



Supporting Smart Land Use Decision-Making with UConn CLEAR

The UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) helps Connecticut communities make informed, resilient, and sustainable land use decisions. CLEAR offers training, maps, data, research, and tools that support local leaders and residents in understanding and managing land and water resources.

COMMUNITY IMPACTS



81

regulatory or land use actions taken



233

participants increased land use knowledge



132

land use decisions impacted



57

policy or practice changes contributed



97

local plans informed

BY THE NUMBERS

ONLINE TOOLS & RESOURCES



95,600 website users
103 million map server requests

TRAINING PARTICIPATION



895 webinar and workshop attendees
100 municipal outreach or training efforts
703 land use commissioners trained



I work for a civil engineering firm and want to implement more rain gardens to combat stormwater overflow... This course was excellent.”

Rain Garden Course Participant



The presentation was an excellent and comprehensive review even for seasoned land use commissioners.”

Land Use Training Participant

CLEAR’s major initiatives include the Land Use Academy, NEMO stormwater education, CTECO’s GIS and mapping tools, and the E-Corps student service program. These efforts build community capacity to manage stormwater, improve land use policies, and increase resilience.

In 2024, CLEAR training and tools contributed to over 130 land use decisions and nearly 100 changes to plans or regulations. Through its website, CLEAR served over 95,000 users and responded to more than 100 million map server requests, informing smart land use decisions across Connecticut.

CLEAR PROGRAMS

- **Land Use Academy** - Primary provider of training for land use commissioners in Connecticut.
- **NEMO** - Helping communities mediate the water quality and quantity impacts of stormwater runoff.
- **CT ECO** - Informs local decisions through access to geospatial data and tools.
- **Geospatial Training** - Training and tools to help people employ geospatial technology.
- **E-Corps** - Addressing local environmental challenges while giving students real world experience.



TOPICAL AREAS

WATER

CLEAR has several projects and programs focusing on the impact of urbanization on water resources.

LAND & CLIMATE

We help people make more informed land use decisions that protect their natural resources and make them more resilient to a changing climate.

MAPPING

CLEAR’s mapping expertise is focused on remote sensing analysis, development of online geospatial land use tools, and training in the use of various types of geospatial technology.

STEM

Connecting Connecticut high school students, undergraduates, adult volunteers and teachers with conservation efforts at the community level.

FOOD

CLEAR’s food-related programs are focused on local and regional food system tactics that center the potential of small food producers to transform our ability to access healthy, fresh, local food.

For more information, visit us at:

clear.uconn.edu
cteco.uconn.edu

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