

Session 2 – Concurrent Presentations



Resilient People
Location: Room 3

Learning from the Great Bay: Practices for Equitable Relationship Building & Resource Sharing – *Lucy Perkins (Siler Climate Consulting)*

Filling the Gap: Helping Neighborhoods Be Prepared – *Maureen Aylward-Bover (TownGreen)*

Developing a Nature-Based Solutions Workforce in Rhode Island – *Stephanie Moniz (Groundwork RI)*

Learning from the Great Bay

Practices for Equitable Relationship Building & Resource Sharing

NHCAW Climate Summit

May 21, 2026



Today we will:

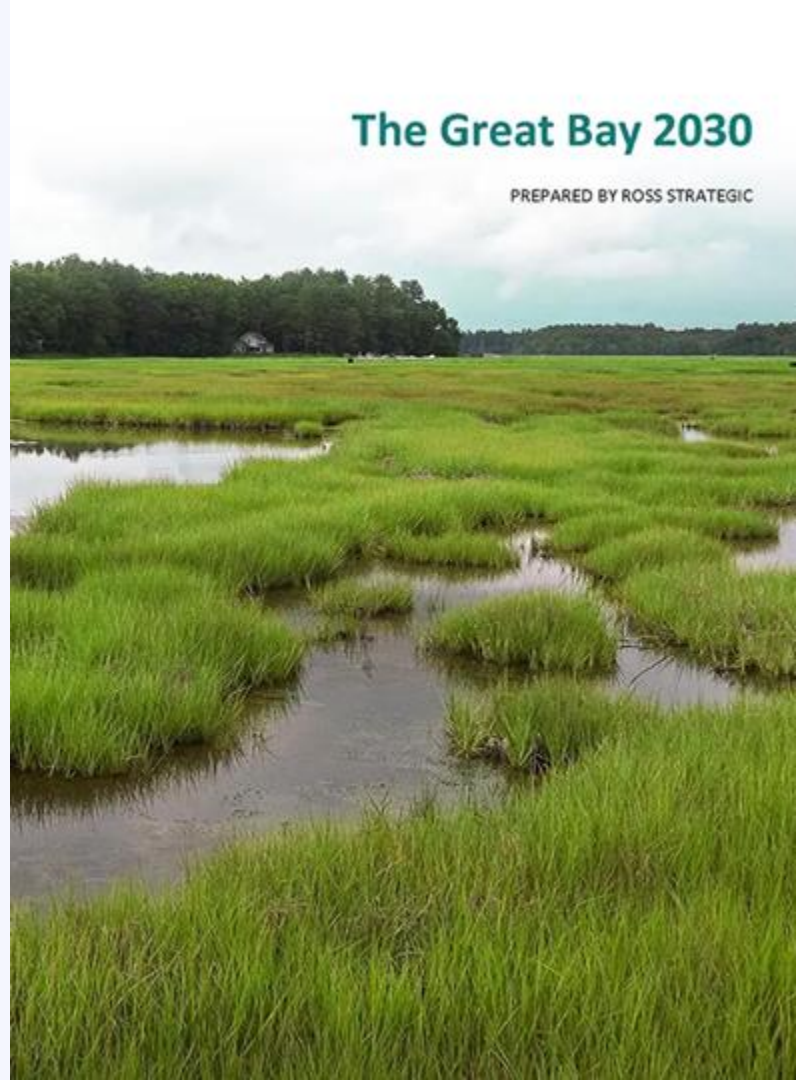
- Introduce Great Bay 2030
- Share learnings and areas of growth
- Practice with a new framework
- Set intentions & close out

