

What is Resilient Newburyport?

Our changing climate is presenting new challenges for Newburyport, and we want to ensure that our city remains resilient and strong for generations to come.

Resilient Newburyport is about more than just the environment and climate; it's about every one of us who calls Newburyport and our neighboring towns home. Through our **Community Action Project (CAP)**, we are setting out on a mission to speak to as many of you as possible. We want to hear your stories, concerns, and ideas about our shared future. We believe in the power of a community that's informed, engaged, and connected.

[Newburyport's Resiliency Committee](#) is leading this project, but at its heart is each and every one of you.



Students fitting spindles to bike rack with the help of Tinkerhaus volunteers
source Matt Muise, muisephoto@comcast.net

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Bikes to Blooms A Sustainable Success Story at Tinkerhaus

This Spring you will likely notice some pretty amazing new bike racks around town. The racks, built and painted by a group of superindustrious local kids, are part of Tinkerhaus Community Makerspace's Bikes to Blooms project. With the help from a few very generous adult volunteers, students built the racks from scratch — even turning their own spindles!

The project involved meticulous planning, securing materials, and leveraging the expertise of volunteer

teachers and the makerspace's tools. This writer's heart was warmed during a quick drop-in that Saturday in March — the enthusiasm among the young

builders and painters was palpable, and the knowledge that there will be a few more bike racks in Newburyport encouraging.

Projects like this one are proof positive of the great impact collective action can have on environmental sustainability.

See **Bikes to Blooms**, page 2

Stay tuned for Part 2 of the Bikes and Blooms program later this Spring: Building Raised Garden

The Latest From the Resilient Newburyport Team

Spring has arrived, ushering in a host of exciting events! Discover the lineup of upcoming Community Partner events slated for April and May on page 2. While each event boasts its own unique offerings, they all share a common thread of addressing climate change and promoting resilience. It's truly remarkable to see how our community is actively contributing to sustainability efforts. For additional information about these events and more, visit our [Community Action Project](#) website.



Make sure to sign up to attend a Community Forum for Climate Action! We're hosting four forums in late April and early May. It's a great chance to learn about how climate change is impacting Newburyport and what we can do about it. A link to sign up is on page 3.

Thank you to everyone who completed the Newburyport Climate Survey. We've learned a lot from the results, and they will inform the Community Forums. More on the survey is on page 4.

And as always, please continue to [reach out](#), we want to know what is on your mind when it comes to climate change and Newburyport.

~ Jane Healey, Newburyport Resiliency Committee

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Stay tuned for Part 2 of the Bikes and Blooms program later this Spring: Building Raised Garden Beds!

Tinkerhaus' Bikes to Blooms program is funded through a Community Partner grant from the Resilient Newburyport Community Action Project.

Tinkerhaus, located in Newburyport, acts as a communal hub and plays a crucial role in hands-on learning and building opportunities, offering a space where individuals collaborate, share resources, and learn from each other. With a focus on reusing and repurposing donated materials, Tinkerhaus emphasizes the importance of sustainability and innovation in building a greener future. The community is invited to explore their offerings, showcasing the space as a model for sustainable community engagement and learning.



Students and volunteers at Tinkerhaus Community Makerspace

source Matt Muise, muisephoto@comcast.net

Upcoming Events & Projects

Resilient Newburyport is thrilled to fund these exciting and important events through our Community Partners program. Each event or project addresses climate and resiliency in its own way, demonstrating that no matter your interests, we all have a role we can play in making our communities more sustainable. We hope that you will check them out!

APRIL

Sullivan Building Mural — Apr 15-19

The Newburyport Housing Authority is joining forces with the Newburyport Recreation and Youth Services to create a vibrant mural at the Sullivan Building, illustrating diverse ways in which individuals can champion climate resiliency.

Climate Cafe — Apr 20 (first of three Cafes)

The youth team from [Climate Cafe](#) will design, host, and facilitate a series of three conversations focused on resiliency and sustainability issues in Newburyport.

Earth Port Film Festival — Sun, Apr 21

The [10th Earth Port Film Festival](#) will screen short films that tell stories of people taking action worldwide to address the environmental challenges facing our planet.

Newburyport Documentary Film Festival — Sun, Apr 28

The [Newburyport Documentary Film Festival](#) will be sponsoring two films which aim to spotlight sustainable fishing practices. Tickets available at the [Firehouse Center for the Arts](#).

PEG Rail Trail Garden Expansion

The Women in Action Huddle, a volunteer group from the PEG Center, will double the size of their vegetable plot on the rail trail near Parker Street, which grows produce for organizations feeding local people in need.

2024 Forever Green Newburyport — Watch for events throughout Earth Month

[Forever Green Newburyport](#) programs will engage community members of all ages on sustainable practices, emphasizing the principles of reducing, reusing, and recycling.

