NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP)

2026 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

AT LEAST $75 MILLION AVAILABLE

Kathy Hochul, Governor | Amanda Lefton, Commissioner

Available through the
Consolidated Funding Application (CFA):
https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/index.cfm

Applications Due: 4:00pm ET, July 31, 2026

Application Period Opens: June 1, 2026
Webinar: June 8, 2026
Question & Answer Period Ends: July 10, 2026
Applications Due: July 31, 2026
Award(s) Announced By (anticipated): December 2026

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GRANT DESCRIPTION

The Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program open to local governments and not-for-profit corporations to implement projects that directly improve water quality or habitat, promote flood risk reduction, restoration, and enhanced flood and climate resiliency, or protect a drinking water source. This funding is for construction/implementation projects, not projects that are exclusively for planning.

It is highly recommended that all potential WQIP applicants read the WQIP Program Overview, particularly the section for their project type, in its entirety before applying for WQIP funding.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

At least $75 million of funding is available for WQIP. Funding for this grant opportunity may be provided by a combination of the Environmental Protection Fund, Clean Water Infrastructure Act, 2022 Clean Air, Clean Water, Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act, Long Island Sound Study Program (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), and Lake Champlain Basin Program (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).

PROPOSED PROJECT TIMEFRAMES

All projects must have defined objectives, tasks, and deliverables accounted for in performance measures that can be completed and invoiced within a five-year contract period/term. All project types will have a term of June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2031. Costs outside of the contract period/term are ineligible. The State of New York Contract For Grants must be fully approved by DEC, and if applicable, approved by the Attorney General and the State Comptroller. Time extensions beyond the contract term end date will be determined by DEC based upon written justification from the applicant. Applicants should not submit an application if they do not anticipate their project can be completed within the specified contract term.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

For grant-specific questions, contact the Division of Water Grants Team at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Division of Water (DOW), 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233, 518-402-8179 or dowgrants@dec.ny.gov. The question-and-answer period will run from the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) opening date of June 1, 2026 through July 10, 2026. Questions and answers will be posted to https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program.

APPLICATION LIMITS

- Applicants may only apply for one project type per individual application;
- Only one application may be submitted per project per round;
- Applicants are limited to five applications per round;
- Applicants that have received funding in a previous round will not receive additional funding in this or a future round for the same or partially overlapping scope of work. However, the WQIP program will fund distinct phases or different activities and costs

of a project in consecutive rounds of funding if the applicant sufficiently describes how the planned scope of work is distinctly different from the previous.

MATCH REQUIREMENT AND EXPENDITURES

- Grant funds are available for up to 75% of the application budget. Applicants must provide the remaining 25% in match funds. Additional information regarding eligible forms of match (eligible costs) is provided under each project type.
- Match for WQIP is a percentage of the **award amount**, not the total project cost.
- Match is the portion of project expenditures not paid for with grant funds. Match can be from local, in-kind contributions, or federal grants/funding. Ineligible match sources include state grants/funding, except for loans that will be repaid (e.g., State Revolving Fund loans). Applicants using federal match funds for projects are eligible to apply and inclusion of these match funds will not preclude an application. However, if DEC awards a project using federal funding within the Long Island Sound[1] or Lake Champlain[2] watersheds, that project may not use match from federal sources.
- Local sources can include funding from other non-state and/or non-federal grant sources or from project partners. In-Kind contributions are non-cash donations provided by non-state and/or non-federal third parties, which can include equipment, supplies, services, and other expendable property. Matching share contributions must support the objectives outlined in the work plan.
- Only eligible costs/activities may be used for match.
- Applications that do not show sufficient match will have their potential award amounts decreased accordingly.

Match Formula: Requested Award Amount x Required Match Percentage = Required Match Amount

Match Calculation Example:
Project type: Priority wastewater treatment improvement
Required match percentage: 25% of award amount
Requested award amount: $1,000,000
$1,000,000 x 0.25 = $250,000
Applicant is required to provide match of $250,000
Total costs to show in WQIP budget: $1,000,000 + $250,000 = $1,250,000

[1] Long Island Sound watershed map: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/waterbodies/oceans-estuaries/long-island-watershed-program
[2] Lake Champlain Watershed map: https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=06f793fcd76540e49f0f48c0123d309b

PROJECT TYPES SUMMARY TABLE

Funding is available for the following project types (see project type sections for all information):

Project Type	Maximum Award	Required Match	Eligible Applicants[3]	Required Attachments
Wastewater Treatment Improvement	$1,000,000 to $15,000,000 depending on project subtype and population	25% of award amount	Municipalities	Engineering Report WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form
Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control	$100,000 to $10,000,000 depending on project subtype and population	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts	Best Management Practice Detail Form WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map (for certain project types) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form See Nonpoint Source section for attachments required for certain project subtypes

[3] The applicant's name must exactly match the name of the eligible entity registered in the NYS Statewide Financial System Grants Management System in order to execute a contract. It may not be the name of an individual.

Project Type	Maximum Award	Required Match	Eligible Applicants[3]	Required Attachments
Vacuum Trucks in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Areas	$400,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities Regulated by the MS4 General Permit Soil and Water Conservation Districts on behalf of regulated MS4 Operators	Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet(s) Catch Basin Clean-out Plan and Procedures WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form
Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection	$5,000,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations	Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map (see Land Acquisition section for detail on specific map requirements) Floodplain Map (required for projects only) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form Fiscal reports (programs only, if grant funds will be used for personal services)

Project Type	Maximum Award	Required Match	Eligible Applicants[3]	Required Attachments
Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction	$400,000 to $600,000 depending on project subtype	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts	WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map (see Salt Storage section for detail on specific map requirements) Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form Public highway lane and water resource map (Road Salt Reduction Practices only)
Dam Safety Repair/ Rehabilitation and Dam Removal	$1,000,000 to $2,500,000 depending on project subtype	25% of award amount	Municipalities 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations	Engineering Report Annual Certification Emergency Action Plan WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form Dam owner agreement (if applicable)

Project Type	Maximum Award	Required Match	Eligible Applicants[3]	Required Attachments
Aquatic Connectivity	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations	WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form See Aquatic Connectivity section for attachments required for certain project subtypes
Marine District Habitat Restoration	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations	Feasibility Study WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form Landowner agreement (if applicable)
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities Soil and Water Conservation Districts 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations	WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form