Great Bay 2030 Vision

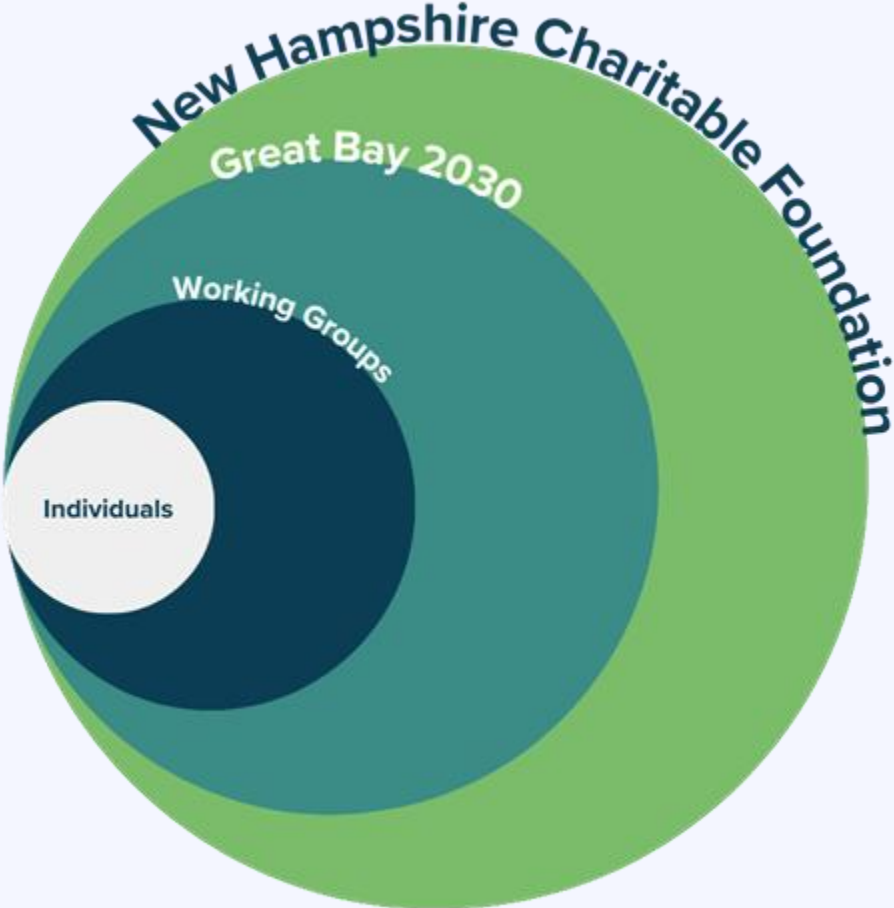
The vision of Great Bay 2030 is to promote a healthy Great Bay Estuary, distinguished by **clean water**, **accessible lands for recreation and education**, **habitat for fish and wildlife**, **climate resilience**, and **engaged communities** committed to supporting the watershed for generations to come.

The Great Bay 2030

PREPARED BY ROSS STRATEGIC



Commitments to equity in grantmaking requires work across scales.



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Our Work: Support and facilitate better engagement of all audiences in this geography, including, communities and stakeholders who historically have not been involved in Great Bay-related efforts, and who may offer new perspectives and needs.