Greenscapes Program — April & May

150 5th grade students will participate in the engaging [Greenscapes program](#), “[Keeping Water Clean](#)”. This hands-on initiative offers a place-based learning experience, educating students about the interaction between human-made structures and the natural water cycle.

MAY

Newburyport Choral Society — May 4-5

[A Spring Concert, “Resilience and Hope”](#) offers a moving musical program celebrating the valor and strength of the human spirit—resilience and courage in facing the challenges of war, discrimination, pandemics, and climate threats—and the redeeming power of hope.

Nourishing North Shore Seedling Sale — May 18, Riverwalk Brewing Company

The seedlings are distributed via a [Pay-What-You-Can Seedling Sale](#) in Newburyport and partnerships with hunger relief organizations. The 2024 goal is to distribute over 3,000 seedlings, impacting more than 500 households.

Molin 5th Grade Water Cycle Tour

5th grade students from Newburyport will explore the crucial role of maintaining clean drinking water and understanding the water cycle by visiting Newburyport’s Lower Artichoke Reservoir, Water Treatment Facility, and Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Port Parks Alliance — Combating Invasive Species

In an initiative to combat invasive plants in Newburyport Parks by spotlighting invasive species found in local parks and potentially residents’ yards and gardens, the [website](#) and educational materials includes tips for ecological restoration of these affected areas.

Pollinator PowerWorks Rail Trail Garden

Establishing a [pollinator garden](#) along the rail trail with the goal of connecting with others in surrounding communities to form a Greater Massachusetts Pollinator Garden Network. The program also provides guidance and resources for homeowners to create their own pollinator gardens.

FoNT Tree Planting

Three dogwood trees will be planted along Johnson Street through the efforts of [Friends of Newburyport Trees \(FoNT\)](#), an all-volunteer non-profit group working to plan, plant, and care for public trees throughout the City. Recognizing the numerous benefits that trees bring, including aesthetics and climate resilience, this project demonstrates our community’s commitment to sustainability.

Plum Island Dune Grass Restoration

Volunteers with [Coastal Dune Restoration](#) will plant 5,000 beach grass plants on Reservation Terrace, an area severely affected by coastal erosion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

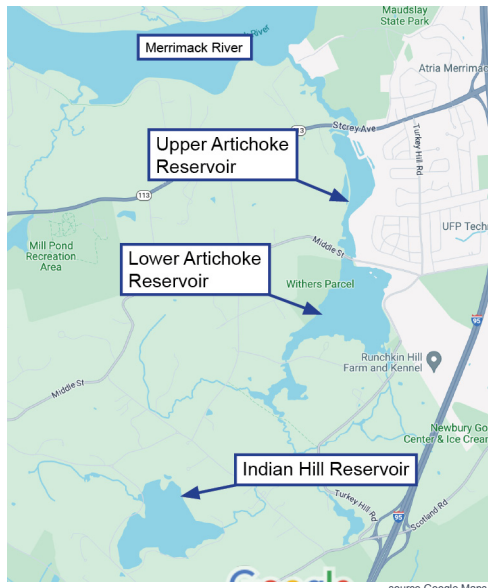
Follow the [Community Action Project website](#) for information and the latest updates on Community Partner Resiliency events this Spring!

Protecting Newburyport's Water Supply: Funding Secured for Pipeline Design

In a recent boost to Newburyport's efforts to enhance its water security, the city has been awarded a substantial federal grant of \$883,000. This funding is significant for the Indian Hill Raw Water Pipeline project, which aims to mitigate the risks associated with water quality and flooding — challenges increasingly urgent due to climate change.

The city, reliant on a singular intake point for its three reservoirs (Indian Hill, and the Upper and Lower Artichoke), faces a significant vulnerability as a failure at this intake could jeopardize access to 80% of Newburyport's water supply. The Indian Hill Raw Water Pipeline project seeks to address this by enabling direct access to the Upper Artichoke and Indian Hill Reservoirs, bypassing the need for the Lower Artichoke Reservoir's intake. The importance of this project is underscored by recent environmental challenges, notably the 2020 algae bloom and a backwater event from the Merrimack River into the Lower Artichoke Reservoir this past January. These incidents have increased our understanding of the critical need for a robust and adaptable water supply system.

With approximately 30% of the project's conceptual design previously funded at a cost of \$120,000, the new federal grant will finance the remaining 70% of the design phase. Wayne Amaral, the city's Director of Public Services, has noted the project's importance to circumvent potential contamination sources, thereby



ensuring a stable and clean water supply.