Project Type	Maximum Award	Required Match	Eligible Applicants[3]	Required Attachments
Landfill Leachate Treatment	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	Municipalities	Engineering Report WQIP Budget Worksheet Project Map Floodplain Map Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form Executive Order 16 Form Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form

APPLICATION EVALUATION

All applications will be reviewed and scored by a review team in accordance with the evaluation and scoring criteria contained in this RFA. Applicants are strongly encouraged to read and address the Scoring Criteria for the project type in the process of developing an application. Knowledge of the scoring criteria is valuable for designing and proposing a relevant and quality project. Evaluation consists of the following steps:

STEP 1: APPLICATION AND PROJECT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION (PASS/FAIL CRITERIA)

Applications are evaluated for eligibility against the following criteria:

- Projects or programs must improve water quality, habitat, mitigate flooding risk, protect a drinking water source, or improve safety of a dam[4];
- Projects must be for implementation; projects only seeking funds for studies, planning, or design will be deemed ineligible;
- Applicant must be an eligible applicant type (view each individual project type section to identify eligible applicants);
- Projects must be for an eligible project type;
- Applicants should **not** apply for both WQIP and the Non-agricultural Nonpoint Source and MS4 Planning Grant (NPG) for the same project. Applicants that apply for both grants for the same project will be deemed ineligible for WQIP but may still be considered under NPG;
- Applications must include all required attachments at the time of submission within the CFA system (view specific sections for each individual project type for a full list of required attachments). Attachments will not be accepted outside of the CFA system;
- Projects must meet the requirements for that project type and/or subtype;

[4] As defined in the scoring criteria for each project type.

- Applicants must submit the current WQIP Budget Worksheet; applications that attach an outdated version of the budget worksheet will be deemed ineligible;
- Application budgets must show match and an eligible match source; applications that do not show match or only use ineligible match sources will be deemed ineligible;
- Applications must be seeking funds for costs incurred after June 1, 2026;
- Applications must meet the floodplain map requirements, as detailed in the flood resiliency requirements section below;
- Duplicate applications will be reviewed based on submission timestamp. The application with the latest timestamp will be reviewed and all other duplicate applications will be deemed ineligible;
- Projects that have received funding in a previous round for the same or partially overlapping scope of work will be deemed ineligible. Phased projects may be considered, provided that the applicant sufficiently describes how the planned scope of work is distinctly different from the previous phase of the project. Applications that do not sufficiently describe how the planned scope of work is distinctly different from the previous phase of the project will be deemed ineligible.
- Applicants and applications must meet all applicable eligibility criteria included in the Program Overview.

STEP 2: APPLICATION SCORING

If your application meets all eligibility pass/fail criteria, it will be further evaluated and scored by a review team in accordance with the Scoring Criteria contained in this RFA. All eligible applications will be individually evaluated by multiple review team members. Applications that fail to meet the minimum scoring criteria as detailed for each project type in this Program Overview will be deemed ineligible. **An application must receive a score of at least 40 to be eligible for funding.** In addition, applications that receive zero points in certain scoring criteria as indicated in the Scoring Criteria table for that project type may also be deemed ineligible.

FLOOD RESILIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PROJECT TYPES

DEC is committed to improving community resiliency to extreme weather events that result in flooding. Projects that promote flood risk reduction and enhanced flood resiliency, or both, will receive points in the evaluation of an application where indicated.

The following application eligibility requirements apply to all project types **except**:

- Nonpoint Source In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients
- Nonpoint Source Bathing Beach Restoration
- Nonpoint Source Programs, including Nonpoint Source Road Ditch Stabilization program, Septic Tank Pumpout Program or Rain Garden/Rain Barrel Programs
- Land Acquisition Programs

Eligibility Requirements: If the project is wholly or partially within a 0.2% (500 year) or 1% (100 year) annual chance of occurrence floodplain[5] submit with the application a floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment.

If a floodplain map is not provided with the application or does not clearly depict the project location in relation to the floodplain or if not enough information is provided in the application to determine that the work proposed is occurring outside of the floodplain, DEC reserves the right to deem the application ineligible. If the project is awarded funding and is within a 0.2% or 1% floodplain, the following **must** be included in the planning and design of the project, if applicable:

- A site plan with the contours indicating the Special Flood Hazard Area (1% floodplain), Coastal High Hazard Area, or 0.2% floodplain
- Location of and elevation of non-critical and critical equipment
- Certification of floodproofing
- A floodway analysis with a no-rise certificate if the project is within a regulated floodway
- Projects that occur in the regulatory floodway may require a hydrological and hydraulic (H&H) analysis conducted by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer demonstrating the proposed project will have 0.00 feet of rise in the base flood elevation when comparing pre- and post-project conditions.[6] If the rise cannot be mitigated, a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) or Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) would be required.
- Fulfillment of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program Special Flood Hazard Area process requirements, where applicable (https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/dam-safety-coastal-flood-protection/floodplain-management).

Guidance and information for meeting this requirement is on DEC's WQIP webpage: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program.

CLIMATE RESILIENCY CRITERIA

DEC is committed to combatting climate change and mitigating its impacts that are being felt across New York State. Projects in municipalities that are proactively addressing climate change resilience and adaptation, will receive points in the evaluation of an application where indicated.

To qualify for climate resilience points, the project must be: within or serving a certified silver or bronze Climate Smart Community (CSC) or a CSC-registered community that has completed specific actions identified for the project type being applied; or for wastewater treatment improvement projects, the project may receive points if it includes

[5] Floodplain map resources: https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps
[6] Floodplain Development and Floodway Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/dam-safety-coastal-flood-protection/floodplain-management

assets identified in an asset management program for Publicly Owned Treatment Works that was developed in accordance with DEC's Asset Management Guide.[7]

PROJECTS AFFECTING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

DEC is committed to underserved and vulnerable populations, and providing remedies for communities that may be burdened by negative environmental consequences. Environmental Justice (EJ) is defined by DEC as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, or income, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Potential EJ Areas (PEJA) are U.S. Census block groups of 250 to 500 households each that, in the Census, had populations that met or exceeded at least one of the following statistical thresholds: at least 52.42% of the population in an urban area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or at least 26.28% of the population in a rural area reported themselves to be members of minority groups; or at least 22.82% of the population in an urban or rural area had household incomes below the federal poverty level. Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) are identified by New York's Climate Justice Working Group (CJWG) using indicators that include climate-related risks, environmental burdens, health vulnerabilities, and socio-economic factors.

