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# **NEWS RELEASE**

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#### Southern Rhode Island Conservation District Awards People's Garden Grants to Organizations and Businesses

WESTERLY, Rhode Island, August 6, 2024 – The Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD) recently awarded more than \$60,000 in People's Garden program grants to providing funding for the following organizations to establish community gardens:

Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI), Warwick Meadow Brook Waldorf School, West Kingston Painted Karma, Kingston Northrup Acres, North Kingstown Richmond Elementary School, Richmond St. Pius X Catholic Church, Westerly Saint Andrew Lutheran Church, Charlestown West Warwick High School, West Warwick

The People's Garden Project is funded and organized by a collaborative effort between the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD), the Rhode Island State Conservation Committee (RISCC) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (USDA NRCS).

SRICD's project provides financial and technical support for community gardens and high tunnel projects in urban, suburban, or rural areas in Washington and Kent Counties, Rhode Island.

Gina Fuller, District Manager for the Southern Rhode Island Conservation District, notes "we are so excited to partner with these wonderful organizations and businesses throughout our district to provide them with the financial, technical, and educational assistance needed to establish their own garden and fresh, healthy food using good conservation practices that nurture habitat for pollinators, wildlife, and people."





SRICD has previously awarded People's Garden Grants to the following organizations:

## 2020

Compass School, Kingston Rockville Root Cause, Rockville North End Development Corporation, Westerly

# 2021

West Warwick Health Equity Zone Westerly Middle School, Westerly Middlebridge School, Narragansett Peacedale Elementary School, Peacedale

### 2022

Narragansett Indian Tribe Springbrook Elementary School, Westerly Matunuck Elementary School, Matunuck

### 2023

Kiki's Garden, Exeter Frank Olean Center, Westerly

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.

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