

Moving Forward

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Increasingly, NEMO programs are recognized as experts in reaching this critical audience and achieving real change in land use practices and decisions. Thanks to this expertise and the growing national interest in local land use decisions, we have seen an increased interest in enhancing the NEMO message and expanding the approach.

Foresters have seen NEMO programs as a valuable partner in expanding their educational efforts from private landowners to community land use decision makers (See FREMO initiative, page 32). NOAA's Cooperative Institute for Coastal and Estuarine Environmental Technology (CICEET) launched a new funding program focused on land use decision makers and encouraging partnerships with NEMO programs. We hope that these are signs of an increased investment in local land use education.

As this report demonstrates, NEMO programs are willing and able to continue to encourage and assist communities interested in natural resource-based planning and site design. And the Network Hub will continue to help NEMO programs by providing training opportunities to help expand their capacity and reach, developing new and innovative web-based technologies and educating federal agencies and national organizations about the progress NEMO programs are making.