

February 2020

Ensure Everyone is Counted: Census Resources

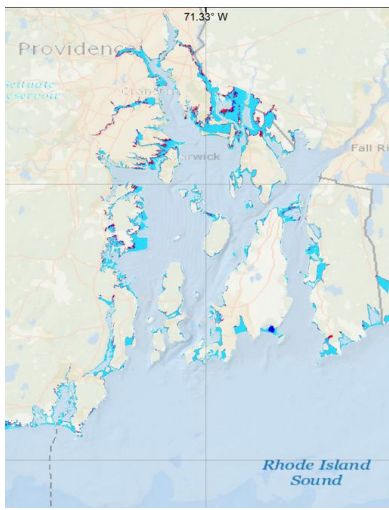
Here are more things to know about Rhode Island's preparations for the US Census, which begins on April 1, 2020:

- For the first time, people can complete the census online. By April 1, 2020, every household will receive an invitation to participate in the census, with three options for responding: online, by mail, or by phone. Here's a sample of the [2020 US Census questionnaire](#).
- On March 14, Common Cause RI will host a workshop called "[Who's Counting Anyway?: Understanding the Census](#)." This workshop will focus on understanding the Census and how Rhode Island is preparing for an accurate Census Count in 2020 (see "Events," below, for more details).
- Here are some [RI Census talking points](#) that make a strong case for the need to count every Rhode Islander.
- [Join other RI municipalities](#) and have your town or city council pass a resolution to count every resident with this [local resolution template](#).
- Here's a [Census Outreach Toolkit](#) and a breakdown of [all the federal dollars that Rhode Island receives](#) based on the Census (it's \$3.8 billion, BTW).
- Know someone who wants a temporary job working for the Census? Here's a list of statewide [RI Census worker recruitment events](#).
- Follow the RI 2020 Census on [Facebook](#) and Twitter: [@RICensus2020](#)



More information, resources, a calendar of events and materials to help get the word out locally are on the RI Census 2020 website: [RI.Census.gov](#)

Reminder: Boards Need SLR Training



As the new year begins, so do terms for elected and appointed Board members. In 2017, a new provision was added to [RIGL §45-22-7](#) that requires every member of a planning board or commission to receive training about the effects of sea-level rise (SLR). Members must complete two hours of training every two years (by September 30, 2021) and file a statement with their town or city clerk that states that the training has been completed.

In order to meet this requirement, planning board/commission members can watch six educational modules about making informed choices for supporting resilience when confronted with the impacts of climate change. Resources that can meet the training

requirement include the PREP-RI online learning municipal resilience modules. For other available resources, please see [PREP-RI.org](#) and the Resilient Rhody website, www.climatechange.ri.gov

North Kingstown Plan Approved

The State Planning Council has awarded the North Kingstown Planning Department a Certificate of Recognition for State approval of their Comprehensive Plan.

The Plan is organized by element, with the title of each chapter reflecting the vision for the Town: for example, the economic development chapter is called "A Vibrant Town" and the natural hazards chapter is called "A Resilient Town." Statewide Planning staff appreciated the dedication of the North Kingstown planners in ensuring that the end product met both the letter and the spirit of the [RI Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Act](#).

Browse the [North Kingstown Comprehensive Plan](#) on our website.



Above, l to r.: North Kingstown's Principal Planner Maura Harrington and Planning Director Nicole LaFontaine; and Statewide Planning's Kevin Nelson and Meredith Brady.

Brady's Bulletin

These days, I almost always feel like I have more projects than time to complete them: in the new year, I've forced myself to take a long, hard look at my work/life balance, my ability to fulfill my obligations, and my need to delegate. You know that rationalization that goes through your head: "It's going to take me longer to teach them how I want them to do X than it would to complete the task myself, so I might as well just add it to my list..." Hello, denial (da-Nile) isn't just a river in Egypt. Doing everything myself isn't going to equip my staff with appropriate skills, provide learning and teaching moments, or help me to balance my schedule.

With that being said, I'm working to change the way I approach my day, so that it doesn't

overlaps into taking projects home every weekend and sitting down with the laptop every night. The impetus for the changes? A realization that I am neither getting younger (can't do much about the ever-flowing sands of time) or thinner (wait, here's a problem I can tackle). So, along with starting a new way to approach my relationship with food and activity, I'm starting to set up walking meetings, taking my hands off the wheel after 5 pm (some nights/weekends) (it's scary not to always be in direct control), and looking for ways to be more active while not gluing myself to my screen for extensive periods.