The federal grant is a boost to the city's plan to invest in its water infrastructure, which includes more than \$76 million in water-related projects. Among these, the Indian Hill Pipeline and the Lower Artichoke Dam rebuild are pivotal and currently in the early design stages. The city is dedicated to keeping the

community informed and engaged, with the Water and Sewer Commission reviewing options and planning future opportunities for public engagement in the process.

This funding not only underscores the support for Newburyport's proactive stance on water security but also highlights the community's collaborative effort towards a sustainable and resilient future in the face of environmental uncertainties.

Community Forums for Climate Action

Interested in how CLIMATE CHANGE is impacting NEWBURYPORT and WHAT WE CAN DO to prepare?

Join us and be part of the conversation! Scan the QR code below to attend a Community Forum for Action this May.

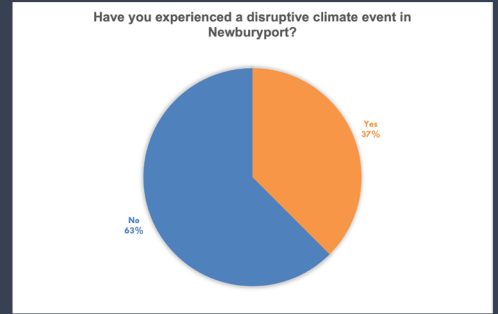
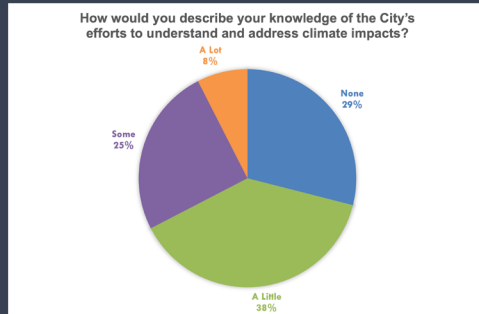
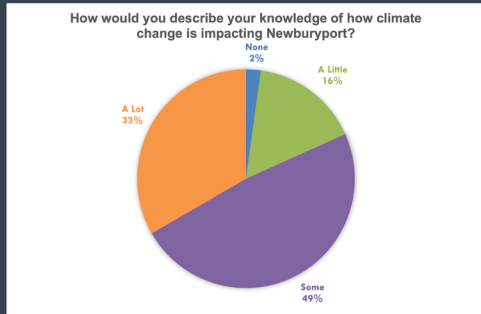
Resilient Newburyport is Newburyport Resiliency Committee's education and outreach initiative. Our mission is to unite residents, organizations, and officials in Newburyport to tackle the impacts of climate change. We simplify climate information, encourage discussions, and promote collective action for a sustainable future. Together, we can create a resilient city that thrives.



SCAN TO REGISTER

The results from last month’s Newburyport Climate Resilience Survey are in, with nearly 400 community members participating. In addition to giving us great insight into what residents are thinking, the results of the survey will inform content for the upcoming Community Forums for Climate Action.

A few key findings:



The survey underscored the prevalence of climate-related disruptions, with many residents personally experiencing waterfront and street flooding, specifically identifying Plum Island, Water Street, Market Square, Cashman Park, basements/backyards, and more.

Resilient Newburyport at the NHS International Culture Fair

Zoe Kakuba, one of our Resilient Newburyport Community Activists, recently presented at the high school’s International Culture Fair. This is her summary.

I attended the Global Citizenship Cultural Festival hosted at Newburyport High School on Mar 6th, from 6-8 pm. I had the opportunity to display my own board on cultural sustainability that featured the resources and initiatives within Newburyport that had been started to create a more global sustainable community.

It was a great way to interact with not only incoming high schoolers, but also interested parents and community members. Many people were interested in my pathway to advocate for global sustainability and how they could possibly also get involved. This event ended up being a great way to engage community members (mostly that of a younger demographic) to the continuous work done by Resilient Newburyport and the further changes that can be made within the community.



Zoe Kakuba with her display at the NHS International Culture Fair

Books on Climate!

Our Climate Activists have created a **reading list for all ages** with recommended books on climate related topics. Check it out by scanning this QR code with your phone camera.



Have You Signed Up for Code Red Alerts?

Newburyport’s Emergency Communication Network CODE RED? CODE RED can alert you of critical situations. (Examples include local Amber Alerts, boil water issue, Station Seabrook impacting event, shelter in place etc.) Alerts can be sent to your phone or mobile device by text message or TTY. [Register for Code Red here.](#)

Keep in Touch!

Select “Resiliency” under News and Announcements on the City’s [Subscriptions](#) page. For questions or to get involved, email: resilientnewburyport@gmail.com. We’re making headway on social media! Help us by spreading the word:



Funding for Resilient Newburyport: Climate Action Project is provided by the MA EOEEA Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Action Grant program. Information on this program can be found at resilientma.org/MVP.

