



# Plymouth Ponds and Lakes Stewardship Project (PALS)

## Funding

\$38,854

Massachusetts Environmental Trust Grant

\$15,732

Town In-Kind Services (\$13,232), Town Funding (\$2,500)

## Partners

UMASS Dartmouth—School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST)

Massachusetts Environmental Trust

Herring Ponds Watershed Association

Six Ponds Watershed Association

Billington Sea Watershed Association

Friends of Ellisville Marsh

Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance

White Island Pond Conservation Alliance



Summer 2014 Data Collection Completed

Winter 2014-2015 Data Compilation Pond Atlas In Progress

## Public Collaboration to Study Water Quality

The Town of Plymouth Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs received grant funding for this project from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust. This funding enables the Town and Consultant UMASS Dartmouth-SMAST to conduct water sample collection, cover laboratory fees, compile data and analyze with a final report atlas.



The PALS project kicked off in August of 2014 with over 50 volunteers from project partners as well as residents who live on or nearby ponds. Due to the substantial volunteer efforts, we were able to add an additional 4 ponds to the list, totaling 39 for sampling and analysis.

With sampling complete, UMASS Dartmouth-SMAST is currently analyzing and compiling data over the winter 2014-2015. A public meeting will be held in early spring to discuss results. The Finalized PALS Atlas Report for the 39 ponds will be available in the spring of 2015.

Through this grant we were able to purchase field water quality monitoring equipment available for public use. The goal is to continue the stewardship program to collect temperature, oxygen profiles, transparency (clarity of water) as well as other field observations. The data collection would take about 20-30 minutes and includes utilizing a kayak, boat to sample from deepest area of the pond. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Kim Tower at Town Hall to discuss further. ktower@townhall.plymouth.ma.us 508-747-1620 x198.

For further information on Massachusetts Environmental Trust please visit their website [www.MassEnvironmentalTrust.org](http://www.MassEnvironmentalTrust.org)