

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (WQIP) PROGRAM 2018



Division
of Water

Program Description

The Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program funds projects that directly address documented water quality impairments. The competitive, statewide grant program is open to local governments and not-for-profit corporations. Grant recipients may receive up to 75 percent of the project costs for high priority wastewater treatment improvement, non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control, land acquisition for source water protection, aquatic habitat restoration, and municipal separate storm sewer system projects; up to 50% for salt storage projects; and up to 40% for general wastewater infrastructure improvement projects.

Combating the impacts of harmful algal blooms (HABs) in our waters is a high priority for New York State and the WQIP program.

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Municipal corporations
- Soil and water conservation districts
- Not-for-profit corporations (Only land acquisition for source water protection or aquatic habitat restoration projects)

Eligible Activities

- Wastewater treatment improvement
- Non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control
- Land acquisition for source water protection
- Salt storage
- Aquatic habitat restoration
- Municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4)

Wastewater Treatment Improvement (75/25% Cost Share)

Please note the change in grant/match ratio for this category

Priorities:

- Wastewater effluent disinfection for facilities that currently do not have any disinfection
- Combined sewer overflow/sanitary sewer overflow (CSO/SSO) projects to upgrade systems to meet CSO or SSO discharge requirements
- Projects to purchase and install equipment necessary to meet Watershed Plan Implementation requirements
- Projects to construct municipal systems to serve multiple properties with inadequate on-site septic systems
- Projects to reduce and/or eliminate nitrogen impairments in shellfishing waters

General Wastewater Treatment Improvement (40/60% Cost Share)

- Upgrade municipal system to meet wastewater treatment discharge requirements

Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source (75/25% Cost Share)

- Decentralized wastewater treatment facilities for failing on-site treatment systems
- Green infrastructure practice/stormwater retrofits
- Great Lakes nature-based shoreline projects
- Streambank stabilization/restoration and riparian buffers
- In-waterbody controls for nutrients
- Beach restoration
- Other nonpoint source projects

Land acquisition for source water protection (75/25% Cost Share)

- Protection of surface or groundwater drinking water supplies

Salt storage (50/50% Cost Share)

Please note the change in grant/match ratio for this category

Priority:

- Projects to construct a structure to cover a salt storage pile that is currently located near a public drinking water source or within a primary or sole source aquifer

Aquatic Habitat Restoration (75/25% Cost Share)

Statewide, projects to improve aquatic connectivity. Below are sample projects:

- Upgrade and replacement of road stream crossings
- Removal or breach of stream barriers (dams or weirs)
- Removal or alteration of impoundments

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) (75/25% Cost Share)

- Comprehensive system mapping/program mapping
- Purchase of vacuum truck equipment

Ineligible Activities

- Proposals that do not address a water quality impairment or protect a drinking water source
- Projects that are seeking funding for planning or design only

Pre-Application Requirements

- All municipalities and soil and water conservation districts must register in the NYS Grants Gateway system to be eligible for this grant (<http://grantsreform.ny.gov>).
- All not-for-profits must register and prequalify in the NYS Grants Gateway system to be eligible for this grant (<http://grantsreform.ny.gov>).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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