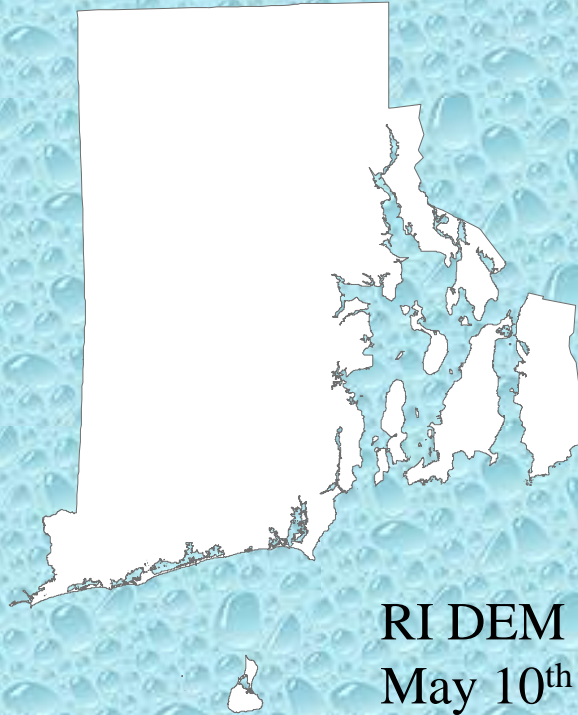


# **FY2017 Bay and Watershed Restoration Fund (BWRF) & Nonpoint Source Section 319 Grants Workshop**



RI DEM Office of Water Resources  
May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017



# **BWRF Funding Provided By:**

2014 Clean Water, Open Space and Healthy  
Communities Bond &  
2016 Green Economy Bond



# **NPS Pollution Funding Provided**

**By:**

Section 319 of the Clean Water Act

US EPA via

Rhode Island Department of  
Environmental Management

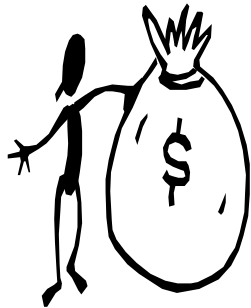
# Eligible Applicants

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## Who can apply?

### It varies by grant category:

- Municipal, state and regional governments; Quasi-state agencies
- Public schools and universities
- Non-profit environmental organizations and conservation organizations (must have IRS status 501(c)3), certain other non-governmental organizations (e.g. lake associations)
- Private businesses (stormwater only)





# Eligibility to Apply for Grants

Funding Source	Governmental	Non-governmental		
	Municipal/State/ Regional government; quasi-state agencies; public schools and universities	Non-profit watershed organizations, environmental organizations, conservation districts, lake associations, land trusts	Other non- governmental entities: for profit business, private schools, non-profit organizations,	Private citizens
State BWRP – NPS & Stormwater Pollution Abatement Governmental Sub-fund	Yes/ Eligible	No	No	No
State BWRP – NPS & Stormwater Pollution Abatement Non – Governmental Sub-fund	No	Yes/ Eligible	Yes/ Eligible	No
State BWRP – Flood Prevention and Mitigation Sub-fund	Yes/Eligible	Yes/Eligible	No	No
Federal 319 NPS funds	Yes/ Eligible	Yes/ Eligible	No	No, except for demonstration projects

# Can I apply to more than one grant category for my project?

- Yes, if the project is eligible in more than one category; e.g. project involving flood prevention and stormwater mitigation.
  - Use **one application form** and indicate the grant categories of interest on Form A – Part 3.
  - DEM reserves the right to allocate grants as it deems most appropriate and when issuing awards may make adjustments to the categories indicated by the applicant.

# RFP Timeline



- Public workshop
  - **Today**
- Final proposals due
  - **June 30<sup>th</sup> by 4:00 pm**
- Review of Proposals and Award of Grants—
  - **Late Summer/Early Fall 2017**
- *Note* – No pre-proposals, but feel free to contact staff regarding specific project ideas



# **What Can BWRP Do For Me?**

## **Nonpoint Source and Stormwater Fund**

- Construction of projects/BMPs that mitigate, control, or eliminate the effects of stormwater pollution
- Additional or upgraded equipment to enhance implementation of stormwater management; e.g. maintenance of stormwater infrastructure.
- Identification and elimination of illicit connections to stormwater collection systems.
- Evaluation and/or development of a dedicated sustainable funding mechanism for stormwater management.





