Is the Network having an impact? In other words, are local officials who make land use decisions for their communities better equipped to protect natural resources? The answer is YES.

While the approach of all Network programs is to educate local land use decision-makers on the connection between land use and natural resource protection, NEMO seeks to do more than merely raise their levels of understanding. We want to see that understanding reflected in real changes to land use policies and practices. The proof is in the pudding, as they say, and NEMO programs are demonstrating time and again the power of education to catalyze action at the local level.

NEMO’s mantra of natural resource based community planning requires attention to conservation and development as two sides of the same coin, to be addressed in tandem—not in opposition to, or in isolation from, each other. As a result, communities working with NEMO implement a wide range of actions, from research to planning to regulation to development design.

This Report highlights a few examples from around the Network of local actions that have been catalyzed by NEMO programs. We have organized them into the following six categories:

1. **Research and Information Gathering**
   These initiatives help provide the local data upon which rational land use plans and decisions can be based.

2. **Changes to the Decision Making Process**
   The players and specific steps involved in local land use decision making can make a huge difference. These changes create a decision making structure that is more conducive to proactive planning.

3. **Changes to Plans**
   Plans constitute the backbone of local land use decision-making by setting out long term goals and a vision for how a community will grow.

4. **Changes to Regulations**
   Regulations and ordinances give “teeth” to plans and dictate the specifics of how, where and when development may occur. Changes here provide direct protection for priority community resources.

5. **On the Ground Changes**
   Where the rubber meets the road. From “low impact” subdivisions to permanently protected open space, changes to the actual landscape are an ultimate indicator of impact.

6. **Beyond Local Impacts**
   NEMO programs focus on local impacts. However, as an innovator, NEMO programs often create or inspire changes to state or regional plans, policies and programs.
The following pages are not an exhaustive list of all NEMO program impacts. Rather, they are an attempt to present a representative sample of the types of actions that have been catalyzed by NEMO efforts and driven by local action. For more details on what individual NEMO programs are doing, and routing to member’s websites, visit the Network website at nemonet.uconn.edu. Or use the contact information in the back of this Report to speak to a real live NEMOid in your state!

Network Members

- Connecticut 1991
- Rhode Island 1992
- South Carolina 1996
- Alabama 1998
- New Hampshire 1998
- Maine 1999
- Ohio 1999
- Oregon 1999
- Georgia 2000
- New York 2000
- Wisconsin 2000
- Indiana 2000
- Kansas 2001
- Michigan 2001
- Minnesota 2001
- Pennsylvania (1) 2001
- Tennessee 2001
- Washington 2001
- Arizona 2002
- Colorado 2002
- Delaware 2002
- Texas 2002
- Louisiana 2003
- Mississippi 2003
- Nevada 2003
- North Carolina 2003
- California 2003
- Vermont 2004
- Pennsylvania (2) 2004
- Illinois 2004
- Hawaii 2005

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Public access parking stalls at Comfield Point, Old Saybrook, Connecticut feature alternative pavement that promotes infiltration. Shown here are modular concrete pavers.