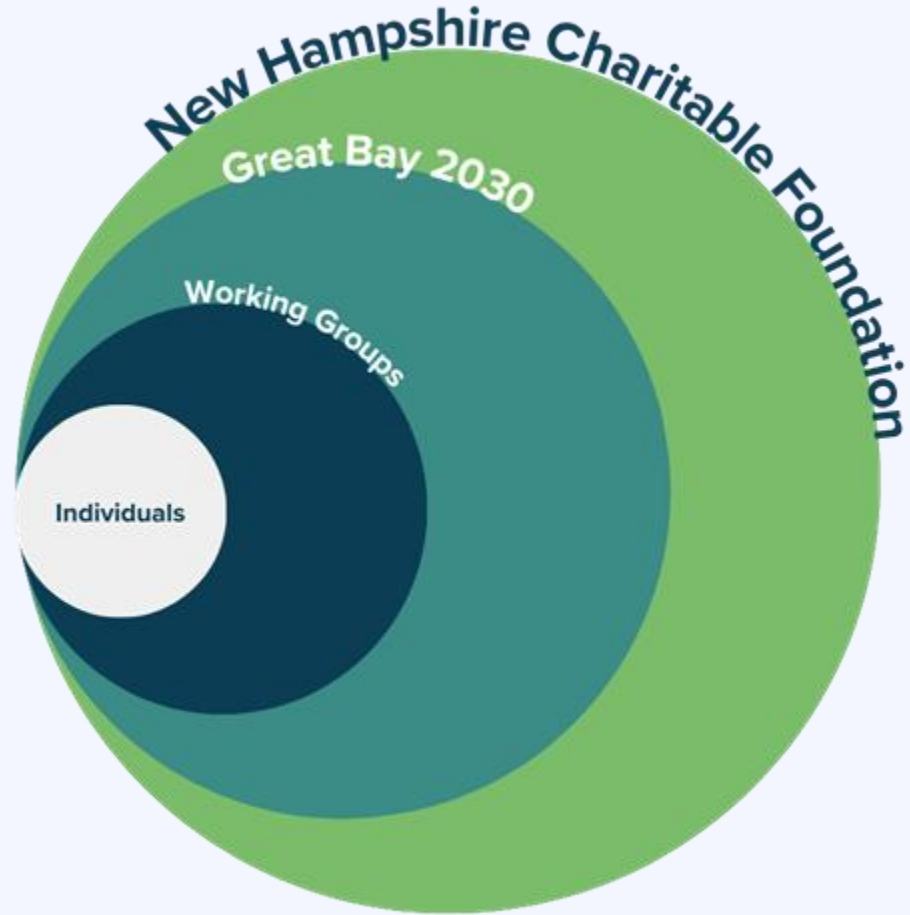




Image Credit: Jerry Monkman

Key Theme: Great Bay 2030 members want to lead meaningful engagement and build mutually beneficial relationships but don't always know how or where to start.



Image Credit: Jerry Monkman

Key Theme: Identifying and addressing root causes of inaction and stagnation will be essential to making sustained and long-term progress toward EDIJ goals.

Building Movements Project: Social Change Ecosystem Map





What can you or your organization offer?

What other skills or roles are in your ecosystem?

What action will support or grow your ecosystem in alignment with your values?



Lucy Perkins

Director of Climate Resilience
Siler Climate Consulting

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Vidya Balasubramanyam

Research, Science, and Program
Director

Coastal States Organization

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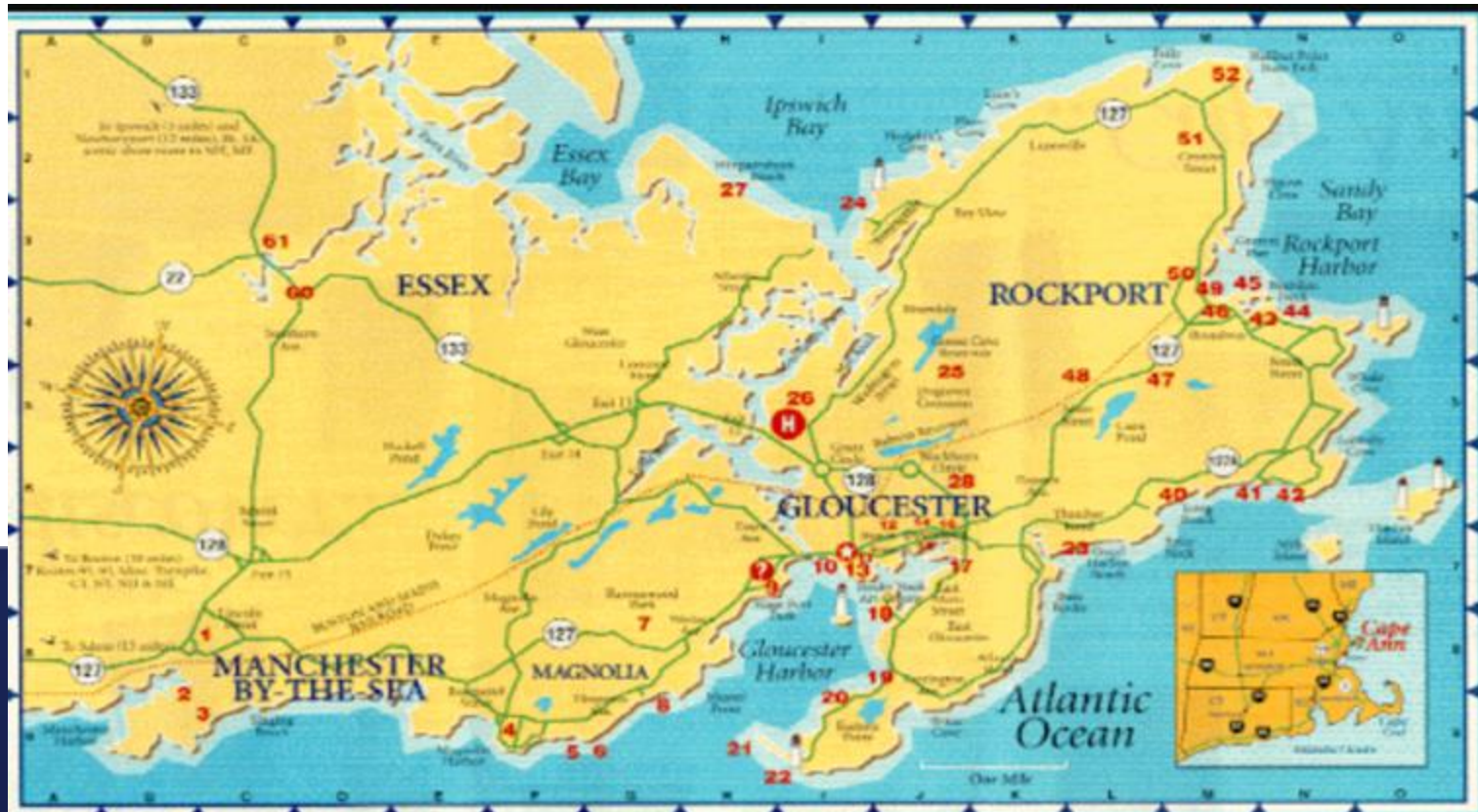


