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**Public Scoping Meetings for Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Flood Protection Project Set for June 2024**

***Warwick, RI, May 14, 2024*** –The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) are sponsoring Public Scoping Meetings to discuss the **proposed** Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Flood Protection project **in Washington County and Kent County, Rhode Island, and portions of New London County, CT. The first meeting will be a virtual meeting** for agencies, organizations, watershed associations, etc. scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on June 4, 2024. To receive a link to this meeting please forward an email expressing interest to lneitlich@parecorp.com**.**

**The second and third public meetings will be held at the Exeter Library in Exeter, RI, and the Sterling Town Hall, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, CT, on June 6th and June 12th, respectively**. These meetings will be evening meetings at 6:00 p.m. for the general public.

Representatives from the Local Sponsors and NRCS, along with their consultants, will provide information on the Watershed and Flood Protection program, planning activities to date for the Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers, describe the various alternatives being considered for flood control, answer questions and concerns about the planned activities, and seek public input.

Federal funding has been received to assist the local sponsors in developing the plan but has not yet been secured for the design or construction of these projects.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact the Disability SEPM, Allie Brown, at 401-822-8841 or allie.brown@usda.gov, or dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services. For further information on the meetings, please contact Darrell Moore, NRCS State Conservation Engineer, at 401-822-8812 or Darrell.Moore@usda.gov.