Projects that will improve water quality or habitat within a PEJA or DAC, projects within the HUC 10 watershed of a drinking water source that will improve drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC, projects that are within the HUC 10 area and upstream[8] of a PEJA or DAC and applicant has provided sufficient justification to show a positive impact to water quality in a PEJA or DAC, or projects that protect PEJA or DAC that are within a dam failure inundation area, will receive "PEJA and DAC Benefits" points in the evaluation of an application where indicated. Additionally, applicants that are municipalities with a DAC population will receive "Disadvantaged Communities" points based on the concentration of the DAC population served, in the evaluation of an application where indicated.

Maps of PEJA and DAC areas in New York State are available at: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/environmental-justice/gis-tools and https://climate.ny.gov/resources/disadvantaged-communities-criteria/, respectively.

To qualify for "PEJA and DAC Benefits" points, your application must include a DEC PEJA and/or DAC map and a summary narrative referencing that map, along with details demonstrating water quality or habitat improvement to a PEJA or DAC or to drinking water serving a PEJA or DAC, or protection of a PEJA or DAC area within a dam failure inundation area, i.e., where the benefit will be provided, or the area served

[7] Asset Management Resources: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/wastewater-treatment-resources.

[8] Upstream is defined as in the opposite direction from that in which a waterbody flows based on USGS River Flow Direction Map: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=30859c5ba802474d92e69e1d0e0b972d

by the drinking water source, or the exact street location(s) where the project is to be implemented.

APPLICATION RESOURCES FOR ALL PROJECT TYPES

- Budget Tutorial for WQIP Grant Applications: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program#Resources
- DECinfo Locator[9] (most up to date source of WI/PWL segment fact sheets): https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/
- Flood Resiliency Requirements for WQIP and NPG Grant Applications Mapping Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=mRT4wR9QKSHPEHPG&v=MZne-tThzYI&feature=youtu.be
- Floodplain Map Instructional Guide: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-06/floodplainmapinstructions.pdf
- HUC 12 watersheds map: https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a02867dc903f40a2831c904c7eb1b7d8
- Potential Environmental Justice Area and Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tutorial for WQIP and NPG Applications: https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=yfT2_a6gR89LyYbk&v=D4z-qUpOJh0&feature=youtu.be
- How to identify and create a map of Potential Environmental Justice Areas and Disadvantaged Communities: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqip23dacmapinst.pdf
- Maps of PEJA areas in New York State: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/environmental-justice/gis-tools.
- Maps of DAC areas in New York State: https://climate.ny.gov/resources/disadvantaged-communities-criteria/

[9] For projects impacting surface water, the applicant must provide the correct WI/PWL segment ID and HUC 12 watershed of the closest waterbody the project will impact. To find the closest WI/PWL segment fact sheet, visit the DECinfo Locator at https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/gis/dil/. In the left column of the map, click “DEC Information Layers”>”Environmental Quality”>”Environmental Monitoring” and check the box for “Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List”. In the left column, select “Search” and enter the address or project location. Click the plus sign in the top left corner of the map to zoom into the location until the waterbodies are visible on the map. Click on the waterbody of interest. A box with the Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List information will be displayed, including the waterbody name, segment ID, basin, and description. To access the WI/PWL assessment for that waterbody, click the “Waterbody Assessment Fact Sheet” link in the box.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENT

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[10] including Indian Nations

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available for wastewater treatment improvements to municipal wastewater systems.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL WASTEWATER APPLICATIONS

- Engineering report **prepared, stamped, signed, and dated** by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. Feasibility reports and engineering plans not accompanied by engineering reports do not fulfill the engineering report requirement. Addendums to engineering reports or response memos to DEC comments will not be accepted without the full engineering report. DEC requires engineering reports follow the Engineering Report Outline for New York State Wastewater Infrastructure Projects (see resources list below) and is recommended that the report be approved by DEC/accepted by EFC prior to application submission.
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[11]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[12]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[13]

[10] For the purposes of Wastewater Treatment Improvement projects under this grant opportunity, “Municipality” means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).
[11] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf
[12] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[13] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf

- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[14]
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA system. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA system.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application
- Applications for non-municipal systems
- Projects also being funded through the State Septic System Replacement Fund
- Applications for planning, design, or to create a study

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

- See special requirements column in below table for additional required attachments for specific project subtypes.
- All priority projects may be funded before general wastewater projects. At least 10% of the available funding for wastewater treatment improvement projects may be allocated for general projects.
- DEC reserves the right to fund one project from each primary, secondary, and tertiary priority category and the general wastewater category scoring 70 or above before awarding additional primary, secondary, and tertiary priority and general wastewater projects.
- DEC reserves the right to fund one application per municipality from each primary, secondary, and tertiary priority category scoring 70 or above before awarding additional primary, secondary, and tertiary priority wastewater projects.
- DEC reserves the right to fund all primary priority wastewater effluent disinfection projects and watershed plan implementation of phosphorus reduction projects scoring 70 or above before awarding any other wastewater improvement project. DEC anticipates removing the disinfection primary priority in future years.
- DEC reserves the right to allocate at least 10% of the available funding for wastewater treatment improvement projects to applications for municipal systems with a wastewater flow of 200,000 gallons per day or less or services a population of 10,000 people or less.
- Projects that apply for a primary, secondary, or tertiary priority category but do not meet all requirements will be scored as a general wastewater project.

[14] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

Project Subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Primary Priority				
Wastewater Effluent Disinfection	Projects to add effluent disinfection and associated backup power to facilities that do not currently disinfect or projects that achieve new disinfection requirements using other system modifications.	$1,000,000	25% of award amount	Applicants **must** have been notified by DEC via letter or modified permit that their treatment system requires an upgrade to add effluent disinfection. **Only** work associated with effluent disinfection and associated backup power will be reimbursed.
Watershed Plan Implementation of Phosphorus Reduction	Projects to upgrade municipal systems to meet a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan's (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed plan, DEC Action Agenda or DEC HABs Action Plan) phosphorus requirements.	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	Project **must** reduce phosphorus as a pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC Action Agenda or DEC HABs Action Plan).
Secondary Priorities				
Watershed Plan Implementation	Projects to upgrade municipal systems to meet a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan's (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed plan, DEC Action Agenda or DEC HABs Action Plan) nutrient requirements, for pollutants other than phosphorus.	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	Project **must** reduce a nutrient pollutant(s) of concern, other than phosphorus, identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC Action Agenda or DEC HABs Action Plan).

