




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

**MAPC  
FROM RISK TO RECOVERY:  
A COMMUNITY RESILIENCE  
CONFERENCE**

**April 7, 2026**



**TownGreen's mission on Cape Ann is to build climate resilience by offering community-specific climate and preparedness education, hands-on learning opportunities, a regional working group, project facilitation, and volunteer-led advisory groups.**

# Our Region: Cape Ann

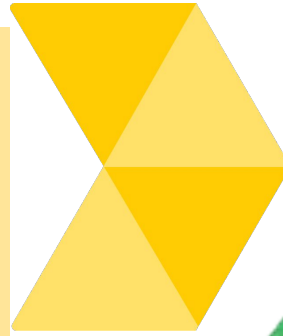
Flooding is a major threat to all communities



## Challenges on Greater Cape Ann

- Significant climate threats
- Lack of local capacity, such as staff and funding
- Residents need additional information about threats and challenges
- Vulnerable populations require language and accessibility services
- Urgency due to storms, extreme rain, and extreme heat

- **Convenes regional municipalities**
- **Hosts bi-monthly meetings**
- **Brings added capacity and new resources – a clearinghouse of climate-related information**
- **Facilitates local and regional adaptation and resilience projects, programs**
  - **The Neighborhood Resiliency Project (NRP)**
  - **MVP 2.0 Planning Process**



# **Cape Ann MARCH**

**TownGreen**

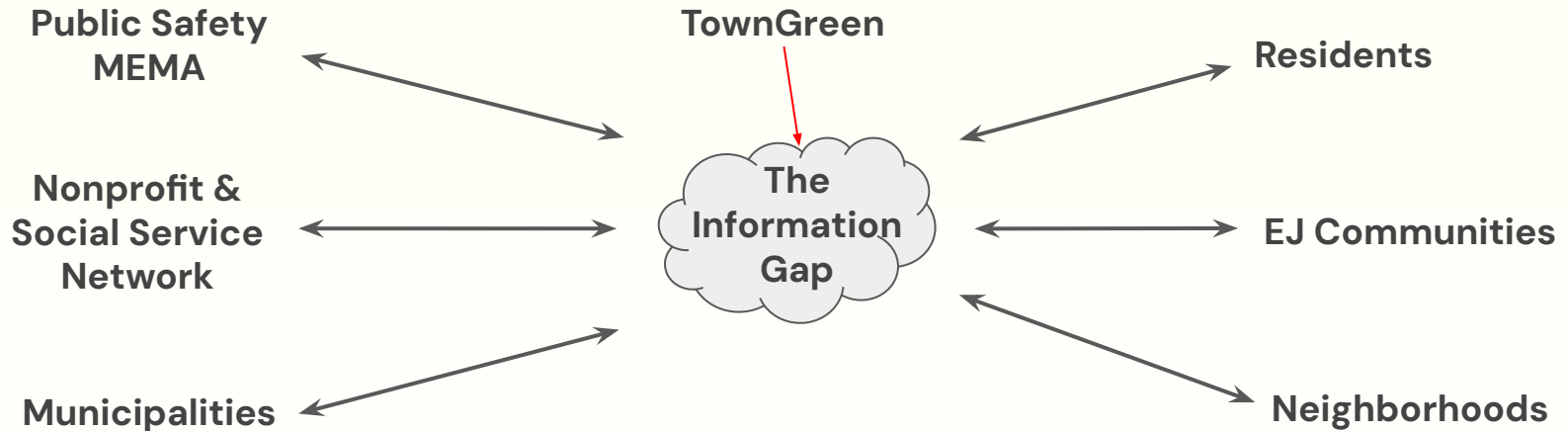
**Mitigation,  
Adaptation, Resilient  
Climate Hub**

**Regional Municipal  
Working Group**

## **What is the Information Gap?**

- **Information gap between public safety professionals and residents on emergency preparedness due to capacity issues**
- **Neighborhoods and residents are vulnerable to flooding and need information on the threats and how best to respond**
- **Residents are eager to learn how to prepare but need support**
- **There is a lack of language access for public events and in printed materials**

# The Social Resilience Model We're Building



Trust-building

Language

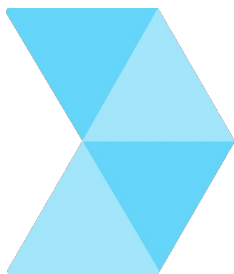
Communication

Awareness

Empowerment

## Actions to Close the Gap

- **Implementing NRP:** Gloucester first and across Cape Ann; model for the region
- **Building the Network:** Nonprofits, schools, senior centers, social service departments, transportation, and faith groups
- **Membership and Coordination:** Cape Ann Regional Emergency Planning Committee; MARCH; working with local municipalities
- **Focusing on Neighborhoods:** Environmental justice, low-lying, seniors
- **Program Diversity:** one-on-ones, classrooms, libraries, potlucks, block parties, community gathering places



# The Neighborhood Resiliency Project

## TownGreen

- Emergency preparedness plans and go-bags
- Language access
- Drop-ins, small groups, large groups
- Partners: City of Gloucester & American Red Cross NE



# NRP Programs

## For municipalities

- Senior Centers
- Public Libraries
- Municipal Community Events
- Housing Authority Programs

## With network partners

- The Open Door + Mobile Mart
- Wellspring education programs
- Action Inc. education programs
- SeniorCare Train the Trainer
- Drop-in hours at Rose Baker, Gloucester Family Health Center



## **NRP Goals and Updates Jan–March 2026**

- **Goal: 30 + groups added to our Resiliency Network**
  - **Update: 18 nonprofits, civic groups engaged**
- **Goal: 7 municipalities in our program**
  - **Update: 4 Cape Ann communities engaged**
- **Goal: 200 emergency go-bags distributed to households**
  - **Update: 60 bags plus other go-bag items distributed**
- **Goal: 30 programs across Cape Ann; 400 people reached**
  - **9 programs reached 102 people**

# Engagement Activity:

## How to Further Close the Gap

### Small group exercise

- Brainstorm additional solutions and activities that drive emergency preparedness information to residents
- What are we missing?
- Other program examples?
- Report out



# Thank You! Questions?

## Contact:

Greg Federspiel  
Cape Ann MARCH Director  
[greg@town-green.org](mailto:greg@town-green.org)

Maureen Aylward-Bover  
Executive Director  
[maureen@town-green.org](mailto:maureen@town-green.org)  
978-290-1507

