

Rhode Island's Source Water Assessment Program

A unique approach through citizen involvement

The University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension (URI CE) is working with the Rhode Island Department of Health to complete the State's Source Water Assessment Program, as required by the Environmental Protection Agency. This Program, established by the 1996 Amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, assesses threats to public water supplies throughout the State. **Source Water Assessments are beginning for the Towns of Bristol, Warren & Barrington.**

Get Involved!! Protect Your Community's Drinking Water

An informational workshop about drinking water protection, the water cycle & land use impacts to water quality is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 22nd, 2002 from 7-9 PM at the Barrington Public Library Gallery Room.**

We are also seeking *volunteers* for two opportunities following this workshop!

Land Use Inventory Volunteers Use computer-generated land use maps to identify potential threats to public water supply protection areas, which include the Kickemuit, Swansea, Shad Factory and Anawam Reservoir Watersheds (Warren, RI and Swansea, Rehoboth, Dighton & Seekonk, MA), as well as the Nayatt Wellhead Protection Area in Barrington, RI.

Volunteers work in pairs/teams and have 3 weeks to work on their own time. Instructions & maps will be provided immediately following this informational workshop (ending by 9 PM).

Assessment Volunteers Attend two, 2-hour work sessions—one in March and one in April 2002, held locally. Identify land use issues & resource protection needs and provide input on source water assessment process and analysis options.

For more information or to volunteer **please contact: Holly Burdett, URI CE** at **(401) 874-5398**. Additional information about volunteer opportunities with the Source Water Assessment Program is available on the web at **www.uri.edu/ce/wq**.