



Climate Resilience Fellow June 5-August 11 2023

The **Mystic River Watershed Association** (MyRWA) seeks an enthusiastic, self-motivated, detail-oriented, well-organized, creative, and communicative Climate Resilience Fellow.

The Climate Resilience Fellow will assist the Mystic River Watershed Association primarily in two areas:

Community engagement for a research project. The Climate Resilience Fellow will work with MyRWA's Climate Resilience Manager to conduct community engagement for the project Advancing Community Resilience to Cumulative Climate Impacts in the Mystic River watershed (ACRES). ACRES is a research project directed by the Boston University School of Public Health in Partnership with MyRWA. The main focus of the project is to identify how chemical exposure to Environmental Justice residents and workers could increase with climate change. The fellow will have the opportunity to engage with a variety of organizations, municipalities, and residents in identifying priority community concerns and climate resilience solutions.

Research for a new climate resilience project on communications for resiliency, response, and recovery. The fellow will assist with background research for developing a new project to help residents and workers in the Mystic River watershed prepare for and manage extreme weather exacerbated by climate events. Working with our Climate Resilience Manager, the fellow will conduct a landscape analysis of the communication strategies between municipalities and priority populations about extreme weather. The goal will be to understand the strengths, resources, and needs of communication systems before and after extreme weather events. The fellow will learn about climate resiliency strategies rooted in communications and assessment for communications program design.

The fellow will assist MyRWA's climate resilience work by:

- Supporting community engagement planning and implementation
- Supporting development and coordination of community workshops and events to effectively reach priority populations
- Supporting research on communication strategies for climate resilience

The fellow will work both in and out of the office and must be able to work both independently and as a member of a team that includes the Climate Resilience Manager, Boston University researchers, and other community members. Applicants must be available to work a minimum of 3 Saturdays (dates in July or August, TBD) for community engagement. This is a 35 hour per week position for 10 weeks. The Climate Resilience Fellow will be compensated \$5,250.

Position Requirements:

- Desire to learn about climate, health, and social resilience at an environmental non-profit
- Interest in community-engaged research
- Highly organized with strong attention to detail
- Strong interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills
- Strong analytical and research skills

Position Preferences:

- Prefer candidates studying a bachelor's or graduate degree. Non-degreed candidates with equivalent skills and work experience are strongly encouraged to apply
- Knowledge of a second language relevant to our watershed (e.g., Spanish, Haitian Creole, Chinese, Vietnamese, Portuguese, French at fluency level)
- Community engagement experience
- Experience with facilitating group discussions

About the Mystic River Watershed Association

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) works to protect and restore the health of the 21-community watershed for the benefit of both people and the natural environment. Founded in 1972, MyRWA has grown to a staff of fifteen and an annual budget of more than \$5 million. Our Mystic Greenways program creates and connects 25 miles of parks and paths along the Mystic River and its tributaries. Our education program engages over 1,000 youth and families in STEAM education focused on nature close to home. Hundreds of volunteers help us document and improve water quality, river herring, and urban heat islands. Finally, MyRWA founded and co-leads the Resilient Mystic Collaborative, a watershed-wide partnership among cities and towns to protect people and places from climate change. This is an exciting time to join a highly collaborative and dedicated staff. We are committed to incorporating racial equity and justice throughout our programs, operations, staff and board on an ongoing basis. We have embarked on a year-long training and strategic update to ensure that we are fully living into these values.

How to Apply

Please send a resume and cover letter to mariangeli.echevarria-ramos@mysticriver.org with "Climate Resilience Fellow Application" in the subject line. No calls, please. The position will be open until filled, preference will be given to candidates who apply before March 20th, 2023. For more information about the Mystic River Watershed Association see www.MysticRiver.org.