

Change Happens.

Enter:  **RASCL**
RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES LEAGUE

Danielle Swallow
Coastal Hazards Specialist
Delaware Sea Grant



A Snapshot of My Presentation

- My Professional Background
- Delaware at a Glance
- Overview of RASCL
- Strategic Planning Initiative



Sizing Up Delaware

- Lowest Mean Elevation in U.S.
- 45th Most Populous State
- Entire State in Federal Coastal Zone
- Agriculture and Tourism are Main Economic Drivers
- Rampant Development at the Coast
- Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Not Well Coordinated

Flooding is the Top Hazard in Delaware

-State Hazard Mitigation Plan



Sea Level Rise

- ▶ Local sea level rise is twice the global average
- ▶ Up to 2 feet of sea level rise projected by 2050*
- ▶ Up to 400% increase in tidal flooding since 2000[^]



Year	Delaware SLR Planning Scenarios		
	Low	Intermediate	High
2030	0.11 m / 0.36 ft	0.22 m / 0.72 ft	0.33 m / 1.08 ft
2050	0.22 m / 0.72 ft	0.40 m / 1.31 ft	0.58 m / 1.90 ft
2080	0.42 m / 1.38 ft	0.74 m / 2.43 ft	1.11 m / 3.64 ft
2100	0.52 m / 1.71 ft	0.99 m / 3.25 ft	1.53 m / 5.02 ft

* *Recommendation of Sea-Level Rise Planning Scenarios for Delaware: Technical Report, 2017*

[^] *NOAA 2018 State of High Tide Flooding and 2019 Outlook*

Coastal Storms



Photos by Maureen Hartman and William Bretzger

Heavy Precipitation Events



- Precipitation is highly variable in Delaware with slight upward trend in Autumn*
- Nearly every indicator of extreme precipitation is projected to increase[^]

* Dan Leathers, State Climatologist

[^] Delaware Climate Change Impact Assessment, 2014

► RASCL Mission

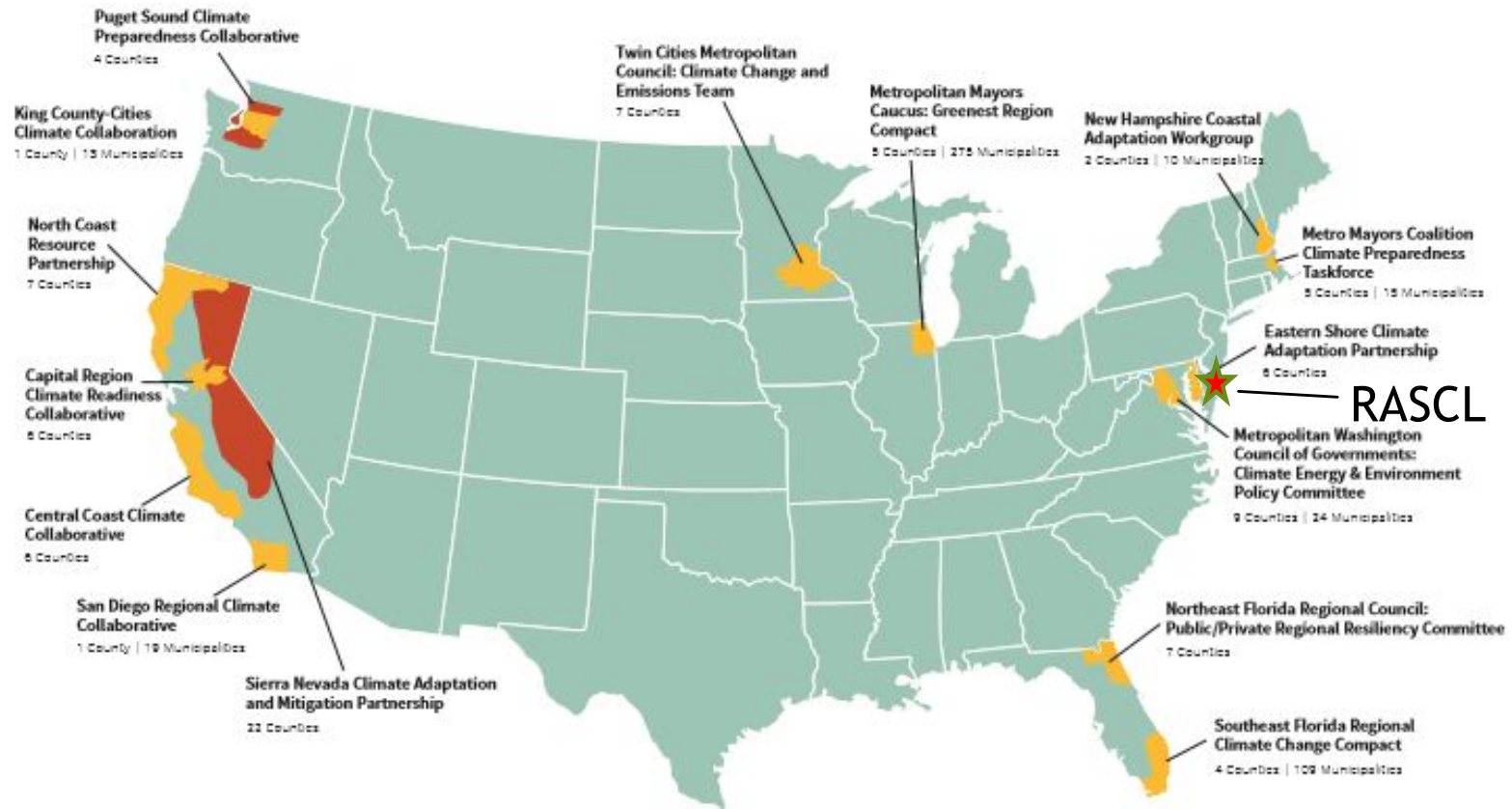
- To accelerate the capacity of all communities in the State of Delaware to become sustainable and resilient

