



HIGH WATER MARK INITIATIVE

Portsmouth – Rye – Hampton – Seabrook



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The Rockingham Planning Commission will design, coordinate, and implement community-based High Water Mark (HWM) Initiatives and identify local flood mitigation actions.

Today's flood could be tomorrow's high tide!

Know Your Line... Be Flood Aware

Why do we care about coastal flooding at Odiome Point State Park?
Here at the Odiome Point State Park, the parking lot, boat launch and boardwalk are sometimes flooded by nuisance high tides and large storms like the nor'easters of 2018. Rising sea levels will increase the severity of coastal storm-related flooding which would impact access to this facility, local and state roads, and other nearby recreational areas.

How has sea level changed over time?
Lands that border the Atlantic Ocean and inland tidal areas experience frequent nuisance flooding from seasonal high tides. Between 1927 and 2001, sea level in coastal New Hampshire increased by approximately 5.3 inches creating a noticeable difference in high water flooding. The type of nuisance flooding we experience today will become more frequent and more severe as sea-level rise accelerates over time.

How high will the water reach?
The FLOOD marker shows the flood elevation from a 100-year storm event (which has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year). How high would the water be if sea-level increased by 2 feet, 4 feet or over 6 feet? The SLR markers show future sea-level rise projections above mean high water by the year 2100, +6.6 feet being on the higher end of what we might see in this location.

This project was funded by a grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental and Natural Resources. The information on this page is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of insurance or any other financial product. Please contact your insurance agent for more information.

What can you do to spread the word about flooding? Take a photo with the High Water Mark sign and post it to social media using the hashtag #HighWaterMarkNH

The HWM project will install high water markers in Portsmouth, Rye, Hampton, and Seabrook.

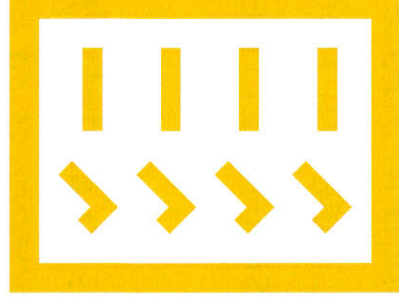


The HWM project goals:

- *Permanent markers and signage installed in strategic locations* showing the elevation and causes of flooding from current storms and future projected sea-level rise and climate related conditions.
- Signs placed in highly visible locations to *convey information on flooding and flood risks to raise awareness* of local residents and visitors from the Seacoast region.
- Municipal decision makers engaged in *discussions about flood risks in their community* and what their community is doing and can do to address those risks.

The HWM project will provide communities with:

- Case studies about how communities are responding to flood risks and actions they've taken to address risks.

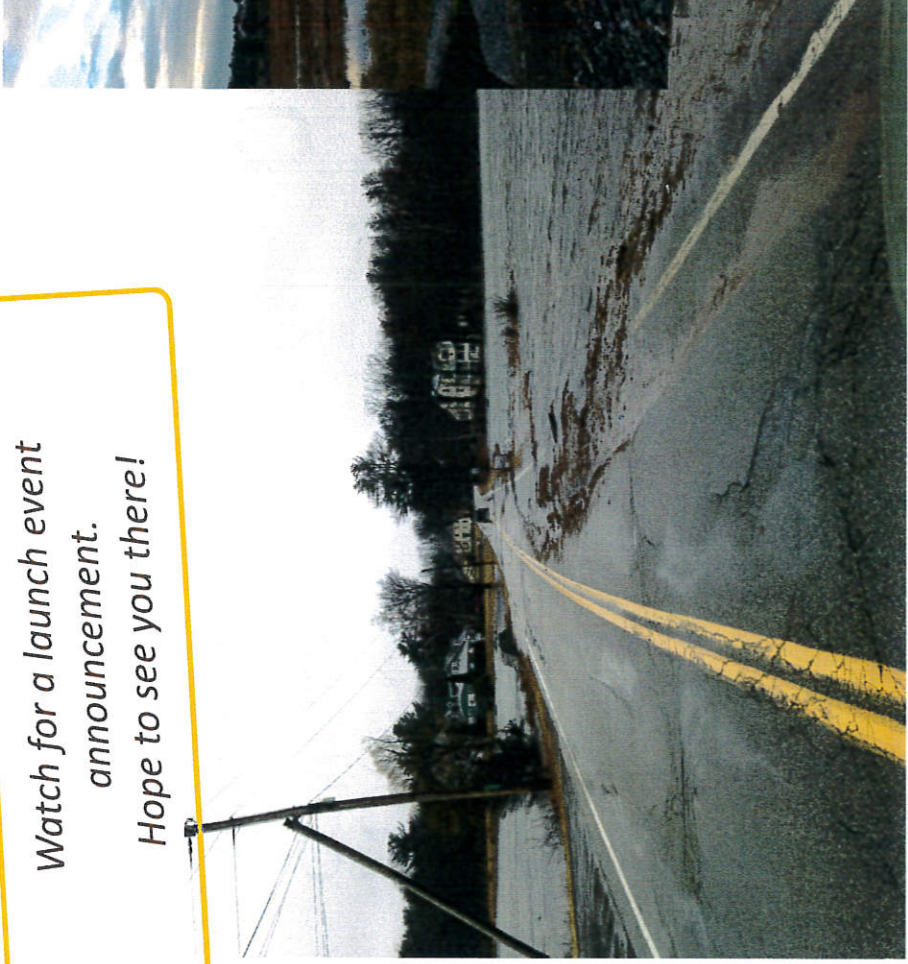


- Climate ready 'Check List' of adaptation actions that will create and foster community resilience.



The HWM project signs will be installed in late June at Wallis Road (just west of Route 1A) and Odiorne State Park and Harbor Road. A launch event will be held before the end of June.

*Watch for a launch event
announcement.
Hope to see you there!*





Thank you!

Questions?

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