

DNREC Funding Opportunities



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Program Manager II

Nonpoint Source Program

DNREC Funding Opportunities

Three Water Quality Related Programs:

- Delaware Nonpoint Source Program Funding
- Community Water Quality Improvement Grant
- Surface Water Matching Planning Grants

Delaware Nonpoint Source Program

Funding

- The Delaware Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program administers a competitive grant made possible through Section 319 of the Federal Clean Water Act.
- The grant provides funding for projects designed to reduce nonpoint source pollution in Delaware. NPS pollution may be defined as any pollution that originates from a diffuse source (such as an open field or a road) and is transported to surface or ground waters through leaching or runoff. Reduction of NPS pollution may often be achieved through incorporation of specific best management practices (BMPs) into project workplans.
- Projects may target any source of NPS pollution, but most frequently involve agriculture, silviculture, construction, marinas, septic systems and hydromodification activities.
- In addition to funding projects that achieve reductions in NPS pollution, the Delaware NPS Program is committed to addressing the issue through educational programs, publications, and partnerships with other organizations working to reduce NPS pollution in Delaware.
- Request For Proposals generally solicited in May.

Eligibility for NPS Program Funding

- A project can be sponsored by both public and private entities, including local governments, tribal authorities, cities, counties, regional development centers, local school systems, colleges and universities, local nonprofit organizations, state agencies, federal agencies, watershed groups, for-profit groups, and individuals.
- Project grants to individuals are limited to demonstration projects.
- Priority will be given to those projects whose goal is to improve the water quality of water bodies identified as having nonpoint source pollution impairments, as documented in:
 - The current 303(d) List as impaired due to a nonpoint source pollutant;
 - The current 305(b) Report as not fully supporting a designated use due to a nonpoint source; or
 - Any other documentation of nonpoint source pollution
- The NPS Program may also prioritize funding according to additional environmental factors, such as land use and existing best management practices, if these factors can help determine where projects will be most effective at reducing nonpoint source pollution.
- Projects are usually one to three years in length. Grant recipients that failed to meet program requirements in the past may be ineligible to receive additional project funding.

What Can Be Funded with NPS Program Funds?

Whenever possible, funds are focused in sub-watersheds where NPS control activities are likely to have the greatest positive impact. Funded restoration activities are implemented using the most effective measures and practices available in order to achieve water quality improvements. Eligible types of management program implementation activities include the following:

- Best Management Practice Implementation
- Non-regulatory NPS reduction programs
- Technical assistance
- Financial assistance
- Education
- Training
- Technology transfer
- Demonstration projects

What **Cannot** Be Funded with NPS Program Funds?

The following items **cannot** be funded with Section 319 funds:

- dredging, drainage or flood control
- work required by regulations or permits, such as an NPDES permit
- permit fees of any type
- office furniture

NPS Program Matching Funds

- Each Section 319 project must have a 40% match of either cash or in-kind services of the total project cost. (The minimum match requirement can be calculated by multiplying the requested funding by .667).
- Match documented must be directly associated with the project and for work done to fulfill the contract tasks.
- Federal dollars may not be used to match Section 319 grant funds, which are also federal dollars. All activities eligible for grant funds are eligible to be documented as match, excluding Federal sources. Activities not eligible for grant funds are also not eligible match.
- Match for volunteer time should be calculated as the money it would cost in the current market to hire the job/activity done. If you are unsure of the value of volunteer time, contact the Nonpoint Source Program for guidance.

NPS Program Examples

Sussex County Conservation District – Conservation Planners

- During the 2010 Calendar year, Sussex County Conservation District Planners worked with area farmers to encourage the installation of agriculture best management practices and partnered with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in developing conservation plans, nutrient management plans and Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) contracts. During 2010, the District planners made 1,023 contacts with farmers and landowners that resulted in an expenditure of over \$1.1 million in conservation cost-share funds throughout Sussex County.

Kent County Conservation District – Conservation Planners

- Kent County Conservation District Planners worked with Kent County Farmers and provide nutrients management planning, conservation planning and encourage the installation and/or adoption of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs). For the 2010, Conservation Planners in Kent County encouraged participation in the USDA EQIP Program in the amount of \$2,100,000 spent on the installation of agricultural BMPs.

Nutrient Relocation Program

- In 2010, the Nutrient Relocation Program accounted for the transportation of 4.9 million pounds of total nitrogen keeping 3.7 million pounds of phosphorus out of Delaware's priority watersheds.

NPS Program Examples

Stream & Corridor Enhancement Program

- **Dover Silver Lake Park Stream Restoration Site** – Construct a regenerative stormwater conveyance system for the City of Dover’s Washington Street drainage area and to restore approximately 320 feet of stream bank along the St. Jones River below the spillway at Dover’s Silver Lake Park.
- **Ham Run Stream Restoration Site** - The Ham Run stream restoration project involves a 400–500 feet reach of Ham Run, a tributary to Red Clay Creek near the intersection of Duncan Road and Greenbank Road.
- **Hickory Spring Road**- Construct a project where the homeowner would like to increase the depth of the pond by removing sediment that has accumulated behind a dam.
- **Blackbird** – Implementation of a stream restoration project along a tributary to Blackbird Creek in southern New Castle County, Delaware. Two (possibly three) severely eroded drainage gullies immediately adjacent to Blackbird Landing Road will be restored (approximately 250 – 450 linear feet) along with targeted trouble spots along a 500 foot span of the unnamed tributary to Blackbird Creek. This entire project will involve approximately 750 to 950 linear feet of channel restoration.
- **Upper Christina (West Branch)** – A stream restoration site involving a 2,000 foot reach of degraded stream along the upper Christina River west of Newark, Delaware.

Delaware NPS Program Contact Information

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Community Water Quality Improvement Grant

The Community Water Quality Improvement Grant (CWQIG) is a grant program evolving from the Delaware Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Non-Federal Administrative Account. The program is designed to assist municipalities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations with implementing projects or programs within Delaware's developed landscape to improve water quality in designated impaired watersheds consistent with specific plans developed for watershed improvements. Programs and projects selected will demonstrate innovative and sustainable methods, techniques, and/or practices for water quality improvements with cost effective and measurable results.

In undertaking these projects, it is the intent that surface and ground water quality throughout the State of Delaware is measurably improved and that citizen education and actions regarding the waters of the State are benefited. The available funding should be used to assist with project/program implementation with a priority for projects that promote community involvement, leverage additional resources, further education and outreach, demonstrate innovative science, policy, and technology, and provide a project/program approach that is both measurable and transferable in water quality improvements obtained.

Eligibility for CWQIG

Applicant Requirements

- Applicants may be any Delaware state or municipal government, agency or program, non-profit organization, educational institution, community organization, and/or homeowner's association within the State of Delaware. Applicants may submit up to two project proposals per grant cycle. Preference is given to projects involving cooperative partnerships and sponsors without a dedicated source of funds for repayment of Clean Water State Revolving Fund loans.
- Agricultural operations and private for profit firms are **not** eligible for these funds.
- Interested parties may enter into a working arrangement with eligible applicant.

CWQIG Program Goals

While not limited to the following list, all proposals should address one or more of the following goals:

- Provide benefits to water quality within an impaired watershed.
- Implementation of non-regulatory projects listed in a watershed management plan. Examples of plans include voluntary elements of Pollution Control Strategies, watershed based restoration plans, a Whole Basin Management Preliminary Assessment, or community-based stormwater permits.
- Installation of community stormwater management improvements in existing developments and municipalities
- Restoration for water quality benefits.

CWQIG Funding Process

- Eligible proposals will be selected for funding by the Delaware Clean Water Advisory Council through a competitive grant process. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Program will administer the grant application process and provide technical and financial guidance. This grant program is not in any way associated with or dependent on federal stimulus funds.
- A grant informational workshop is held in June to discuss the particulars of the grant.
- Grant proposals are due the first week of August.

CWGIG Examples

Project Title: **Anchorage Canal Drainage Project**

Project Manager: **Chris Bason**

Total Project Cost: **\$190,913**

Funding Amount: **\$98,386**

Pollutants Treated: **N, P, Sediment, TSS**

Objective: Stormwater retrofit project- convert an existing ditch to a wet swale with a sediment control forebay, check dams, and vegetated filter strips .

CWGIG Examples

Project Title: **Milton Community Foundation**

Project Manager: **Emory West**

Funding amount: **\$7,500.00**

Pollutants treated: **Nutrients, ZN, TSS, Sediment and Bacteria**

Objectives:

- Install two stormwater retrofit projects located in Milton.
- Installation of a rain garden at H.O. Brittingham Elementary School, completed April 2011.
- Installation of two rain gardens at the Milton Public Library, completed, completed May 2011.
- The third rain garden installation is at the riverbank next to Wilmington Trust parking lot.

CWQIG Contact Information

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Surface Water Matching Planning Grants

- The Delaware Clean Water Advisory Council established a Surface Water Matching Planning Grant to support the planning/preliminary engineering/feasibility analysis of surface water improvement projects and activities that focus on the developed landscape to improve water quality in Delaware's impaired watersheds.
- The grants are intended for the planning/preliminary engineering/feasibility analysis of stormwater retrofits, green technology practices, stream and wetland restoration projects, small watershed studies, development of master surface water and drainage plans, and other point and nonpoint source water pollution control projects.
- The Surface Water Matching Planning Grant is a set aside in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Non-Federal Administrative Account.
- The program is designed to assist counties and municipalities to prepare surface water projects for funding through Delaware Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund (WPCRLF). The available funding can be used to assist with surface water planning in general, and for specific project planning and designs necessary to submit a loan application to the WPCRLF for funding consideration.

SWMPG Eligibility

Applicant Requirements:

- Applicants may be any Delaware state, county, or municipal government, government agency, governmental subdivision or program. A 1:1 cash match is required for the grant. Applicants must have the matching funds available at the time of grant application submittal.
- Non-profit organizations, educational institutions, community organizations, and/or homeowner's associations within the State of Delaware that do not have taxing authority are ineligible to apply directly but may partner with an eligible applicant.

Eligible Projects:

- Stormwater retrofits, water quality improvement projects, stream and wetland restoration, and other green infrastructure practices. Development of master plans, or planning toward a community goal for surface water improvements are also eligible.
 - ✓ Project applicants must be eligible to apply for SRF funding.
 - ✓ A 1:1 cash match is required.

SWMPG Program Goals

Grant applicants should focus their proposals on one or more of the following program goals:

- Provide benefits to water quality within an impaired watershed.
- Planning and/or preliminary design for projects associated with a watershed management plan.
- Planning and/or preliminary design for community stormwater management improvements in existing developments and municipalities.
- Restoration or retrofit projects to provide water quality benefits.

SWMPG Funding Process

- Eligible proposals will be selected for funding by the Delaware Clean Water Advisory Council through a competitive grant process. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) Division of Watershed Stewardship will administer the grant application process and provide technical and financial guidance.
- Preference is given to planning and/or preliminary engineering projects that will go forward to implementation and would be eligible to be funded by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Special consideration will be given to joint applications among either governmental subdivisions, agencies and municipalities or a governmental subdivision, municipality and a county.
- Funding for projects receiving a grant award in any grant cycle will be capped at \$50,000 with a 1:1 cash match requirement.
- A grant informational workshop is held twice a year (July and December) to discuss the particulars of the grant.
- Grant proposals are due approximately the last week of January and August.

SWMPG Examples

- Kent County & Kent Conservation District - Kent County Stormwater Management Service Area
- Kent County Levy Court - Double Run Wetland Creation, Restoration, and Nutrient Removal Project
- Delaware Ag Museum – Dover Silver Lake Project
- Kent Conservation District – Puncheon Run Flood Plain Project
- New Castle Conservation District – Rosetree Hunt Stormwater Retrofit
- Center for the Inland Bays – Anchorage Canal Stormwater Retrofit
- U of D – Cool Run Watershed Effort

SWMPG Contact Information

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Questions?