► Vision

- Vibrant and prepared communities that thrive in the face of changing environmental conditions



How Do We Compare to Other Regional Collaboratives?



A member network that promotes capacity building through:

Information Exchange
Technical Assistance
Networking Facilitation

Organization Characteristics:

- Administrative and fiscal agent
- Limited funding and in-kind support
- Consensus-based leadership model

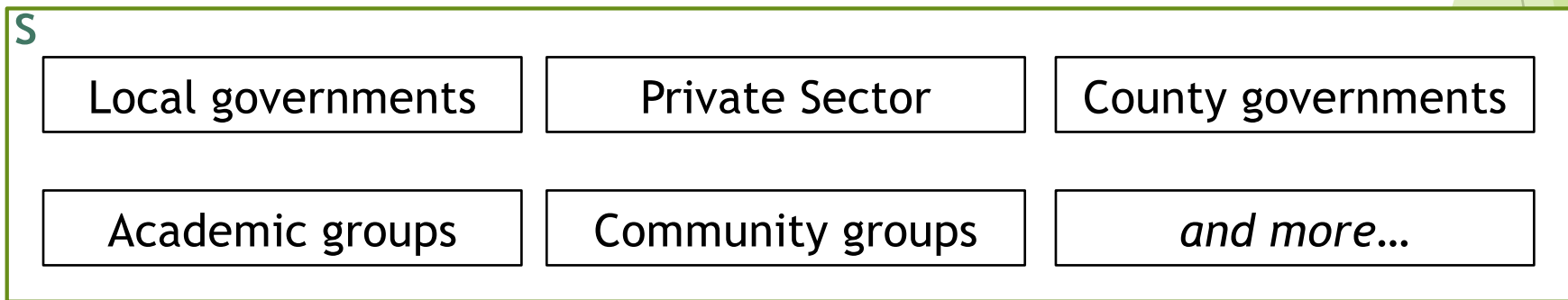


RASCL Structure

Members



Stakeholder



RASCL Initiatives

Technical Assistance: Tools

- ▶ Delaware Database for Funding Resilient Communities

A screenshot of a web-based search interface for the Delaware Database for Funding Resilient Communities. The interface features a search bar at the top with the placeholder text "Search...". Below the search bar are four filter panels, each with a dropdown arrow on the right. The "Eligible Project" panel lists: Disaster Preparedness, Disaster Recovery, Education, Emergency Aid, Energy Conservation, Habitat Restoration, and Infrastructure Upgrades. The "Funding Amount" panel lists: Less than \$15,000, \$15,001-50,000, \$50,001-200,000, \$200,001-500,000, \$500,001-1,000,000, \$1,000,000-\$5,000,000, and \$5,000,000-20,000,000. The "Match Requirement" panel lists: Not Required and Required. The "Program Type" panel lists: Grant, Insurance, Loan, Mutual Aid, and Technical Assistance.

