

# COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP

## A PATH TO CLIMATE RESILIENCE

**Bolton, Massachusetts**  
**SuAsCo & Nashua**  
**Watershed Basins**

Acton, Ashland, Bedford, Berlin, Billerica, Bolton, Boxborough, Boylston, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Clinton, Concord, Framingham, Grafton, Harvard, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Lincoln, Littleton, Lowell, Marlborough, Maynard, Natick, Northborough, Sherborn, Shrewsbury, Southborough, Stow, Sudbury, Tewksbury, Upton, Wayland, Westborough, Westford, Weston



The Town of Bolton has received a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. With this grant, our community will engage in a planning initiative to better understand

**HOW WE ARE VULNERABLE TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND  
PRIORITIZE ACTIONS TO INCREASE THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF OUR TOWN.**

As a project stakeholder, your attendance is requested at this online workshop.

### Where:

Online- Zoom

See e-mail invitation for details

### When:

**Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### Time\*:

9:00am-12:00pm

&

2:00pm-5:00pm

\* Please participate in both scheduled times



For additional information, please contact:

Rebecca Longvall

Conservation Administrator @ [concom@townofbolton.com](mailto:concom@townofbolton.com)

\*Please inform Rebecca if you have online capacity. Otherwise, we will mail/e-mail you the forms we will be discussing during the online meeting.



**ADAPTATION:**

Adjustment in natural or human systems to a new or changing environment that exploits beneficial opportunities or moderates negative effects. – US National Climate Assessment

**CLIMATE CHANGE:**

Climate change is the change in the long-term averages and variations in weather measured over a period of several decades. This change is typically referenced as the change in the 30-year average, but can also be evaluated at different timeframes, such as centuries or millenia.

**CLIMATE RESILIENCE:**

The ability of a system to 1) absorb stress and functionally persist in the face of external stresses imposed upon it by climate change, and 2) adapt and reorganize in response to that stressor in a way that increases resilience over time.

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING (FRAMEWORK):**

A community-driven process where participants identify top hazards, current strengths, challenges, and priority actions to improve community resilience for all hazards today, and in the future.

**EXPOSURE:**

Changes in the climate system imposed upon a specific region due to climate change effects. The most common forms of exposure include sea-level rise, coastal storm surge, extreme precipitation, extreme heat or cold, and drought.

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (HMP):**

A planning effort intended to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impacts of natural disasters. A FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan is a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. The MVP Program outlines an Integrated HMP/MVP process that proactively accounts for the risks of natural hazards in response to the effects of climate change.

**MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP) PROGRAM:**

A grant program to provide support for cities and towns in Massachusetts to begin the process of planning for climate change resilience and implementing priority projects. Communities who complete the MVP program become certified as an MVP community and are eligible for MVP Action grant funding and other opportunities.

**SENSITIVITY:**

The degree to which a system (built, natural, or human) is directly or indirectly affected by climate change. Sensitivity is composed of a systems' exposure to climate change impacts and the known or predicted effects of the impact on the system.

**SOCIAL VULNERABILITY:**

The disproportionate susceptibility of some social groups to the impacts of hazards. These impacts could include death, injury, loss, or disruption of life or livelihood. Social vulnerability also affects a population's resilience: ability to adequately recover from or avoid impacts. Vulnerability is a function of demographic characteristics of the population, as well as environmental and community conditions such as healthcare provision, social capital, access to social networks, and social isolation.

**VULNERABILITY:**

A measure of the combined exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity (i.e. resilience) of a system subject to the effects of climate change. A system component with high sensitivity and low adaptive capacity has a high vulnerability. A Vulnerability Assessment is a process to determine the sensitivity and adaptive capacity (i.e. resilience) of a system subject to the exposure effects of a changing climate.

