



Municipal Resilience Planning Partnership Program

Building on the success of the CREATE Resilience project operated in Bangor, Wilson and Easton areas during 2018-2022, Nurture Nature Center is now developing the CREATE Resilience Research and Community Learning Hub to extend the initiative to more communities, and to deepen our relationship with municipal partners. Our Municipal Resilience Planning Partnership Program provides municipalities an opportunity to work with area high school youth interns, supervised by NNC, who will research your community's resilience planning and needs, and will help us develop resources, tools and templates to help you and other municipalities with resilience planning. The program also provides opportunities for involvement in discussion forums, mapping activities, and will provide access to resources for engaging your residents in citizen science documentation of area conditions your community prioritizes (for instance, precipitation monitoring, natural hazards of concern including flooding or extreme heat, green space needs, or other items of interest and concern).

As a municipal partner you will...

1. Participate in a kickoff forum event about resiliency featuring a keynote and facilitated discussion about creating connections, challenges and opportunities for resiliency efforts in our communities. This event is planned for November 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Note: this event is open to all municipalities in the Lehigh Valley, whether or not they formally partner). ***This is a hybrid event (in-person and virtual options available).***
2. Be paired with two area high school interns who will do research on community plans and resiliency needs for your specific municipality; these interns will help NNC staff to create new resilience resources and planning templates
3. Be invited to participate in a series of five round table and webinar events (hybrid option) about a range of relevant resilience related topics reflecting the ideas, priorities and needs discussed at the kick off forum. Dates and topics TBD. Events will be recorded.
4. Participate in a resiliency forum in Fall 2023 that introduces new resiliency resources and templates for your community. A creative mapping activity will help you learn how to use the tools and templates.
5. Serve as one of five pilot communities to use the templates for a vulnerability assessment, asset mapping, and resiliency planning. NNC will help with the completion of these plans over the fall 2023 (targeted completion for January 2024).
6. Be connected with a local artist that will develop a comprehensive map visual to illustrate the specific assets and priorities for your community. These will be exhibited at NNC in spring 2024.
7. Be connected to citizen science resources that can help gather feedback and input from your community.
8. Collaborate with NNC to hold a community launch event in April 2024 to share your plans and efforts with your community and provide free preparedness kits to your residents in attendance (funded through NNC, no cost to you).
9. Have access to resources from, and contribute content to, NNC's new CREATE Hub exhibit - a digital and physical exhibit that will educate about resiliency issues.

If you would like to sign on as a municipal partner, or are interested in discussing this opportunity further, please reach out to Rachel Hogan Carr at rhogan@nurturenature.org.