Project Subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) / Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO)	Projects to upgrade municipal systems to meet CSO or SSO discharge requirements, including repairs to private laterals attached to the collection system.	$10,000,000 / $15,000,000* *Only projects in communities serving populations over 3,000,000 are eligible for funding up to $15,000,000. The maximum award amount for all other projects in this category is $10,000,000.	25% of award amount	CSO projects **must** be identified under an approved long-term control plan (LTCP) or identified as a CSO overflow reduction project in a permit or Order on Consent. SSO projects **must** be identified for overflow reductions in a DEC-approved capacity, management, operation and maintenance (CMOM) program, DEC-approved sanitary sewer evaluation survey (SSES) plan, DEC-approved corrective action plan (CAP) or Order on Consent.
Tertiary Priority				

Project Subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Municipal Systems to Serve Multiple Properties with Inadequate On-site Septic Systems	Projects to construct municipal systems to serve multiple properties with inadequate on-site septic systems.	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	Project **must** reduce nutrients or fecal indicator bacteria documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as causing the nearest waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded" or a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or HABs Action Plan) or the need for the project **must** be documented in a completed and acceptable sanitary survey documenting failing septic systems or a final Drinking Water Source Protection Plan. If awarded, a sewer district **must** be formed within 2 years of date of award. No funding will be disbursed until sewer district is formed.
General Wastewater Projects				
Other Wastewater Treatment Improvements	All other wastewater projects	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe benefits
- Contractual costs (construction, equipment, supplies/materials)
- Equipment

- Construction inspection (on-site activities typically performed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer, e.g., inspection of methods and materials). Total may not exceed 10% of award amount.
- Administrative costs directly related to implementing the project[15]
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in their budget form attachment will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Planning, design, specification, and engineering costs
- Construction oversight (e.g., resident inspection, monitoring the schedule and budget, contract performance and quality control)
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget
- Non-construction costs incurred during the construction phase, including traffic control
- Indirect costs (e.g., travel, space/property rent, utilities, office supplies)
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[16]
- Legal fees
- Costs associated with establishing a sewer district
- Pre- and post-construction monitoring and sampling
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR WASTEWATER APPLICATIONS

- Engineering Report Outline for New York State Wastewater Infrastructure Projects: https://efc.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/er-outline-ffy2026-rev-1a_clean_2026-01-1495.pdf

[15] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.
[16] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENT SCORING CRITERIA

<table>
<tr><td>Agency Points</td><td colspan="3">Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Performance Measures
40 to 5 points possible. Applicants are scored in one project type.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Wastewater Effluent Disinfection</td><td>40 POINTS:
Wastewater effluent disinfection projects for facilities that currently do not disinfect their effluent and are designed to meet requirements in a finalized Order on Consent schedule of compliance or other notification from DEC of disinfection requirement.</td><td colspan="2">Wastewater Effluent Disinfection projects that do not meet the 40 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Watershed Plan Implementation for Phosphorus Reduction</td><td>40 POINTS:
Wastewater treatment projects that are designed to meet phosphorus requirements in a finalized Order on Consent schedule of compliance or a finalized schedule of compliance associated with the facility’s SPDES permit
AND
are watershed plan implementation projects that specifically reduce phosphorus discharge identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC HABs Action Plan or DEC Action Agenda).</td><td>30 POINTS:
Watershed plan implementation projects that specifically reduce phosphorus discharge identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC HABs Action Plan or DEC Action Agenda).</td><td>Watershed Implementation Plan for Phosphorus Reduction projects that do not meet at least 30 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.</td></tr>
</table>

Watershed Plan Implementation		**30 POINTS:** Wastewater treatment projects that are designed to meet nutrient requirements in a finalized Order on Consent schedule of compliance or a finalized schedule of compliance associated with the facility's SPDES permit **AND** are watershed implementation plan projects that specifically reduce nutrient discharge other than phosphorus identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC HABs Action Plan or DEC Action Agenda).	**20 POINTS:** Watershed plan implementation projects that specifically reduce nutrient discharge other than phosphorus identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC HABs Action Plan or DEC Action Agenda).	*Watershed Implementation Plan projects that do not meet at least 20 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.*
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO)		**30 POINTS:** CSO projects specifically identified under an approved Long Term Control Plan (LTCP).	**20 POINTS:** CSO projects that are identified as a CSO overflow reduction project in a permit or Order on Consent or projects that are not specifically identified in a LTCP but are being implemented with the identified objective of reducing CSOs in a receiving collection system to meet a permit or Order on Consent.	*CSO projects that do not meet at least 20 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.*
Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO)		**30 POINTS:** SSO projects that are designed to meet requirements in a finalized Order on Consent schedule of compliance or a finalized schedule of compliance associated with the	**20 POINTS:** SSO projects that would contribute to overflow reductions identified in a DEC-approved CMOM program, a DEC-approved SSES plan, or a DEC-approved CAP.	*SSO projects that do not meet at least 20 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.*

		facility's SPDES permit **AND** are specifically listed in a capacity, management, operation and maintenance (CMOM) program, a DEC-approved sanitary sewer evaluation survey (SSES) plan, corrective action plan (CAP) or listed in an Order on Consent.		
Municipal Systems to Serve Multiple Properties with Inadequate On-site Septic Systems			**20 POINTS:** Municipal systems to serve multiple properties with inadequate on-site septic systems that will reduce nutrients or fecal indicator bacteria documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded" **OR** that are listed in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, DEC Action Agenda, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **OR** Have a completed and acceptable sanitary survey [17] **OR** Municipal systems	*Municipal Systems to Serve Multiple Properties with Inadequate On-site Septic Systems projects that do not meet at least 20 points will be scored as a General Wastewater Project. See criteria below.*

[17] An acceptable sanitary survey must be prepared by a New York State license Professional Engineer, document the existing condition of the septic systems in a measurable way, and include any recent information available on the direct impact the failing systems have on nearby waterbodies or drinking water sources. An example includes fecal coliform sampling of nearby water wells or waterbody(ies).

			to serve multiple properties with inadequate on-site septic systems where at least 50% of the project area is within the critical area identified in a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan and replacing onsite septic systems is identified as a priority implementation action.		
General Wastewater Treatment Projects				**10 POINTS:** Projects that are in a schedule of compliance for an Order on Consent or SPDES permit but are not a WQIP high priority project **OR** Projects that will reduce CSOs but do not meet the CSO priority project performance measures **OR** Projects that will reduce SSOs but are not specifically listed in the applicable DEC-approved CMOM program, a DEC-approved SSES plan, DEC-approved CAP, or listed in an Order on Consent. OR Projects that reduce the discharge of a	**5 POINTS:** All other projects that are necessary to preserve or protect a surface waterbody.

				pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". OR Projects that are located in the HUC 12 watershed of Class A or AA waterbodies with active public water supplies, that reduce the discharge of a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use of source of water supply to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened".	

