Grist for the Mill:

Essential Ingredients that Support Communities in Adaptation

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Research Origins & Goals

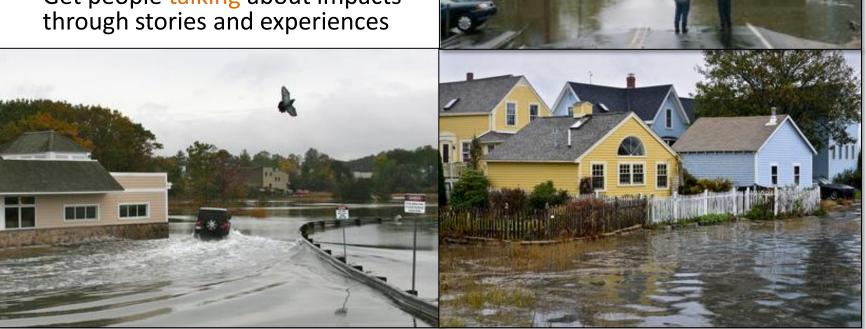
- M.S. Thesis (2012) using case study research
 - 1. What are the common factors that prompt communities to engage in climate adaptation?
 - 2. [.....]
 - 3. [.....]
- Supplemented by experiences with NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup
- Reinforced at National Adaptation Forum (2013)

Essential Ingredients that Support Communities in Adaptation:

1. Experience with Extreme Weather

These impacts help to:

- Show consensus of existing vulnerabilities – We've got problems!
- **Inspire** action to reduce future impacts
- Get people talking about impacts through stories and experiences



Essential Ingredients that Support Communities in Adaptation:

2. Local Leadership on Climate Change

Local leaders or "climate champions" help to:

- Proclaim climate change is a local priority
- Filter the jargon
- Identify & bring stakeholders to the table
- Sustain the dialogue on climate change





Essential Ingredients that Support Communities in Adaptation:

3. Trusted Technical Assistance

Climate change is a big challenge!
Communities need:

Convening & facilitation support

Access to and interpretation of information

Long-term assistance



Putting it all together

Recommendations to adaptation practitioners:

- 1. Leverage extreme weather events by creating opportunities for community members to share stories and experiences.
- 2. Seek out climate champions early.
- 3. Invest in the relationships and trust.



Questions & Discussion

- How have you seen these factors at play with adaptation in your community? In your work?
 - Extreme weather events
 - Local leadership on climate change
 - Trusted technical assistance
- Have you experienced other "essential ingredients?"