



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Water Quality Improvement Projects and Non-Ag Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant

October 26, 2022



Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Overview

- Competitive, statewide implementation grant
- Improves water quality or aquatic habitat
- Protects a drinking water source

Funding Overview

- Dollar amounts available each year is based on NYS Budget
 - Clean Water Infrastructure Act
 - Environmental Protection Fund
- Maximum awards differ by project type
- Match is based on award amount – not total project cost

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Municipal corporations
- Soil and water conservation districts
- Not-for-profit corporations (Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection, Aquatic Connectivity Restoration, Marine District Habitat Restoration)

Eligible Activities - 2022

- Wastewater Treatment Improvement
- Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control
- Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection
- Salt Storage
- Aquatic Connectivity Restoration
- Marine District Habitat Restoration

Wastewater Treatment Improvement

Primary Priority (25% match)

- Wastewater Effluent Disinfection for Facilities Without Disinfection

Secondary Priority (25% match)

- Combined Sewer Overflow/Sanitary Sewer Overflow (CSO/SSO)
- Watershed Plan Implementation
- Municipal Systems to Serve Multiple Properties with Inadequate On-Site Septic Systems
- Wastewater Treatment Facility Nitrogen Abatement for Shellfishing Waters

General WWT (60% match)

- Other wastewater infrastructure improvements

Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source

Eligible practices (25% match)

- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On-Site Treatment Systems
- Green Infrastructure Practice
- Stormwater Retrofits
- Streambank/Shoreline Stabilization and Riparian Buffers
- In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients
- Bathing Beach Restoration
- Stream Culvert Repair and Replacement
- Vacuum Trucks in MS4 Areas
- Nonpoint Source Programs

Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection

Eligible projects & programs (25% match)

- Protect surface public drinking water supplies
- Protect groundwater public drinking water supplies
- Must include land acquisition; either land purchase or easements

Other information

- Municipalities, soil and water conservation districts and not-for-profits, such as land trusts, are eligible
- Apply under the category of “project” or “program”



Salt Storage

Eligible projects (50% match)

- Highest priority: construct a new structure to enclose an exposed salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile that is currently located near a public drinking water source or within a primary, sole source, or principal aquifer
- All projects must comply with the OGS salt storage specs



Aquatic Connectivity Restoration

Eligible Projects (25% match)

- Improves aquatic habitat connectivity at road/stream crossings or dams
- Restores the natural movement of organisms
- Focus is on culverts, bridges or dams that are causing obstructions

Other Information

- If total cost of project > \$250,000, must demonstrate that additional funding has been secured

Marine District Habitat Restoration

Eligible Projects (25% match)

- Improves ecological condition of waters within marine district
- Support a spawning, nursery, wintering, migratory, nesting, breeding, or foraging environment for fish and wildlife.

Other Information

- A map of the marine district waters can be found at:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/permits/95483.html>



Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning & MS4 Mapping Grant

Funding Overview - 2022

- Grants to help pay for:
 - Planning reports needed for nonpoint source projects
 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) mapping
- Up to \$3 Million Available in 2022
- 10% local match

Nonpoint Source Planning Reports

- Eligible Applicants:
 - Municipalities
 - Soil and water conservation districts
- Grant caps:
 - Up to \$30,000 for planning reports
 - Up to \$75,000 for comprehensive stream corridor studies

Nonpoint Source Planning Report Categories

- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On-Site Treatment Systems
- Green Infrastructure
- Stormwater Retrofits
- Streambank/Shoreline Stabilization
- Comprehensive Stream Corridor Assessment
- Stream Sediment and Debris Management Plans
- In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients
- Bathing Beach Restoration
- Stream Culvert Repair & Replacement

MS4 Mapping

- Eligible applicants:
 - Regulated municipal MS4 operators
 - Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Grants caps:
 - If applying as a collaborative: Up to \$30,000 per municipality, with up to \$400,000 per collaborative
 - If must apply alone, maximum of \$75,000

MS4 Mapping

- Final deliverables:
 - Final map product
 - Final summary report
- Applicants must cooperate with other municipalities/MS4s when possible
- Mapping must meet MS4 permit requirements
- Must create, use, or expand on electronic/GIS mapping
- Basic mapping must be done before other mapping

Projects Affecting Water Quality in Environmental Justice Areas

- DEC is committed to environmental justice (EJ)
- Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color or income, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies
- Review points added for a proposed project that demonstrates it improves water quality in an EJ area, or positively impacts drinking water serving an EJ community

General Application Tips

- Start early
- Skim entire RFA; focus on your project type
- Attach everything required
- Make the connections
 - Show how your project fits the grant
- Use the scoring rubrics to self-score
- Fill out and attach expenditure-based budget
 - Include only costs to be reimbursed

Thank You

Contact Information

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On the web:

WQIP: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>

NPG: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/116725.html>

