



**RHODE ISLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

TDD 401-222-4462

March 28, 2011

Dear Conservation Partner:

I am pleased to announce the Department of Environmental Management will be accepting applications for Rhode Island Local Open Space Matching Grants for land preservation projects beginning March 28, 2011. The grants will provide up to 50% matching funding to municipalities, land trusts and nonprofit land conservation organizations to acquire or protect valuable open space in Rhode Island.

This year, the Department may provide up to \$4 million for projects with a maximum grant of up to \$400,000. In addition to these grants, the Department has funds available in its no-interest Loan Program to assist in the funding of open space projects. The Department will also provide overhead funds within set parameters to successful projects for appraisal, title and survey services provided the services are competitively bid with appropriate documentation. These overhead funds would be in addition to grant awards.

The application period for submissions will be from Monday, March 28, 2011 through Friday, May 27, 2011. All grant applications will be reviewed and scored by the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Preservation Commission Advisory Committee according to the "Rules and Regulations" for the program. The highest scoring grant applications will be forwarded to the Rhode Island Natural Heritage Preservation Commission for approval. Grants will be awarded from the 2004 Open Space Bond Authorization, including \$1 million re-programmed from the 2008 grant round.

The grant applications, rules and regulations and the application process are available from:

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Division of Planning & Development  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Or can be accessed from the DEM website at:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/plandev/grants.htm>

If you need additional information please call Lisa Primiano, Deputy Chief, Division of Planning and Development at (401) 222-2776 extension 4307 or email at [lisa.primiano@dem.ri.gov](mailto:lisa.primiano@dem.ri.gov). We are looking forward to working with many of you on exciting conservation projects this coming year.

Sincerely,

Janet L. Coit, Director