

# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Office of Regional Administration, Region 2  
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## ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT PROJECTS IDEA BANK

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) New York City Office (DEC Region 2) wants to create an Environmental Benefit Projects Idea Bank for non-profit organizations<sup>1</sup> in Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. The objective of this idea bank is to collect and store a list of ideas for potential environmental benefit projects throughout the city.

If your organization is a non-profit in New York City, DEC encourages you to provide ideas by completing the form below or by contacting Region 2 for more information. **Note that the submission of ideas to this bank is not a request for funding and does not guarantee or entitle your organization to any funding.**

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

An Environmental Benefit Project (EBP) is a project that a violator of the Environmental Conservation Law agrees to fund as part of the settlement of an enforcement matter. By establishing an idea bank and compiling a list of potential EBPs, DEC hopes to identify projects that provide benefits to communities harmed by environmental violations. An EBP "must improve, restore, protect, or reduce risks to public health or the environment beyond that achieved by a respondent's full compliance with applicable laws and regulations." Selection and funding of EBPs is governed by DEC's Environmental Benefit Projects Policy CP-37.

For more information on CP-37, please visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/64596.html>

On the following page, you will find a list of potential project types that are acceptable for DEC's EBP Idea Bank. Please review the list carefully before completing the form at the end and submitting your idea.

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<sup>1</sup>**Non-Profit Organization (NPO)** - an organization that is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law and qualifies for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code. An NPO must have an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter, be incorporated in New York State, have a charities registration number from the NYS Office of the Attorney General and must be current in their reporting requirements to the Office of the Attorney General.

## POTENTIAL PROJECT TYPES

**Air Quality Improvement/Monitoring** - Projects designed to improve or evaluate air quality. These could include efforts to relieve congestion, white and green roofs, tree planting, identifying or monitoring sources of emissions, and assessment of potential health impacts associated with air emissions.

**Water Quality Improvement/Monitoring** - Projects designed to improve or evaluate water quality. These could include watershed restoration, identifying or monitoring sources of water pollution, and assessment of potential health and environmental impacts associated with water quality.

**Storm Recovery** - Projects designed to repair and restore areas previously impacted by storms or natural disasters. These could include rebuilding damaged ecosystems and fortification efforts to mitigate future storm risks.

**Environmental Restoration/Habitat Improvement** - Projects designed to assist and maintain an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed. These could include wetland reconstruction, addressing environmental contamination of soil and water, and reintroducing native flora and fauna.

**Pollution Prevention/Reduction** - Projects designed to reduce, eliminate or prevent the amount of waste produced.

**Environmental Education/Public Awareness** - Projects designed to increase and promote awareness on various environmental topics.

**Energy Efficiency** - Projects designed to improve energy use and production. These could include conducting energy assessments and audits, structural insulation, energy-efficient lighting, high-efficiency heating systems, conversions to renewable energy, and other strategies used to reduce energy waste.

**Climate Change Preparedness** - Projects designed to prepare for and study the effects of climate change. These could include community-based resiliency efforts, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and other approaches for protecting the community and environment from climate impacts.

**Stormwater Mitigation/Green Infrastructure** - Projects designed to limit and/or control stormwater runoff. These could include feasibility studies and the installation of rain gardens, tree pits, bioswales/greenstreets, bluebelts, green roofs, blue roofs, permeable paving, cisterns/rain barrels, and other systems that absorb and filter stormwater runoff.

**Other** - Project ideas that have environmental benefits but do not fit within the categories listed above.

# ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT PROJECTS IDEA BANK

## ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Organization Name	
Address	
Contact	
Contact Phone	
Email	
Non-Profit ID Number	
Mission	

## PROJECT OUTLINE

To submit an idea to DEC's Environmental Benefit Projects Idea Bank, please follow this outline and **attach a word document** to this form describing your project.

**Project Title**

**Project Location**

**Estimated Budget** (itemized breakdown)

**Project Description** with goals (200+ words)

**Environmental Benefits and Relevance**

**Project Category** (From the lists below, please choose all categories that may apply to your proposal)

Air Quality Improvement/Monitoring  
Environmental Restoration/Habitat Improvement  
Environmental Education/Public Awareness  
Climate Change Preparedness  
Storm Recovery

Water Quality Improvement/Monitoring  
Pollution Prevention/Reduction  
Energy Efficiency  
Stormwater Mitigation/Green Infrastructure  
Other

## PROJECT INFORMATION

Is your proposed project affiliated with another organization?

Yes

No

If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Is your proposed project part of an existing project or program?

Yes

No

If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Would this project need an organizational sponsor for further development and/or implementation?

Yes

No

Unsure

Has your organization received DEC funding in the past?

Yes

No

If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTRIBUTING TO THIS IDEA BANK DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUNDING

**Please email this form and attached project idea to: [Adanna.Roberts@dec.ny.gov](mailto:Adanna.Roberts@dec.ny.gov). If you have any questions or concerns, please call 718-482-4966**

**We rely on your participation to make the Environmental Benefit Projects Idea Bank useful. Your input is greatly appreciated!**

## SPREAD THE WORD!

Would you like this form sent to another non-profit organization that might be interested in submitting a project to the idea bank?

Yes |  No

If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_