



## **Watershed Action Alliance**

*of Southeastern  
Massachusetts*

watershedaction.org



Protecting water and  
natural resources in  
Southeastern  
Massachusetts



### Members & Friends

Barnstable Clean Water  
Coalition

Eel River Watershed  
Association

Herring Pond  
Wampanoag Tribe

Herring Ponds  
Watershed Association

Jones River Watershed  
Association

Monponsett Watershed  
Association

Neponset River  
Watershed Association

North and South Rivers  
Watershed Association

Pembroke Watershed  
Association

Save the Bay –  
Narragansett Bay

Six Ponds Improvement  
Association

Weir River Watershed  
Association

# **Environmental Justice and Racism**

Watershed Action Alliance of Southeastern Massachusetts stands with communities of color subject to unrelenting racism. Race should not determine one's health, exposure to health hazards, access to nature, or equal treatment under law. Yet racial prejudice is the reason that communities of color are inequitably burdened with poverty, environmental pollution and debilitating land development.

This burden impacts communities of color in a number of ways, including increased exposure to pollutants in the air and water resulting in a higher incidence of serious health and safety issues, and more severe impacts of climate change, such as flooding and extreme heat. Moreover, these inequitable impacts are perpetuated through policy decisions largely developed and implemented without meaningful participation by (or inclusion of) those most traumatized, along with a systemic failure to enforce environmental laws.

These environmental injustices deserve more attention and determined efforts to remedy them, along with the injustices that affect other historically disenfranchised communities, including Native Americans, Latinx, recent immigrants, and the disabled. **We, the member organizations of Watershed Action Alliance, commit ourselves to working toward Environmental Justice that remedies these societal failings.**