Classification Points Factor *5 to 2 points possible (all project types)*	**5 POINTS:** AA, A, A-special, AA-special, AA (T), A(T), A(TS), B, B(T), B(TS), SA, SB, C(T), C(TS), GA (primary water supply aquifer)			**2 POINTS:** C, SC, I, D, SD, GSA, GSB	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible (all project types)*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Cost is good as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Cost is reasonable as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

Project Readiness	**10 POINTS:**	**5 POINTS:**	**2 POINTS:**	**0 POINTS:**

10 to 0 points possible (all project types)	Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits). The project is ready to move forward with construction.		Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to begin construction within two years.	Project is expected to be completed within five years.	Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within five years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible (all project types)*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded wastewater treatment projects (including the Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)) in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently shown the ability to complete this wastewater project based upon experience with similar wastewater projects in the past 10 years.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete a state-funded water quality project that was not related to wastewater treatment in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to water quality in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP and/or EPG contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP or EPG grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible (all project types)*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC .	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC)[18] *10 to 0 points possible (all project types)* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.

[18] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible (all project types)*	**5 POINTS:** Project includes assets identified in the capital improvement plan of a final POTW asset management program that was developed in accordance with DEC's Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) Asset Management Guide. **OR** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following actions: PE3: Energy Benchmarking; PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE10: Greenhouse Gas Tracking System.[19]	**0 POINTS:** Project is not identified in a POTW capital improvement plan **OR** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** The municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible (all project types)*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

[19] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions.

NON-AGRICULTURAL NONPOINT SOURCE ABATEMENT AND CONTROL

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[20] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts (excluding Decentralized Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On-Site Treatment Systems project subtype)

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available for non-agricultural nonpoint source projects or programs[21] that improve a documented water quality impairment, promote flood risk reduction, enhanced flood and climate resiliency, and restoration or that protect a drinking water source.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL NONPOINT SOURCE APPLICATIONS

- Best Management Practice Form[22]
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[23]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated (except for In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients, Bathing Beach Restoration, Road Ditch Stabilization Program, Septic Tank Pumpout Program, and Rain Garden/Rain Barrel Program). Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[24]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[25]

[20] For the purposes of Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control projects and programs under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101)
[21] A Nonpoint Source Program consists of multiple projects or locations that impact multiple waterbody segments.
[22] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/bYecyvKD1n
[23] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf
[24] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[25] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf

- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[26]
- See special requirements column in below table for additional required attachments for specific project subtypes.
- As noted in the special requirements column in the below table, engineering reports or feasibility studies must be **prepared, stamped, signed, and dated** by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer.
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with application
- Aquatic vegetation harvesting projects or programs
- Algaecides
- Water circulators, bubblers or other equipment designed to move water
- Hydroseeding on SPDES permitted construction sites
- Herbaceous riparian buffers without tree or shrub plantings
- New vertical bank stabilization measures
- Protection measures that are not properly keyed into the stream bank(s) to prevent scouring.
- Measures using live vegetation that consist of non-native plant species.
- Measures including geotextile fabric as part of the final structure.
- Erosion control fabrics that will be left in place that are not made from 100% biodegradable materials and contain plastic fibers or netting.
- Fabrics containing “photodegradable” materials.

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Decentralized Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On-Site Treatment Systems	Projects to construct a municipally owned decentralized wastewater treatment facility in areas with failing on-site treatment systems, including	$4,000,000	25% of award amount	**Must** consist of a subsurface treatment and disposal system. Collection and conveyance system **may** consist of septic tank effluent pump or gravity, grinder pump or gravity sewer.

[26] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
	the necessary collection and conveyance system			Projects **must** be prepared, stamped, and signed designed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. If awarded, a sewer district **must** be formed within two years of date of award. No funding will be disbursed until sewer district is formed. **Additional required attachments:** • Feasibility study or engineering report that follows the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation/DEC Engineering Report Outline for New York State Wastewater Infrastructure Projects[27] • Best Management Practice Detail Form[28]
Green Infrastructure Practices	Green infrastructure projects to address combined sewer overflows, reduce a pollutant impacting a waterbody or address a regional water quality issue; provide resiliency to impacts from climate change; or reduce localized flooding; or projects to install green infrastructure	$2,000,000/ $10,000,000* *Only projects in communities serving populations over 3,000,000 are eligible for funding up to $10,000,000. The maximum award amount for all other projects in this category is $2,000,000.	25% of award amount	Eligible practices **are limited to**: • Bioretention • Rain gardens • Constructed wetlands • Porous pavement • Green roofs • Downspout disconnection • Stormwater street tree • Stormwater harvesting and reuse • Stream daylighting **Must** be designed in accordance with the *2024 NYS Stormwater Design*

[27] Engineering Report Outline for NYS Wastewater Infrastructure Projects: https://efc.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/er-outline-ffy2026-rev-1a_clean_2026-01-1495.pdf

[28] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
	practices designed to capture and remove the pollutant contributing to a water quality impairment.			*Manual*[29] **Must** go above and beyond water quality volume treatment and/or reduction requirements in SPDES Construction General Permit. **Additional required attachments:** • Feasibility study or engineering report that meets WQIP Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements[30] • Feasibility study or engineering report must be prepared, stamped, and signed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. • Policies and procedures for maintaining BMPs[31]. Policies and procedures for maintaining BMPs (cannot be imbedded within another required attachment). • Best Management Practice Detail Form[32]
Stormwater Retrofits	Stormwater retrofit projects designed to capture and remove pollutants	$1,000,000		Eligible practices **limited to** those identified in Chapters 5 & 6 of the *2024 NYS Stormwater Design Manual.*

