



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

2024

Funding Overview

- At least \$75 million available
- Maximum awards differ by project type
- Applicants may submit up to 5 applications for different projects



Eligible Applicants

Varies for each project type

Includes:

- **Municipalities**
 - Definition cited from ECL
 - Includes municipal districts/corporations and Indian nations/tribes
- **Soil and water conservation districts**
- **Not-for-profit corporations**
 - Must pre-qualify in SFS Grants Management System to be eligible



Eligible Projects

*new or amended category for 2024

- Wastewater Treatment Improvement
- Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control
- Vacuum Trucks in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Areas
- Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection
- Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction*
- Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation and Dam Removal*
- Aquatic Connectivity Restoration
- Marine Habitat Restoration
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement*



Wastewater Treatment Improvement

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities

Primary Priorities (25% match)

- Wastewater Effluent Disinfection
- Watershed Plan Implementation of Phosphorus Reduction

Secondary Priorities (25% match)

- Combined Sewer Overflow/Sanitary Sewer Overflow
- Watershed Plan Implementation



Wastewater Treatment Improvement (cont.)

Tertiary Priorities (25% match)

- Municipal Systems to Serve Multiple Properties with Inadequate On-Site Septic Systems
- Nitrogen Abatement for Shellfishing Waters

General WWT (25% match)

- Other wastewater infrastructure improvements



Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Eligible Projects and Programs (25% match)

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



Vacuum Trucks in MS4 Areas

Eligible Applicants

- Municipality Regulated by the MS4 General Permit
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts on behalf of regulated MS4 Operators

Eligible Projects (25% match)

- Projects to purchase one vacuum truck to be used in an MS4 area

Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Not-for-profit corporations (such as land trusts)

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



Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction

Amended category for 2024

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Primary Priorities (25% match)

- Road salt reduction equipment
- New salt storage structures

Secondary Priority (25% match)

- Replacement salt storage structures
- Salt storage capacity expansion



Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation and Dam Removal

Amended category for 2024

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Not-for-Profit Corporations

Primary Priority (25% match)

- Repair of dams with downstream hazard classification of C & condition rating of Unsafe/Unsound
- Removal of dams with downstream hazard classification of C or B
- Secondary Priority (25% match)
- Repair of intermediate hazard dams with condition rating of Unsafe/Unsound

General Projects (25% match)

- Other dam repairs for high or intermediate hazard dams



Aquatic Connectivity Restoration

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Not-for-profit corporations

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
- May promote flood risk reduction and enhanced flood and climate resiliency



Marine District Habitat Restoration

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Not-for-profit corporations

Eligible Projects (25% match)

Projects within marine district that improve ecological condition of waters with intent to improve habitat for fish and wildlife

- Ocean waters within three miles from state's coastline
- Tidal Hudson River waters running south of the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (formerly Tappan Zee Bridge)



Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement

New category for 2024

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Not-for-profit corporations

Eligible Projects (25% match)

- Wetland habitat restoration and enhancement
- Riparian corridor habitat restoration and enhancement



Projects Affecting Water Quality in Environmental Justice/Disadvantaged Community Areas

DEC is committed to serving underserved and vulnerable populations

Review points added for a proposed project that:

- Demonstrates improved water quality or positively impacts drinking water serving a Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) community or disadvantaged community (DAC)
- Protects PEJA or DAC areas that are within a dam failure inundation area
- Improves habitat within a PEJA or DAC



Flood and Climate Resiliency

DEC encourages

- projects that will reduce flood risk or enhance flood resiliency
- projects that will increase resiliency from the effects of climate change

Review points added for a proposed project that meets specific criteria for climate resilience and/or flood resilience

Updated flood resilience requirements for awarded projects within the 100 and 500-year floodplains



Thank You

On the web: <https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program>

NYS DEC, Division of Water
user.water@dec.ny.gov

Contacts listed for each WQIP project type in the Program Overview

Connect with us:

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