Eligible Project	Funding Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Preparedness	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$15,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Recovery	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15,001-50,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50,001-200,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Aid	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200,001-500,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500,001-1,000,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,000-\$5,000,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Upgrades	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000,000-20,000,000

Match Requirement	Program Type
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant
<input type="checkbox"/> Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Loan
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mutual Aid
	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Assistance

<https://www.derascl.org/funding-database>

Technical Assistance: Tools

► Climate Resources Hub

<https://www.declimateinfo.org/>

Order By Most Recent ▾

Keywords

Hydrology (2) ▾

Resource Types

Tools & Applications (2) ▾

Resource Levels

Local/Municipal ▾

Agencies/Organizations

-- Select One ▾

Start Date 

Keyword(s): Hydrology Type: Tools & Applications Level: Local/Municipal



Watershed Resources Registry- Delaware

 Tools & Applications

The Watershed Resources Registry is an interactive online mapping tool that prioritizes areas for preservation and restoration of wetlands, riparian zones, terrestrial areas, and storm water management control across an entire state. The tool is helpfu ...

LEARN MORE >

VISIT WEBSITE 



Coastal Flood Monitoring System

 Tools & Applications

The Delaware Coastal Flood Monitoring System (CFMS) is a web-based tool and alert system designed to provide emergency managers, planners, and others the information needed regarding upcoming coastal flood events. The CFMS covers the Delaware Bay coast ...

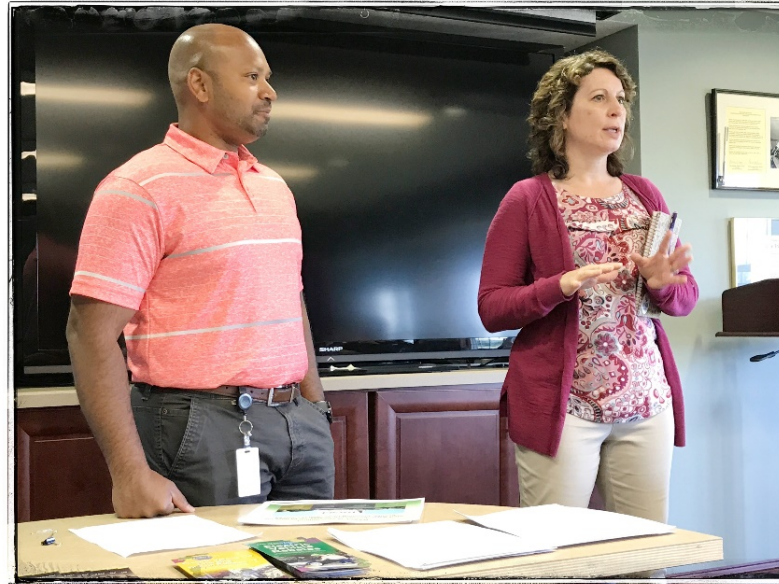
LEARN MORE >

VISIT WEBSITE 

Information Exchange & Networking: RASCL Coffee Hours

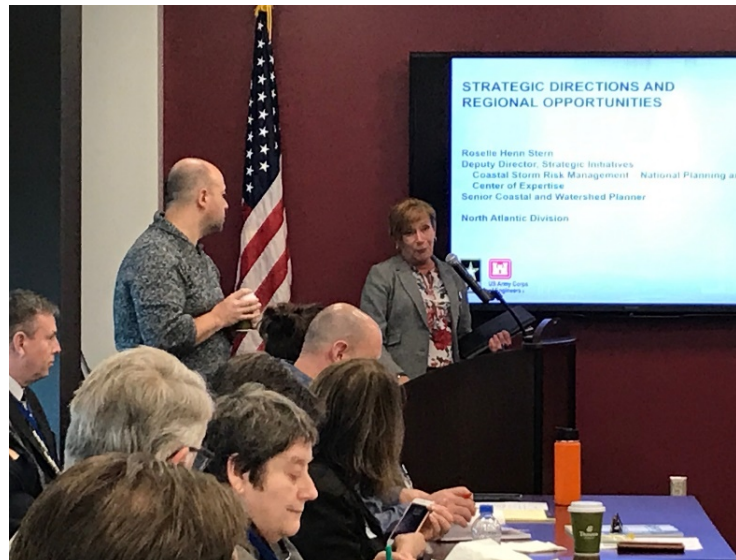
*Great ideas start
with good
coffee.*

Join us for conversations
on community resilience
and sustainability

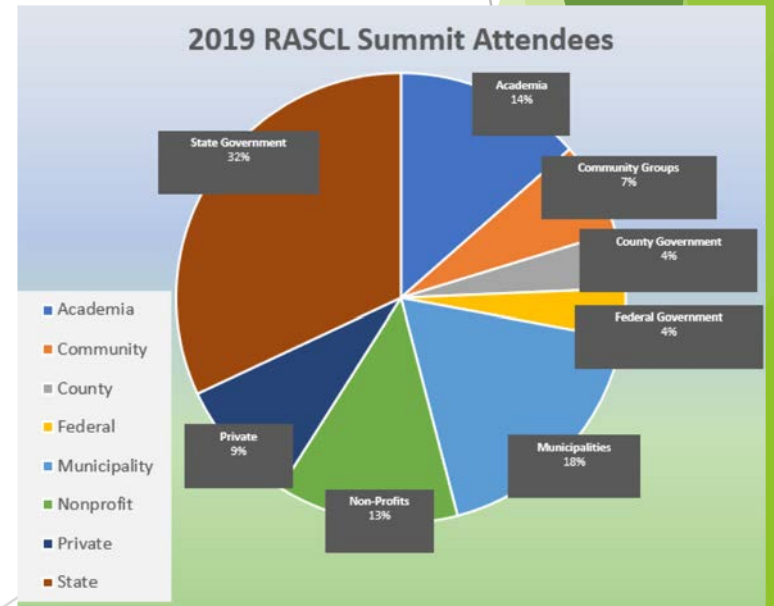


Army Corps 101

Sponsored by
Senator Carper (D-
DE)



RASCL Summit



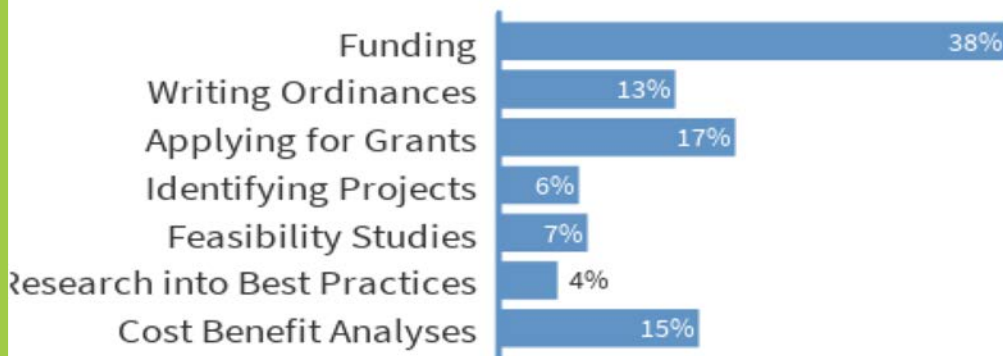
RASCL Summit

Name 1 step you will encourage your community, client, or organization to take to promote resiliency and/or sustainability.