[29] NYS Stormwater Design Manual: https://dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/24-25DraftCGPDesignManual/Manual.SW.CGP.2024-07-31.Design_Manual_Issued_2024-07-31.pdf

[30] Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipgireq24.pdf

[31] Policies and Procedures at a minimum must include: BMP Type, description of operation and maintenance to be performed, frequency of operation and maintenance (both scheduled and as-needed), personnel responsible to perform operation maintenance, cost of component replacement, where funds will come from to cover operation and maintenance activities, including cost of replacement components. Suggested procedures for operation and maintenance are included in the NYS Maintenance Guidance: Stormwater Management Practices, March 31, 2017: www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/smpmaintguidance.pdf

[32] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
	causing a water quality impairment and/or reduce localized flooding; and/or provide resiliency to impacts from climate change.			**Must** be designed in accordance with the current 2024 *NYS Stormwater Design Manual*[33] **Additional required attachment:** • Feasibility study or engineering report that meets WQIP Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements[34] • Feasibility study or engineering report must be prepared, stamped, and signed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. • Policies and procedures for maintaining BMPs[35] • Best Management Practice Detail Form[36]
Streambank / Shoreline Stabilization	Projects to reduce sedimentation of waterbodies caused by eroding streambanks, shorelines, and/or to filter surface runoff with riparian buffer vegetation.	$1,000,000	25% of award amount	Streambank, shoreline stabilization practices include, but are not limited to staking, erosion control matting, root wads and rip-rap (rip-rap **may only** be used in conjunction with natural restoration principles that incorporate vegetative materials). Streambank/shoreline stabilization projects paired

[33] NYS Stormwater Design Manual: https://dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/24-25DraftCGPDesignManual/Manual.SW.CGP.2024-07-31.Design_Manual_Issued_2024-07-31.pdf
[34] Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipgireq24.pdf
[35] Policies and Procedures at a minimum must include: BMP Type, description of operation and maintenance to be performed, frequency of operation and maintenance (both scheduled and as-needed), personnel responsible to perform operation maintenance, cost of component replacement, where funds will come from to cover operation and maintenance activities, including cost of replacement components. Suggested procedures for operation and maintenance are included in the NYS Maintenance Guidance: Stormwater Management Practices, March 31, 2017: http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/smpmaintguidance.pdf
[36] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category..

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				with replanting of riparian buffers are preferred. Projects implementing both Streambank/shoreline stabilization and riparian buffers should apply under this category. Proposals to stabilize streambanks/shorelines of two or more WI/PWL segments should apply under the Nonpoint Source Program subtype described below. The following design criteria should apply: ○ All existing vegetation shall be preserved to the extent practicable. ○ The channel width must not be constricted and must match the existing upstream and downstream channel widths outside the project. ○ The slope of new bank stabilization measures shall not be steeper than a ratio of 1-1/2 horizontal units to 1 vertical unit. ○ Protection measures must be properly keyed into the stream bank(s) to prevent scouring. ○ Measures using live vegetation shall consist only of native plant species. Refer to the Native Plant Priority List[37]. ○ Erosion control fabrics that will be left in place must be made from 100% biodegradable materials

[37] Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				and contain no plastic fibers or netting. **Additional required attachment:** • Best Management Practice Detail Form[38]
Riparian Buffers	Projects to replant vegetation within the riparian zone of waterbodies to filter nutrients and sediment, prevent streambank/shore line erosion, reduce thermal impacts to waterbodies, and increase flood resiliency.	$100,000	25% of award amount	Projects **must** be buffers containing a combination of native woody and herbaceous vegetation that includes trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs. Herbaceous buffers without trees or shrubs will be ineligible. Refer to the Native Plant Priority List[39]. Projects **must** have an average minimum width (perpendicular to the stream) of at least 35 feet. Proposals to implement riparian buffers on two or more WI/PWL segments should apply under the Nonpoint Source Program category. Proposals that incorporate streambank/shoreline stabilization with riparian buffers should apply under the Streambank/ Shoreline Stabilization project category (above) or Nonpoint Source Program subtype described below. Projects that include land purchase or perpetual easements must apply under the Land Acquisition for

[38] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.
[39] Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				Source Water Protection category. Applicants may not apply for Riparian Buffers and Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection for the same parcel. **Additional required attachment:** • Best Management Practice Detail Form[40]
In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients	Projects that reduce internal loading of nutrients (mainly phosphorus) within freshwater waterbodies experiencing internal nutrient cycling leading to excessive algae and plant growth, low water quality, and other water quality impairments.	$1,000,000	25% of award amount	Eligible practices **are limited to**: • Hypolimnetic aeration • Destratification systems for polymictic lakes • Hypolimnetic withdrawal • Dredging **Must** secure appropriate permits prior to submitting application. **Additional required attachments:** • Documentation[41] of projects that are completed or underway to control external sources of nutrients that meets Minimum Documentation Requirements for Control of External Sources of Nutrients Projects[42] • A study acceptable to DEC by a qualified professional[43] that identifies significant

[40] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.
[41] DEC will evaluate documentation provided to determine if external nonpoint sources (landside) have been sufficiently controlled. DEC reserves the right to only fund in-waterbody control practices that meet this criterion.
[42] Minimum Documentation Requirements for Control of External Sources of Nutrients Projects: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipminimumrequirementsinwb24.pdf
[43] A qualified professional for this study is a professional engineer, certified lake manager, master's degree in limnology or related field, bachelor's degree in limnology or related field with 2 years of relevant experience.