NH Coastal Climate Summit
Thursday, May 21st
UNH

***Filling the Gap: Helping
Neighborhoods Be Prepared***

Maureen Aylward-Bover
Executive Director

Our Region: Cape Ann



TownGreen: About Us

2015: Founded

2022: Nonprofit status

2025:

- Launched Cape Ann MARCH Municipal Working Group and Neighborhood Resiliency Project
- Hired MARCH Director and Development Director

2026:

- Launching neighborhood sessions
- Hiring a part-time Community Organizer



New Initiatives

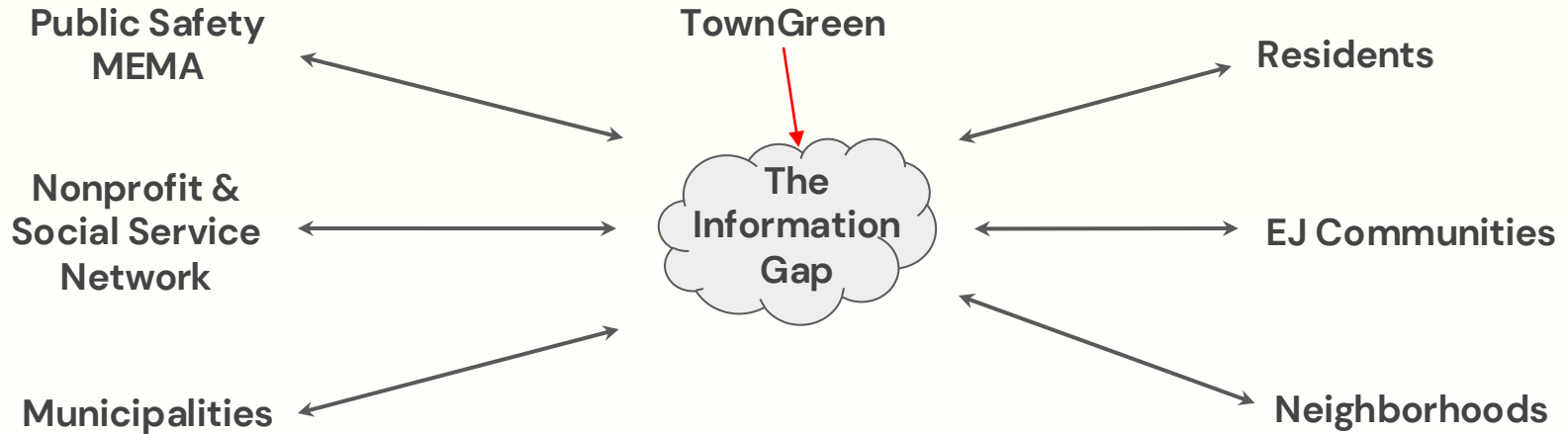


**Cape Ann
MARCH**
TownGreen



**The Neighborhood
Resiliency Project**
TownGreen

The Idea: A Social Resilience Model



Trust-building

Awareness

Communication

Language

Agency



The Neighborhood Resiliency Project

TownGreen

Identifying Strategic Partners



**American
Red Cross**



Office of Emergency Management



Building the Neighborhood Resiliency Network

Essential Services



ACTION INC.



SeniorCare

Elder Services | Information | Solutions



THE Open Door

Feeding people. Changing lives.