New

# **What Can BWRF Do For Me?**

## **Flood Prevention and Mitigation Fund**

- Reduce flooding and improve resiliency while providing ecological or water quality co-benefits:
  - Restore floodplains, rivers and streams to a natural condition;
  - Removal of impervious surfaces and revegetation to increase stormwater retention;
  - Replace culverts to prevent flooding and improve river and stream continuity;
  - Creation of increased, vegetated floodplain storage capacity;



New

# **What Can BWRF Do For Me?**

## **Flood Prevention and Mitigation Fund**

- Aquifer recharge where the diversion of water results in reduced flooding while maintaining a more natural hydrological regime;
- Modifications to dams to increase capacity for flood management;
- Remove of dams to reduce flooding;
- Enhancement of habitats in specific locations to reduce flooding risks to developed property.

# HOWEVER

BWRF does not fund stand-alone feasibility studies or design projects. A proposed project must be clear on what is to be constructed. Expenses related to final planning, design and permitting can be funded **only** if they are included as a phase(s) of a construction project.



# Hey NPS 319, What's New This Year?

- Expanded list of eligible watersheds!
  - In addition to the Bristol-Kickemuit Watershed and the Barrington-Palmer-Warren Watershed Plans, new watershed plans are coming!
    - Aquidneck Island (plan pending)
    - Nonquit Pond Watershed Plan (draft in review)
    - Wood Pawcatuck Rivers Watershed Plan (plan pending)
  - NPS 319 projects need to be consistent with watershed plans.



New



# **Types of 319 Eligible Projects - Construction**

- **Aquatic Habitat Restoration (examples)**
  - Removing pavement along a stream and planting a native species buffer
  - Expanding the area of naturalized existing buffers
  - Improving habitat in existing buffers with additional plantings (i.e., shade trees along streams to improve cold water fishery habitat)
  - Streambank protection and stabilization to minimize streambank erosion
  - Improving stream connectivity caused by sub-standard stream crossings (i.e., perched culverts, blocked crossings or crossings in disrepair)

# Types of 319 Eligible Projects - Construction



New

- **Agricultural BMP Projects**
  - Construction of BMPs in fields to retain stormwater (and sediment) in place to prevent erosion and downslope sedimentation;
  - Installation of erosion and sedimentation controls;
  - Fencing to restrict animal access to streams;
  - Construction of other agricultural BMPs to mitigate NPS pollution (e.g., manure management).

# Types of 319 Eligible Projects - Construction—

- **Onsite Wastewater Projects**

- Projects that resolve documented onsite wastewater problems
  - Failing or substandard systems (i.e., cesspools) which contribute to a water quality impairment;
  - Projects that result in improved treatment to meet water quality goals as recommended in a TMDL.
- *Note:* Assistance to individual homeowners is not eligible under this program



# Types of 319 Eligible Projects - Construction



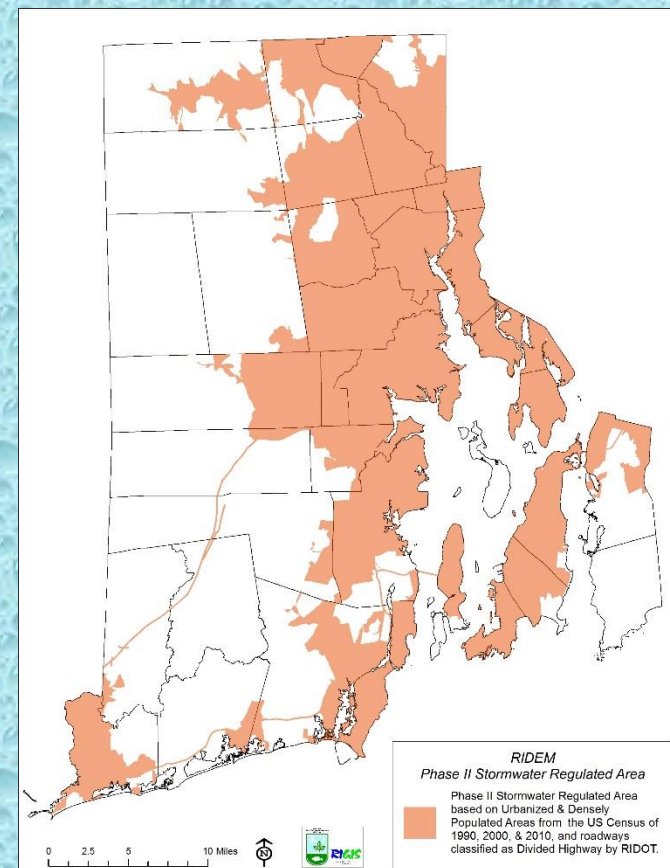
New

- **Stormwater Abatement BMPs !! (*restricted*)**
  - Implementation of water quality restoration actions including installation of BMPs that mitigate, control or eliminate the effects of stormwater pollution.
    - Green infrastructure projects to address runoff
    - Streambank stabilization and other erosion and sediment controls
  - Final design is OK if conceptual designs and site location are done and the project will be built.