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				internal waterbody loading and justification for use of the BMP. For destratification systems, the study **must** identify the waterbody as a polymictic lake. • For hypolimnetic aeration, destratification systems and hypolimnetic withdrawal, **must attach** a plan for long-term operation and maintenance. • Best Management Practice Detail Form[44]
Bathing Beach Restoration	Projects to implement practices recommended in beach restoration green infrastructure reports or beach sanitary survey	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Eligible practices **are limited to**: The following green infrastructure practices: ○ Bioretention ○ Porous pavement ○ Rain gardens ○ Stormwater tree trenches ○ Constructed wetlands The following beach re-naturalization practices: ○ Beach sand enrichment/ nourishment ○ Beach sloping/grading **Additional required attachments:** • Completed beach sanitary survey for swimming beaches[45] • For green infrastructure practices: Feasibility Study that meets WQIP Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit

[44] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.
[45] Beach Sanitary Survey Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/beachsurvey24.pdf

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				Feasibility Study Requirements[46] • Best Management Practice Detail Form[47]
Stream Culvert Repair and Replacement	Projects to reduce erosion, mitigate flooding and the impacts of climate change, and protect surrounding infrastructure caused by failing or inadequately sized stream culverts through culvert repair or replacement	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	The primary purpose of the project **must** be to reduce erosion and mitigate flooding to surrounding infrastructure caused by failing or inadequately sized culverts in streams, as documented by: • photographs (must show erosion on the upstream side of the culvert); or • a DEC-accepted culvert site assessment report Culvert should be inspected by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer and determined to be hydraulically insufficient and not conforming to NYSDOT's Culvert Design standards[48] and DEC's Technical Guidance #2 (DFW GS 24-01)[49]. Culvert replacement projects must be designed, at a minimum, to meet New York State Department of Transportation's Highway Design Manual Chapter 8 for culverts and DEC's Technical Guidance #2 (DFW GS 24-01). DEC reserves the right to refuse to fund projects that are

[46] Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipgireq24.pdf
[47] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.
[48] Culvert replacement projects should be designed, at a minimum, to meet New York State Department of Transportation's Highway Design Manual Chapter 8 for culverts: https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/design/dqab/hdm/chapter-8
[49] Division of Fish and Wildlife Technical Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/gs2401.pdf

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				determined to be inconsistent with the design standards in the above documents. Proposals to repair or replace culverts impacting two or more WI/PWL segments should apply under the Nonpoint Source Program subtype (below). Projects that also improve aquatic organism connectivity will receive additional points[50]. However, projects with the primary goal of improving aquatic organism passage should apply under the **Aquatic Connectivity** project type. **Additional required attachments**: • Best Management Practice Detail Form[51] • Photographs of the proposed site(s) upstream, downstream, inlet and outlet demonstrating erosion on the upstream side caused by failing or inadequately sized stream culverts **AND/OR** a DEC-approved site assessment report that documents erosion from failing or inadequately sized culverts that will be replaced by this project

[50] In order to be eligible for Bond Act funding, stream culverts must be evaluated using the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) protocol to determine severity of existing aquatic organism passage constriction and document improvement to aquatic organism passage post-construction (when this methodology is not used to assess a structure, professional judgment will be used to assess a structure that most closely replicates the categories used by NAACC) and must raise the NAACC passability score such that the associated descriptor level will change/improve.

[51] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application may receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Nonpoint Source Program	Programs to implement particular nonpoint source BMPs within a defined geographic area. Geographic areas include, but are not limited to: counties, watersheds, municipalities, or sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) areas.	$4,000,000	25% of award amount	Eligible programs are limited to **one** of the following types of BMPs per application: • Streambank/shoreline stabilization • Road ditch stabilization (including hydroseeding[52]) • Riparian buffers • Stream culvert repair and/or replacement • Septic tank pump-out • Rain garden/rain barrel program for SSO areas (must be for an SSO in a capacity, management, operation and maintenance (CMOM) program, a DEC-approved sanitary sewer evaluation survey (SSES) plan, corrective action plan (CAP), or Order on Consent). Streambank/shoreline stabilization, Road ditch stabilization programs, and Riparian buffers, Stream culvert repair and/or replacement **must** implement projects to improve two or more WI/PWL segments to be considered under this program category and **must** identify all project locations at time of application. For rain garden/rain barrel programs, project locations or geographic areas in which programs will be implemented **must**

[52]WQIP does not fund hydroseeding at SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity sites, or for purposes other than stormwater/runoff reduction (e.g., ball fields).

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				be identified at time of application. Stream culvert repair and replacement programs **must** address erosion, mitigate flooding, and protect surrounding infrastructure caused by failing or inadequately sized culverts as documented in attached: • Photographs (must show erosion on upstream side of culverts); or • A DEC-accepted culvert site assessment report. • Culverts must be inspected by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer and determined to be hydraulically insufficient and not conforming to NYSDOT's Culvert Design standards[53] and DEC's Technical Guidance #2 (DFW GS 24-01)[54]. • Culvert replacement projects must be designed, at a minimum, to meet New York State Department of Transportation's Highway Design Manual Chapter 8 for culverts and DEC's Technical Guidance #2 (DFW GS 24-01). **Additional required attachment**:

[53] Culvert replacement projects should be designed, at a minimum, to meet New York State Department of Transportation's Highway Design Manual Chapter 8 for culverts: https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/design/dqab/hdm/chapter-8

[54] Division of Fish and Wildlife Technical Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/gs2401.pdf

Project Subtypes	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
				• Best Management Practice Detail Form[55]

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe
- Contractual services
- Equipment
- Construction
- Construction inspection (on-site activities typically performed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer, e.g., inspection of methods and materials)
- Travel
- Planning, design, administrative and construction oversight costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project[56]
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in the budget will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Land purchases
- Indirect costs (e.g., space/property rent, utilities, office supplies)
- Legal fees
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[57]
- Projects with planning, design, administrative, and construction oversight costs in excess of 20% of the award amount may be deemed ineligible.

[55] Best Management Practice Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/R5hryRe6p1. If answers are skipped or not filled out in the manner in which the information is requested (e.g. not using the correct units requested), the application will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

[56] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

[57] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

- Pre- and post-construction monitoring and sampling
- Invasive species removal
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITONAL RESOURCES FOR NONPOINT SOURCE APPLICATIONS

