

# Our Coast, Our Future

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## Challenge Summary

### Lesson 2

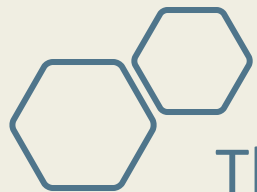
*Mass Audubon 2021*

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# Challenge Overview

Climate change affects all communities in Massachusetts. As global temperatures increase, effects on the coast include higher tides and more extreme storms.

Since communities operate in ways that are not always fair to all residents, the way a community responds to climate challenges can make these inequities worse or better.



Think about these impacts and how to build resilience to address them equitably in coastal communities.

Think about impacts to society, the environment and infrastructure.

**Work Together**



# (1) Protecting Property and Infrastructure

In this challenge, you will look at how a community responds to big storms at the coast.

Major storms are causing damage to property and threatening public safety.

Houses and business along the coast have flooded during storms. Flooding also causes erosion. This erosion is making properties and roads less stable and safe.

The community needs to protect private and public properties and infrastructure.



## (2) Protecting Recreation and Public Spaces

There are beaches and coastal green spaces that are popular in your community. Sea level rise and beach erosion limits access.

Beachside business and public services like parking are also damaged by flooding and erosion. This challenge has an impact on local business. When tourism goes down, the community suffers financially.

There are mental and physical health benefits with access to green space and recreation. Losing these spaces has a negative impact on public health.



## (3) Preparing and Protecting People

A large storm is heading towards Massachusetts, bringing rain, flooding and high winds. People will need to know how to be prepared and safe.

Roads and utilities are at risk during these storms. Flooding and destruction make it difficult and dangerous to get around your community. Problems can impact a community for days, weeks and even months.

Some members of your community are more vulnerable than others because of poor health, restricted mobility or lack of financial resources.



# For Review



(1) Protecting property and infrastructure in the face of extreme storms.



(2) Maintaining access to shoreline recreation and natural spaces despite beach erosion and higher tides.



(3) Preparing and protecting people during and after an extreme storm.

# Reflection

- Do you want to learn more about this challenge?
- Is this something that is or could happen in your community?
- Does this challenge seem like something that could impact people or places that you care about?
- Do you think you could come up with creative strategies for this challenge?