# Restrictions on Stormwater Projects Seeking Section 319 Funding

- Funds may **NOT** be used to comply with MS4 Phase II permit obligations (i.e. the 6 Minimum Measures).
- Funds may **ONLY** be used in the non-MS4 areas of the eligible watersheds (see map →).



# Project Priorities



- Projects that achieve their targeted goal while providing environmental co-benefits.
- Projects that implement a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)-recommended action in waters used for drinking water supply, shellfishing or public recreation.
- Projects that optimize the visible use of green infrastructure.

# How Much Can I Ask For?

## BWRF

- No single project maximum grant limit
- \$3.0M between BWRF NPS & Stormwater Governmental Entities sub-fund and BWRF NPS & Stormwater Non-Governmental Entities sub-fund
- \$3.0M for Flood Prevention and Mitigation Fund



# How Much Can I Ask For?

319

- \$25,000 to \$200,000
- Total available grant funds are approximately \$400,000 subject to action by the federal government





# NOTEZ BIEN



- Both BWRF and 319 are reimbursement grant programs – you must pay contractor invoices prior to seeking reimbursement from RIDEM.

# What, Match?!



- Must be related directly to project
- May be cash or “in-kind” contribution
- Must be non-federal funds for 319 grants
- Municipal employee time OK if directly related to the project



# How Much Match?



- BWRP – Governmental Entities: 50% of total project costs \*
- BWRP – Non-Governmental Entities: 50% of total project costs \*
- BWRP – Flood Prevention: 50% of total project project costs \*
- 319: 40% of total project costs\*

\*At the Director's discretion the required match can be reduced to 25%



# Award + Match = Total



- Remember – match refers to a % of the entire project budget – so:
  - 319 match (40%) = grant amount x 0.6667
  - Reduced match (25%) = grant amount x 0.3334

(yeah, I know it's confusing – just trust me on this.)



# What About Land Acquisition?

- Not eligible for grant funds.
- OK as a source of match **only** if:
  - Land not owned prior to project start
  - Land used only for BMP or project.
- **Not** OK as a source of match if:
  - BMP build on land currently owned by the project sponsor.

# How Long Can My Project Take?

- Priority will be given to projects that can be finished in **ONE** year.
- All projects **SHOULD** be finished in **TWO** years.
- **VERY** large and/or complicated projects may ask for **THREE** years, but this is expected to be the exception and must be justified in writing.
- Any project that falls significantly behind schedule may have the grant reduced or rescinded.
- **DO NOT** assume that you can have a time extension. They are not longer freely available. **PLAN AHEAD!**







**NO!!!!!!**



- Starting project work prior to executed grant agreement
- Automatic extensions
- Indirect expenses (possible federal exception for non-profits)
- Advance payments

# How Do I Write A Proposal?

- All forms (A and B) plus narrative descriptions are mandatory. **Fill in completely and leave no blanks!**
- **Forms must be signed!!!**
- Site location map *required*
- Supporting material is optional
- Instructions/Forms start on page 17 of RFP (Appendix A)

# What Makes A Good Proposal?

- Project is specific and will help solve a demonstrated NPS water quality or flooding problem
- Project is well thought-out with clear roles described for the grantee and any partners
- Grant applicant has adequate authority to carry out the project
- Project narrative is concise, clear and easy to understand
- Budget is realistic and match is appropriate





# Top 5 Application Pitfalls

5. Proposal format NOT followed
4. No measurable goals
3. Math errors
2. No (or poor) site maps
1. Poorly planned or unrealistic projects.

This is **your** project – think it through!

# Project Evaluation



- Step 1: Staff review/screening
- Step 2: Grant Selection Committee review
- Step 3: Director's approval

Announcement & Grant Awards follow



# References

Website for RFP and forms – RIDEM Office of Water Resources Financial Assistance Page:

<http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/water/finance/>

Phone numbers for questions:

- BWRF: Jay Manning (401) 222-4700 x 7254
- 319: Betsy Dake (401) 222-4700 x 7230
- 319: Ernie Panciera (401) 222-4700 x 7603
- 319: Margherita Pryor (EPA) (617) 918-1597