You know what? It's working. Not always, and not perfectly, but I'm slowly extracting myself from always putting more on my own plate, both figuratively and literally. This is the year I make more conscious choices, more connections, and make sure that we all count (see the Census article above!) In fact, we've never counted more.

What are your strategies for work/life balance? Who wants to take some walking tours?

Upcoming Meetings

Technical Committee

February 7 at 9:00 AM

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

State Planning Council

February 13 at 9:00 AM

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

Transportation Advisory Committee

February 27 at 5:30 PM

DOA Conference Room 2A
One Capitol Hill, Providence

All meetings are open to the public!

Parking at the Providence Place Mall
is free for the first two hours.

PHOTO TRIVIA:

Do you know where in RI this structure
is located?

See the answer at the bottom of the
newsletter.



Upcoming Events

February 6 RI League of Cities and Towns Convention The League's Annual Convention is its showcase event featuring eighteen workshops and seminars for local government officials. Seven hundred local officials attend this exciting and informative annual event, which is designed for city and town governments officials. Time: 8:30AM-4PM. Free to League members.

- Location: Crown Plaza Hotel, Warwick.

February 8 "Effective Practices for Climate Change Communication & Education." Join the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association for its annual summit, featuring breakfast, breakout sessions led by respected leaders and a keynote address by Hannah Pickard, network manager at the National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation. Time: 8AM-12PM. There is a registration fee.

- Location: RI College, Donovan Dining Room- 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Providence .

February 12 "[Coastal Resiliency: The Tide is Coming In.](#)" This Environmental Business Council (EBC) program provides updates on the strategy, funding, planning, design, and implementation of some of the potential short and long-term solutions to these challenges in the natural and built environments of Rhode Island. A robust panel discussion, with ample opportunity for questions from the audience, will follow the presentations. Time: 7:30AM-12PM. There is [a registration fee](#).

- Location: Adler Pollack & Sheehan, 1 Citizens Plaza, Providence.

February 13 [APA-RI Law Brown bag Lunch and Learn](#). Want a recap on the latest in land use-related law from 2019? Need to get your law credits before your CM grace period is up? This session is for you! Led by Peter Ruggiero of Ruggiero, Brochu & Petrarca. Bring a lunch! Time: 12PM-1:30PM. Please RSVP to [Jeff Davis](#). 1.5 CM Law credits (pending).

- Location: North Kingstown Public Library, 100 Boone Street.

February 20 "[Climate Resilience & Stormwater Management: Preparing for Success-Funding Climate Resilience Initiatives.](#)" This first of a series of workshops will help RI municipalities move from successful grant writing towards financing of climate resilience/stormwater management projects. Workshop #1 is focused on successful grant writing and exchanging ideas between municipal participants, grant agencies, and the SNEP Network. Time: 8:15AM-12:30PM. Free, but [registration](#) is requested.

- Location: Stormwater Innovation Center, Roger Williams Park Casino- 1000 Elmwood Ave., Providence.

February 21 "[What makes cities great for 8-year-olds and 80-year-olds alike?](#)" Thriving cities are places that everyone can call home, regardless of age and ability, and prioritize the happiness and well-being of its residents by providing choices for mobility. Evening keynote by Gil Penalosa, former Commissioner of Bogota, Colombia, and the founder and chair of [8 80 Cities](#). Time: 6PM, reception at 8PM. Free, but [registration](#) is requested.

- Location: District Hall Providence, 225 Dyer Street, Providence.

February 27 "[Cultural Resources: What That Means for YOUR Transportation Project.](#)" Join WTS-Rhode Island for an engaging luncheon that will provide information about cultural resources and how they pertain to your transportation projects. Time: 11:30AM-1:30PM. To register, please contact wtsrhodeisland@gmail.com by 2/17. There is a fee for this event.

- Location: Hotel Providence, 139 Mathewson Street, Providence.

March 7 [RI Land and Water Conservation Summit](#) The annual Summit is developed to meet the needs of land trusts, watershed organizations and municipal conservation commissions. The Summit offers dozens of hands-on workshops designed to enhance technical and organizational effectiveness. Time: 8:30A-4PM. [Registration](#) fee required.

- Location: URI Memorial Union, 50 Lower College Road, Kingston.

March 14 "[Who's Counting Anyway?: Understanding the Census.](#)" Workshop about how Rhode Island is preparing for an accurate count in 2020. Time: 10:30AM-12PM. Free, but RSVP is requested.

