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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Southern Rhode Island Conservation District Hosts Public Input Sessions on Proposed Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Flood Protection Project

**WESTERLY, Rhode Island, May 16, 2024** – The Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) and The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are sponsoring input sessions 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 in Connecticut.

The first meeting will be a virtual meeting for agencies, organizations, watershed associations, etc. will be held on June 4 at 10 am. To receive a link to this meeting, please email a request to lneitlich@parecorp.com.

The first public meeting will be held on June 6 at 6 pm at the Exeter Public Library located at Exeter Public Library, 773 Ten Rod Road in Exeter. The second public meeting will be held on June 12 at 6 pm at Sterling Town Hall, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco, Connecticut.

Representatives from SRICD, 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 <a href="mailto:Darrell.Moore@usda.gov">Darrell.Moore@usda.gov</a>.

The Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) promotes and achieves a healthy environment and sustainable use of natural resources for the people of Kent and Washington Counties and the State of Rhode Island, now and for the future, by coordinating partners to provide technical, educational and financial resources. ###