

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR MARINE PUMP-OUT FACILITIES AND PUMP-OUT BOATS
EFFECTIVE February 15 to March 12, 2021

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is for the receipt of grant applications by qualified public and private marinas, yacht clubs and municipalities to construct, replace, retrofit, and maintain marine pump-out facilities and to purchase, operate and maintain pump-out boats. Through a competitive process, the DEM Office of Water Resources, acting on behalf and at the discretion of the DEM Director will award grants to promote the development and maintenance of boater (discharges) waste disposal facilities in Rhode Island marine waters in conformance with the mandatory Federal No Discharge designation.

All grant awards are subject to a 25% grantee (partner) dollar match requirement. DEM will offer a maximum grant award of \$18,750 for eligible project costs of new and replacement land-based facilities, and a maximum grant award of \$56,250 for eligible project costs of new and replacement mobile pump-out boats. Operators of mobile pump-out vessels can apply for a maximum grant award of \$4,875 for eligible Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs. O&M costs eligible for reimbursement include hull painting, engine maintenance, pump periodic maintenance, insurance of pump-out vessel, fuel and oil, trailer maintenance, winterization, storage, launching and hauling, boat safety equipment, and personal protective equipment. New this year, DEM is offering a maximum grant award of \$1,875 to operators of land-based pump-out stations for eligible O&M costs. O&M costs eligible for reimbursement include periodic maintenance, winterization, spring commissioning, replacement parts, and repair of sewer connection. In order to receive grant funding for operations and maintenance of land based station pump-out facilities, the operator of said facility agrees to not charge the boater any fees for pump-out service. Requests for funds to cover purchase and installation of replacement parts that exceed the O&M grant amounts may be submitted under the new/replacement grant category.

In August 1998, Rhode Island became the first state in the country to receive the US Environmental Protection Agency's No Discharge designation for all of its marine waters. To maintain the No Discharge designation for the state's marine waters, the Department of Environmental Management must assure that the pump-out facility infrastructure is in sound operating condition. Through the ongoing grant program, the Department continues to work with the marina industry to accomplish this objective. This public-private partnership has successfully reduced a significant source of pathogen contamination to the state's coastal waters, including waters in close proximity to shellfish harvesting and swimming areas.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

Owners of any Rhode Island marina may apply for grants for projects located at the owner's marina. Public entities such as cities or towns, harbor masters or other public agencies are also eligible to apply. A non-owner operator may apply for such a grant, but only if the owner counter signs the application and the grant award.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

The [2021 CVA Grant Application](#) must be on the form provided by DEM, and it can be obtained at the [DEM web site](#). All applications can be mailed to RI DEM, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908 Attn: OWR Steven Engborg, or completed, signed, and emailed to steven.engborg@dem.ri.gov. Applications received after the closing date of March 12, 2021 will not be considered in this round of funding, but may be resubmitted during a subsequent round.

APPLICATION REVIEW:

The Director has the authority to adjust grant awards so that no one community, water body, or marina receives a disproportionate amount of the available funding and that a geographic distribution of funds is achieved. All requests for proposals will be ranked following the established grant award criteria as outlined in Sect. 7.7 (B) of [Title 250-RICR-150-20-7](#), Part 7, Rules and Regulations for RI Clean Vessel Act Pump-out Grant Program.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Facilities must be equally available to all recreational boaters, including those with physical handicaps, on a nondiscriminatory first come, first serve basis.

Grant recipients are required to maintain accurate, current and complete financial records, which are sufficient in detail and substance to clearly establish that grant funds have been properly expended for approved grant purposes. Recipients are required to present these financial records to the Department upon request.

Accounting records must be supported by source documentation which shall include but not be limited to cancelled checks, paid bills, time and attendance records, contract and subcontract award documents.

If an operator is authorized to charge fees to users, all fees charged to users are to be retained, separately accounted for, and used exclusively to defray these operation and maintenance costs of the facility and equipment funded by a grant under this program. Fee revenues in excess of funds necessary to operate and maintain facilities and equipment in any given calendar year shall revert to the state at the end of that calendar year for reinvestment in this grant program. Grant funds will be paid out by reimbursement only. Payment request will be accepted upon completion and inspection of the project.

The grant award requires the grant recipient to obtain all required permits for the successful completion of the project.

Grant recipients are required to register in the Ocean State Procures eProcurement System. To register as a grantee (vendor) please visit: <https://www.ridop.ri.gov/vendor-registration/>. For more information about the Ocean State Procures System visit <https://www.ridop.ri.gov/osp/whats-new.php>.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information including the [application form](#), frequently asked questions, sample operation and maintenance plans, please visit <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/water/finance/pumpout-grants.php> or contact Steven Engborg at DEM's Office of Water Resources by telephone at 222-4700 ext. 77259 or by e-mail at steven.engborg@dem.ri.gov.