- Location: Southside Cultural Center, 393 Broad Street, Providence.

March 14 [RI Statewide Planning Institute](#). This is a comprehensive training for members of Rhode Island planning boards, zoning boards, historic district commissions, conservation commissions, municipal staff, and city/town councils. A light breakfast and full lunch will be provided. Time: 8AM-4PM. The event is free for appropriate personnel. Please contact cjopperthauser@growsmartri.org for more information.

- Location: RI College, Alger Hall- 600 Library Rd., North Providence.

March 20 "Innovative Transportation Funding for Planners." Join Boston University Urban Affairs Professor Terrance J. Regan for another great talk on planning and transportation. Mr. Regan is also a Program Manager at the USDOT's Volpe Center. Time: 12:15PM-1:15PM. RI Division of Statewide Planning Speaker Series, co-sponsored by APA-RI. To register, contact [Roberta Groch](#).

- Location: DOA- Room 2A, 1 Capitol Hill, Providence.

March 27 "Power of Place" Summit. The Grow Smart RI 2020 Power of Place Summit will focus on prominent issues, including climate action, housing availability and transit, and how to connect the dots to a more prosperous, lower carbon future. Time: 8AM-5PM.

- Location: RI Convention Center, 1 Sabin Street, Providence.

URI Landscape Architecture Lectures:

Location: Room 105 of the Beupre Chemistry Building, 140 Flagg Road, Kingston.

- **February 6** Thomas Woltz, Principal Owner- Nelson Byrd Woltz (NBW), Charlottesville, VA: "A Critical Balance: Ecology, Culture, and Resilience in the Landscapes of NBW." Time: 7PM.
- **March 5** Amy Whitesides, Design Director- STOSS, Boston: "Climate Ready: Urban Landscapes and the Transformation of Boston's Waterfront." Time: 7PM.

Grant Opportunities

February 7 [EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program](#) deadline. This program provides funding to support community-based organizations in their efforts to collaborate and partner with local stakeholder groups (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, and academia) as they develop and implement community-driven solutions that address environmental and/or public health issues for underserved communities.

February 13 [NEA "Grants for Arts" projects](#) deadline. Grants for Arts Projects is the National Endowment for the Arts' (NEA) principal grants program. Through project-based funding, we support public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation, the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, learning in the arts at all stages of life, and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life.

February 13 [Newport County Fund grant](#) deadline. Grants from the RI Foundation's Newport County Fund are awarded where a relatively small amount of money (\$1,000 to \$10,000) can be of strategic assistance to nonprofit, 501(c) organizations and municipal departments located and operating in Newport County. Organizations that provide services or programs in Newport County also are eligible. Grants may fund: project development; support for new programs; strengthening and/or expanding established community programs/services; and community or municipal planning and/or leadership.

February 21 [North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants](#) deadline. The North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants Program's competitive Standard Grant round. Past grants have been used to: increase bird populations and wetland habitat while supporting local economies and American traditions such as hunting, fishing, bird watching, family farming, and cattle ranching; and for wetlands protection: flood control, reducing coastal erosion, improving water and air quality, and recharging ground water.

March 13 [RI Foundation Community Grants](#) deadline. The Foundation's Community

Grants program provides grants up to \$10,000 for community-making efforts that make unique and important things happen at the intersection of people and places. Nonprofit organizations, municipal governments, public agencies like libraries or schools, and volunteer-led groups such as neighborhood and resident associations are eligible to apply.

March 20 [Agriculture innovation Center Program grant](#) deadline. The purpose of this USDA program is to establish and operate Agriculture Innovation Centers in rural areas that provide technical and business development assistance to agricultural producers seeking to engage in the marketing or the production of ValueAdded products. Eligible applicants include nonprofit and for-profit corporations, public bodies, and institutions of higher education. See [USDA map](#) web page for grant eligibility.

Planning Articles of Interest

[Narragansett council halts construction on homes with 4+ bedrooms](#)

[RI judge rules that oysters are a form of livestock](#)

[Residents shocked as 'paper street' get asphalt](#)

[Middletown planning for the coming of weed](#)

[Zoning concerns raised about 'Fish Barn' in Exeter](#)

[DEM announces closure of perimeter road around Beavertail lighthouse due to erosion](#)

[Opportunity Zone program under investigation by Treasury Department](#)

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PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER:

Windmill (1787), Jamestown

Photo: Jamestown Historical Society [website](#)