Wellspring
Endless Possibilities



Pathways
for children

Since 1967



NORTH SHORE
COMMUNITY HEALTH

Municipal and Gov't Agencies



Gloucester Public Schools



CATA
Cape Ann Transportation Authority



Across Cape Ann

- Municipalities
- Housing Authorities
- Health Departments
- Councils on Aging
- Libraries

Cape Ann Regional Emergency Planning Committee (CAREPC)

Community Groups



BACKYARD GROWERS



Cape Ann Animal Aid
Christopher Cutler Rich ANIMAL SHELTER

Cape Ann Clergy Association and Faith-based Groups

Working in the Community

Drop-in Sessions with Language Access



Small Group Sessions



Public Safety Officials



Working in the Neighborhoods

**Neighborhood
Community Response
Training with Red Cross**



**Neighborhood Sessions:
At Risk, EJ, Low-lying,
Block parties, Potlucks,
Backyards**



**Businesses and CBOs:
Flood Risk and
Preparedness**



Impact: January–April 2026

- Goal: 30 + groups: **18 nonprofits, civic groups engaged**
- Goal: 7 municipalities: **4 Cape Ann communities engaged**
- Goal: 200 emergency go-bags distributed: **93 bags distributed**
- Goal: 30 programs/300 people reached: **11 programs reached 170 people**
- Goal: Provide language access: **Offering Spanish and Portuguese**
Reaching native speakers: Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Mandarin, Arabic, Kannada, Hindi, Swahili, Ukrainian, Sicilian, Italian

How We're Funded: 2025-2027

- **\$225K three-year commitment from Essex County Community Foundation: Flood Mitigation and Systems Change**
- **\$75K Metropolitan Area Planning Council Accelerating Climate Resilience Grant**
- **\$25K Massachusetts State Earmark**
- **\$75K in major gifts over three years**
- **Private donations and grants**

Thank You! Questions?

Maureen Aylward-Bover
TownGreen Executive Director
maureen@town-green.org



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STORM CREW

DEVELOPING A NATURE-BASED
SOLUTIONS WORKFORCE IN RHODE
ISLAND

Highlighting the people who make the work possible





GROUNDWORK
Rhode Island



Adult Environmental Job Training



Groundcorp





HOW DID WE GET HERE



CENTER FOR
**WATERSHED
PROTECTION**

CLEAN WATER CERTIFICATE TRAINING PROGRAM

1

Adult Environmental Job Training
Program

2

Graduate from Job Training/

Earn CWC certificate (Pre-requisite for Storm
Crew)

3

Participate in 16-week internship

BRIDGING THE GAPS





New Bioswale installation in south Providence



Our friend Sam
CF Mart
Loves to lend a hand



Establishment care for young trees in low canopy neighborhoods



OUR MOST RECENT SUPERVISORS



**Rich &
Kenny**
Supervisors



RICHARD “RICH” ZEVALLOS



Adult environmental job training graduate



Aquarius

Providence Native

The only adult little league mvp in history

WHEN WE ASKED..



Where is there potential for the industry to grow/add/change/adapt to be more impactful to communities?

“I want to see those who are established in this industry have a bigger visibility in the communities they serve by employing, interacting and engaging them through education, outreach, and job opportunities. ”

KENNETH “KENNY” BROOKS



Garden Time Green Reentry graduate

Capricorn

Providence Native

Gamer /bullied by children on the internet

WHEN WE ASKED..



What is it that you want to highlight about the work you've done as part of Storm crew?

“The appreciation that they show us puts a smile on my face and a good feeling in my heart.. ”

PARTNERSHIPS MAKE IT POSSIBLE..

- Garden Time/Canopy Crew
- Providence Neighborhood Planting program
- Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council
- Stormwater Innovation Center
- City of Providence/Providence Dept. Of Public works
- City of Central Falls/ Central Falls Dept. of Public works
- City of Pawtucket
- Green Infrastructure Center
- Maiseys Tree Farm 3LC
- Open fARMS Retreat
- EPA/Southern New England Program*
- RI Dept of Environmental Management



WHAT'S NEXT



Interested in healthier waterways or green infrastructure?
Sign up for the Center for Watershed Protection's
Clean Water Certificate
training program
led by Groundwork RI!

Open to the general public.



Fill out our
interest form!



What is the Clean Water Certificate Training:

- ANSI/ANAB nationally-accredited certificate that never expires
- Classroom and hands-on training with all material provided
- Beginner to intermediate level stormwater management training focused on **Construction, Inspection, and Maintenance of Green Stormwater Infrastructure**
- Both Individual and Group registration \$300/pp* (Financial Aid Available)
- Builds your knowledge and skills supporting both personal and professional goals

CENTER FOR
**WATERSHED
PROTECTION**

ANAB
ANSI National Accreditation Board
ACCREDITED

SNEP
NETWORK

GROUNDWORK
Rhode Island

For more information or to inquire about
training for your organization, contact us at
info@groundworkri.org