



SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
New England District
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Date: February 9, 2021
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SUBJECT: Announcement of the Upcoming U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (USACE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1 (EPA) Joint Outreach Events for the State of Rhode Island.

PURPOSE: The USACE and EPA are holding a virtual joint outreach event to inform the general public, applicants, sponsors, consultants, and industry of changes in regulations/policy related to Department of the Army Permits.

EVENT INFORMATION:

We held similar outreach events for the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont in December 2020. We will hold this outreach event for the State of Rhode Island on March 2, 2021 starting at 9:00 a.m. and it should conclude by 12:30 p.m. depending on public participation. We recommend that you log into the event approximately 10 minutes before it starts. Please register for the event using the following link:

<https://usace1.webex.com/usace1/j.php?RGID=ra461504c34135aa92950fae9da157de8>.

The USACE and EPA will provide an overview of the Navigable Waters Protection Rule (NWPR), which became effective June 22, 2020 and provided a revised definition for waters of the U.S. The NWPR clarifies the scope of waters federally regulated under the Clean Water Act. The NWPR includes four categories of jurisdictional waters and provides specific exclusions for many water features that traditionally have not been regulated. The Federal Register notice is available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/21/2020-02500/the-navigable-waters-protection-rule-definition-of-waters-of-the-united-states>. Additional information about the rule can be found on the EPA's website at <https://www.epa.gov/nwpr>.

The USACE and EPA will provide other program updates and answer questions regarding the regulatory process. In addition, State of Rhode Island regulatory agencies will also participate in the event. Please consult the USACE New England District Regulatory website for an updated agenda: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Outreach-Events>.

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CONTACT INFORMATION: This is an informational public notice; therefore, we are not seeking public comments. However, requests for additional information may be directed to Mr. Greg Penta at gregory.r.penta@usace.army.mil or (978) 318-8862.



Tammy R. Turley
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If you would prefer not to continue receiving public notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil.