

# Media Advisory

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Sen. Chafee, State of Rhode Island, and Rhode Island Businesses Launch Wetland Restoration Partnership**

*Environmental Science Services, Inc. Narragansett Electric Company Lead Effort*

- WHO:** **The Hon. Lincoln D. Chafee**, United States Senator from Rhode Island  
**Robert Varney**, EPA Region I Administrator  
**Colonel Brian Osterndorf**, US Army Corps of Engineers, New England District  
**Robert V. Bibbo**, president and senior principal of Environmental Science Services, Inc;  
**Jan Reitsma**, director of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management;  
**John MacKenzie**, director of environmental affairs for The Gillette Company;  
**H. Curtis Spalding**, executive director of Save The Bay;  
**William Hubbard**, chief of the Environmental Resources Branch, US Army Corps of Engineers; and  
**Richard Kleiman**, senior project manager of Environmental Science Services, Inc.
- WHAT:** Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership launched to restore Rhode Island's valuable wetlands.
- WHEN:** October 22, 2001, 9:15 a.m.
- WHERE:** Citizen's Bank Rotunda, One Citizens Plaza

**BACKGROUND:** CWRP is a program launched by The Gillette Company and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to restore coastal and freshwater wetlands degraded by fill, pollution, or changes in water flow. The program has been adopted by the federal government as a national initiative; Rhode Island becomes the fourth New England state to launch a CWRP program. Corporate dollars raised at the state level leverage federal matching funds. The RI CWRP program will help fund habitat restoration projects throughout the Ocean State. Funding will be targeted toward a list of priority projects developed by the Rhode Island Habitat Restoration Team. Examples of these projects include the restoration of coastal wetlands, fish passage over dams and the re-establishment of eelgrass beds. The RI Habitat Restoration Team is comprised of agency officials, university scientists, environmental consultants, and non-profit organizations, who are collaboratively working to restore the state's coastal habitats.

Environmental Science Services, Inc. (ESS) and Narragansett Electric Company are the RI-CWRP corporate lead sponsors. Arch Chemicals, Inc., Battelle and Applied Science Associates have signed on as charter members of the Partnership. The Gillette Company is the national corporate chair of CWRP and the National Association of Manufacturers is the national sponsor.

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