

Charles River Climate Compact

Resilience Strategic Plan

SWAP Meeting
December 13, 2022

What is the Charles River Climate Compact?

Definition

The Charles River Climate Compact is a voluntary partnership of communities in the Charles River Watershed, convened by the Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) that **work on climate adaptation by sharing information and experiences and taking a watershed view of climate adaptation and mitigation strategies.**

The Climate Compact addresses challenges such as **precipitation-based flooding, sea level rise, extreme heat, and ecosystem health** through regional collaboration and information sharing, and addresses how actions and policies of a single community impact neighboring or downstream communities.

What is the Charles River Climate Compact?

THE RIVER THAT CONNECTS US

Our Watershed

The Charles River, also known as the Quinobequin, springs from its source in Hopkinton and flows through twenty-three cities and towns along its **meandering, unhurried, eighty-mile journey** to meet the sea at Boston Harbor.

With over eighty brooks and streams, several major aquifers, and thirty-three lakes and ponds, the Charles River watershed encompasses a staggering **308 square miles** of Massachusetts, and **it is home to just under a million people.**

We humbly recognize the Massachusett, Wampanoag, and Nipmuc Nations, as our work is carried out across their traditional territory, and we acknowledge Indigenous people as past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

DO YOU LIVE IN OUR WATERSHED?

Our watershed includes Arlington, Ashland, Bellingham, Belmont, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Dedham, Dover, Foxborough, Franklin, Holliston, Hopedale, Hopkinton, Lexington, Lincoln, Medfield, Medway, Mendon, Milford, Millis, Natick, Needham, Newton, Norfolk, Sherborn, Somerville, Walpole, Waltham, Watertown, Wayland, Wellesley, Weston, Westwood, and Wrentham.

**27 out of 35
communities
are in the
Climate
Compact**

Project Background

CRCC Mission

The Charles River Climate Compact's mission is to **work collaboratively to increase climate resilience for people, and the natural ecosystems in the Charles River watershed** by taking a regional approach to implementing climate adaptation and mitigation solutions.

Project Goal:

Develop a regional Climate Resilience Strategic Plan for the Charles River Climate Compact

Funding source:

MAPC's Technical Assistance Program (TAP) and District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program



Project Partners



Project Tasks



Task 1:
**Stakeholder
Engagement**



**Task 2: Goals
& Priorities
Setting**



Task 3:
**Implementation
Strategy Identification
& Evaluation**



**Task 4: Draft,
Review, Finalize
Climate Resilience
Strategic Plan**

Key Terms

Vision

Your hope for the future of the watershed

"Watershed communities are working together to prepare for, and be resilient to, climate change impacts."

Value

A principle or standard to guide decision-making and prioritization

"Maximize co-benefits of climate actions that amplify quality of life, health, and well-being for all residents."

Goal

An objective the CRCC will aim to achieve

"Develop a shared understanding of future flood impacts to guide decision making across the region."

Strategy

A tactic used to achieve a goal

"Build a watershed scale flood model."

Take the Charles River Climate Compact Resilience Strategic Plan Survey

**We Want
to Hear
From YOU!**

Scan the
QR code:



mapc.ma/crccsurvey