information was obtained through the Census long form questionnaire once every ten years. The American Community Survey (ACS) results are collected from a sample of the population in the United States and Puerto Rico. All ACS data are survey estimates.

The ACS presents data in three formats: 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year data sets. The 1-year estimates will present data only for geographic areas with populations exceeding 65,000. In Rhode Island, that means that the 1-year estimates will present data for the state, four counties (Kent, Newport, Providence, and Washington), and four communities (Cranston, Pawtucket, Providence, and Warwick). The 3-year estimates will present data for areas with populations exceeding 20,000. In the Ocean State, that means the 3-year ACS will present data for all those areas included in the 1-year ACS plus Bristol County and an additional fourteen communities.

1-year estimates are available at [2010 ACS 1-year Estimates Released \(posted 9/22/11\)](#).

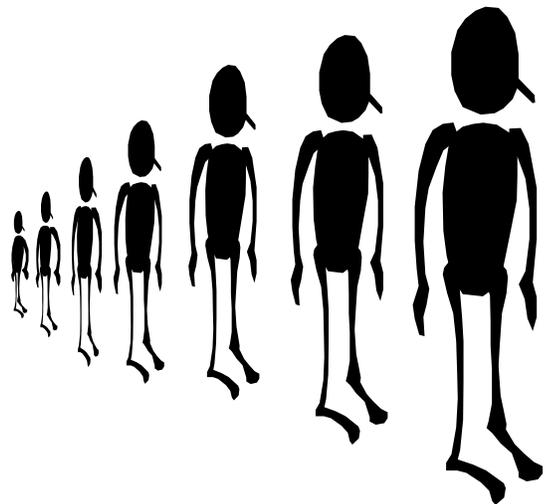
3-year estimates are available at [2008-2010 ACS 3-year Estimates Released \(posted 10/27/11\)](#).

The next ACS 5 year estimates (2006-2010) will be available in December 2011 and will provide information on income, poverty, housing costs, educational attainment, ancestry, and

other selected topics for all geographies in Rhode Island, including the state, all counties, all thirty-nine cities and towns, census tracts, block groups, and block level data. For guidance on when to use 1, 3, or 5 year ACS data visit [www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance\\_for\\_data\\_users/estimates/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/estimates/).

### QuickFacts

Checkout the U.S. Census Bureau State and County QuickFacts available at <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/44000.html>. QuickFacts information includes populations (2010 Rhode Island population is 1,052,567), housing, education, and commuting time; Business QuickFacts including employment, firms, shipments, and sales, and Geography QuickFacts including land area (Rhode Island land area is 1,033.81 square miles), density (Rhode Island has 1,018.1 persons per square mile), and FIPS code (Rhode Island's code is 44).



## Conservation Development Workshop

Conservation Development is one of the most effective ways to implement the first step of Low Impact Development- avoiding the negative effects of stormwater runoff. It is a creative site design technique that allows a community to work collaboratively with developers to guide growth to the most appropriate areas within a parcel of land, in order to minimize negative impacts to the environment and preserve community character. This compact form preserves at least 50 percent of a given development site as open space, with no cost to the community.

At this workshop you will learn how conservation development fits into the Rhode Island legal framework for subdivision review and how it can benefit your community; and participate in a hands-on exercise to practice applying conservation development principles to an actual site. There will also be ample discussion time to get your questions answered

If your municipality has adopted a conservation development ordinance, or may adopt one in the future, this workshop is for you. And if you participated in a Conservation Development workshop a few years ago please feel free to join for a refresher course. This workshop is intended for planners and other

municipal staff and officials (3.0 AICP CM credits offered), designers, builders, non-profit staff, etc.

The workshop will be presented Wednesday, November 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, (registration and coffee begin at 8:30 a.m.) at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Room 300; 235 Promenade Street; Providence. There is no charge for the workshop but pre-registration is required. To register, please contact [Jennifer West](mailto:jennifer@nberr.org), Narragansett Bay Research Reserve Coastal Training Program Coordinator at [jennifer@nberr.org](mailto:jennifer@nberr.org) or 222-4700 x 7413.