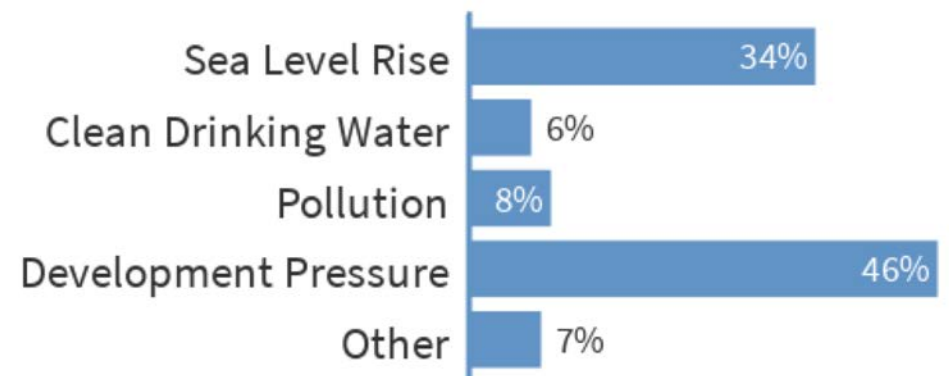
 **Poll locked.** Responses not accepted.

"Community engagement" "Advocacy" "Beach conservation" "Awareness" "Fema regs versus reality" "Climate conservations"
 "Political support" "Mitigation planning" "Advocate" "Hold Strategic Doing Community Workshops" "Define risks" "Partnership"
 "Be creative and tenacious" **"Follow RASCL"** "Targeted outreach" "Prioritize" "Sustainability-Plan" "Be involved"
 "CRS REVIEW"
 "Education" "education" "Invite More Partners to Mitigation Planning Meetings" "Collaborative grant applications" "First I need to find the right people to talk with."
 "Achievable implementation goals"

What impediments exist that may prevent communities from doing these projects? Select all that apply.



What is your community's most pressing water quality or land use issue?



Gaining Traction

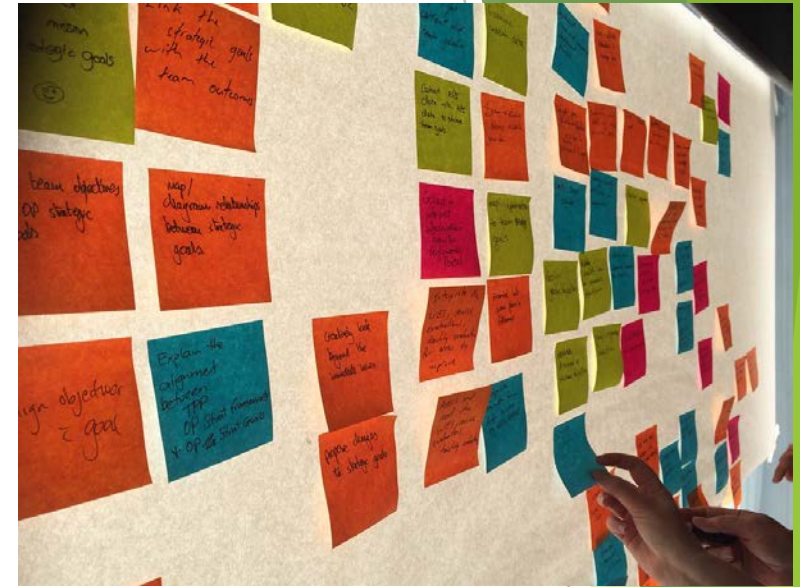
- ▶ Debuted RASCL to a national audience
- ▶ Nominated for a Governor's Award
- ▶ Unveiled new website: www.derascl.org
- ▶ Stakeholder demand growing

“GMB came away from the RASCL Summit with so many new ideas regarding vulnerability and resilience. We especially enjoyed the climate adaptation strategies ...the entire wetland buffer panel discussion, and the wetland mitigation bank presentation...”

- Charlie O'Donnell, Sr. Vice President,
GMB Architects/Engineers

Next Steps: "Strategy"

- ▶ 1st comprehensive strategic planning effort
- ▶ Target completion by Spring 2020
- ▶ How do we evolve and meet the growing demand for RASCL services?



Let's Collaborate!



Danielle Swallow

Coastal Hazards Specialist

(302) 645-4258 | dswallow@udel.edu



<https://www.derascl.org/>