

Rhode Island Wildlife Grant Success Stories

In the five years since its inception, the State Wildlife Grant program has played an important role in the conservation of Rhode Island's wildlife. The following are some projects funded through State Wildlife Grants:

Conservation: Protecting Imperiled Land, Water and Wildlife Conserving Healthy Wetlands



Rhode Island Wetlands,
Photo Courtesy of Rhode
Island FWD

The rivers and streams that run into Narragansett Bay benefit wildlife by providing critical habitat and clean water. State Wildlife Grants are partially funding a project that will place a conservation easement on approximately 130 acres of land along the Sakonnet River and Donovan Marsh, which flow into Narragansett Bay, ensuring that they will remain healthy even as our communities grow. These wetlands harbor plants and animals that help clean water and provide flood protection, but like others nationwide, are threatened by development. Conservation easements are unique management tools that purchase development rights for an area but allow other uses such as hunting, boating, and fishing. This project benefits both people and wildlife by protecting critical wildlife habitat and conserving the natural places that are important to many of our family traditions.

Management: Proactive Measures that Benefit Wildlife and People Glen Avon Farm Conservation Easement



Glen Avon Farm, Photo
Courtesy of Rhode
Island FWD

The Glen Avon Farm, in western Rhode Island, was identified in Rhode Island's wildlife action plan as being a priority conservation area in the state. A conservation easement on this 1,000 acre property will both protect wildlife habitat and provide recreational opportunities. Located next to other conservation parcels, the Glen Avon Farm will become a core conservation area of over 2,700 acres that supports several key habitats and species in need of conservation. A management plan, currently being developed, will ensure public access for hiking, hunting and fishing, improving the opportunities for public outdoor recreation. This is a cost-effective way to conserve wildlife and natural places that bring peace and relaxation to our busy lives.

**Congress has appropriated \$3.7 million in State Wildlife Grants to Rhode Island since 2001.
This has been matched with at least \$6.3 million state and partner dollars.**