



2008 USDA-CSREES National Water Conference
Sparks, NV

New England Regional Water Program

Alyson McCann

Abstract Text:

The New England Regional Water Quality Program emerges from the combined research, education, and Extension strengths of New England's six Land Grant Universities and has incorporated key partners into a framework to advance the protection and improvement of water quality in our rural and agricultural watersheds. To address the water quality challenges of rural New England, we create locally relevant programs focused on land and community management. We work at both local and regional scales to develop, test and refine programs with case studies at the local level that leverage other sources of support. At the regional scale, in cooperation with stakeholders and partner agencies, we identify needs and build upon successful local programs to create and disseminate new materials, tools and curricula for use throughout New England. We work with federal, state, university and local partners to create the mix of resources required to solve real-life water quality problems.

The heart of the New England Program centers on 7 Focus Areas. These Focus Areas tailor the national themes to the strengths of New England Land Grant Universities' research, education, and Extension programs and capture the enthusiasm and energies of our partners and stakeholders. These Focus Areas are:

1. The New England Private Well Initiative
2. New England NEMO
3. Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring
4. Sustainable Landscaping
5. Nutrient and Pest Management on Organic Farms
6. Reducing Phosphorus Impacts with Manure Management
7. River and Stream Restoration
8. Green Valley Institute
9. New England On-Site Wastewater Training Center

Our poster will highlight both regional coordination efforts and Focus Area initiatives, activities, and impacts.

Impact Statement: