



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

2021

Funding Overview

Up to \$65 Million Available



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

- 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
- Permeable Reactive Barriers
- 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

Marine District Habitat Restoration

Eligible Projects (no match required)

- Projects within the marine district (New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan)
- Must improve the ecological condition of waters of the state



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

Pre-Application Requirements

- All municipalities and soil and water conservation districts must register in the NYS Grants Gateway System to be eligible to accept this grant opportunity.
- All not-for-profits must register and prequalify in the NYS Grants Gateway System to eligible for this grant.



Thank You

Contact Information

On the web: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>

NYS DEC, Division of Water

User.water@dec.ny.gov

Contacts listed for each WQIP project type in the
Program Overview