- Nonpoint Source Guidance and Technical Assistance: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/nps-program/guidance-and-technical-assistance
- Nonpoint Source Best Management Practices Eligible for WQIP Funding: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqip24npsbmp.pdf
- Best Management Practices Detail Form: https://forms.office.com/g/bYecyvKD1n
- Engineering Report Outline for NYS Wastewater Infrastructure Projects: https://efc.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/er-outline-ffy2026-rev-1a_clean_2026-01-1495.pdf
- 2024 NYS Stormwater Design Manual: https://dec.ny.gov/fs/projects/24-25DraftCGPDesignManual/Manual.SW.CGP.2024-07-31.Design_Manual_Issued_2024-07-31.pdf
- Green Infrastructure or Stormwater Retrofit Feasibility Study Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipgireq24.pdf
- Information on preferred, nature-based methods of shoreline stabilization: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/waterways-coastlines-wetlands/protection-of-waters-program/shoreline-stabilization. Minimum Documentation Requirements for Control of External Sources of Nutrients Projects: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipminimumrequirementsinwb24.pdf
- Beach Sanitary Survey Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/beachsurvey24.pdf
- NYSDOT 2021. Highway Design Manual – Chapter 8. Highway Drainage. Albany (NY): New York State Department of Transportation Engineering Division. Available from: https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/design/dqab/hdm
- Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Technical Guidance for Bridge and Culvert Projects: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/gs2401.pdf
- Resilient NY Flood Mitigation Reports: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/resilient-ny
- North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Project (NAACC): https://streamcontinuity.org/naacc
- Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

NONPOINT SOURCE PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Vision 40 to 2 points possible	***Vision will be calculated by multiplying Performance Measures times Impact Factor. Performance Measures points and Impact Factor points will not be included in the total project score, only the combined Vision points.***			
Performance Measures *10 to 2 points possible (as part of Vision score)*				
Decentralized Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On- Site Treatment Systems	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply. **OR** Decentralized municipal wastewater treatment facilities for failing on-site treatment systems where the need for the project has been documented in a completed sanitary survey **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Decentralized municipal wastewater treatment facilities for failing on-site treatment systems where the need for the project has been documented in a completed sanitary survey. **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded".	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Green Infrastructure	**10 POINTS:** Green infrastructure projects specifically listed in a Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) that reduce stormwater flow to a combined sewer system.	**8 POINTS:** Green infrastructure projects that reduce stormwater flow to a combined sewer system. **OR** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

		List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	
Stormwater Retrofits	**10 POINTS:** Stormwater retrofit projects required by an MS4 permit.	**8 POINTS:** Stormwater retrofit projects in an MS4 area. **OR** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin, Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

		pollution.		
Streambank/ Shoreline Stabilization	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, , Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Riparian Buffers	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded".	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

		OR Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	
In-Waterbody Controls	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC- approved Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" OR Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Bathing Beach Restoration	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified a DEC-approved watershed plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan)	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC- approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or HABs Action Plan). **OR**	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed"

	AND Benefit an active public drinking water supply. **OR** Beach restoration projects that are specifically listed as a priority in a DEC-approved beach restoration report.	Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution. **OR** Beach restoration projects that are for a type of project that is the focus of a beach restoration report funded independently or based on a sanitary survey for swimming beaches.	causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support a priority action in a DEC-approved Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	**OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Stream Culvert Repair and Replacement	**10 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefit an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Projects that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Projects that support multiple	**6 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Projects that support an action or priority identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or DEC-	**2 POINTS:** Projects located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed". **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

		actions in DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan or Stream Management Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	
Impact Factor *4 to 1 point(s) possible (as part of Vision Score)*				
Decentralized Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities for Failing On-Site Systems projects	**4 POINTS:** Project will reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report. **OR** Project will remove treatment systems from the mapped floodplain.	**3 POINTS:** Project will reduce nutrients or fecal indicator bacteria documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **AND** The proposed project serves properties located directly on the waterbody segment.	**2 POINTS:** Project will reduce nutrients or fecal indicator bacteria documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened. **AND** the proposed project serves properties located directly on the waterbody segment.	**1 POINT:** Project will impact a WI/PWL segment where best uses are "unassessed" or assessed as "fully supported" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Green Infrastructure	**4 POINTS:** Total water quality volume (WQv)[58] treated or reduced 7,500 cubic feet (ft^3) or more **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding. **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**3 POINTS:** Total WQv treated or reduced 5,000 to 7,499 ft^3 **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding.	**2 POINTS:** Total WQv treated or reduced 2,500 to 4,999 ft^3 **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding.	**1 POINT:** Total WQv treated or reduced 2,499 ft^3 or less **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding.
Stormwater Retrofits	**4 POINTS:** Total water quality volume	**3 POINTS:** Total WQv treated or reduced 5,000 to 7,499 ft^3 **OR** project is in an MS4 area	**2 POINTS:** Total WQv treated or reduced 2,500 to 4,999 ft^3 **OR** project is in an	**1 POINT:** Total WQv treated or reduced 2,499

[58] To calculate the water quality volume, refer to Section 4.2 on page 4-2 of the 2024 New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual or use the NYSDEC Runoff Reduction Worksheets. Both resources can be found at https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/stormwater/construction-stormwater-toolbox.

	(WQv)[59] treated or reduced 7,500 cubic feet (ft^3) or more **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding. **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**AND** will reduce localized flooding.	MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding.	ft^3 or less **OR** project is in an MS4 area **AND** will reduce localized flooding.
Streambank / Shoreline Stabilization	**4 POINTS:** Project implements streambank/shoreline stabilization AND Riparian Buffers AND Project location and type is listed in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**3 POINTS:** Project implements streambank/shoreline stabilization AND Project type is listed in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project reduces flooding as identified in a DEC-approved plan (i.e., Resilient NY Flood Mitigation Plan[60]).	**2 POINTS:** Project implements streambank/shoreline stabilization AND Project will reduce pollutant(s) listed in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet where best use(s) are assessed as "impaired" or "precluded".	**1 POINT:** Project implements streambank/shoreline stabilization AND Will reduce pollutant(s) listed in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet where bests use(s) are assessed as "stressed", "threatened" or where best use(s) are unassessed OR Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.
Riparian Buffers	**4 POINTS:** Project will reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**3 POINTS:** Project located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR**	**2 POINTS:** Project located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR**	**1 POINT:** Project located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

[59] To calculate the water quality volume, refer to Section 4.2 on page 4-2 of the 2024 New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual or use the NYSDEC Runoff Reduction Worksheets. Both resources can be found at https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/stormwater/construction-stormwater-toolbox.
[60] Resilient NY Flood Mitigation Reports: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/resilient-ny

		Projects that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or DEC- Accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program Plan [DWSP2] that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Projects that support an action in a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DEC-approved Action Agenda or DWSP2 Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	
In-Waterbody Controls for Nutrients	**4 POINTS:** Project where internal loading has been identified as the primary source of pollution in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**3 POINTS:** Project type is identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or DEC HABs Action Plan).	**2 POINTS:** Project will reduce pollutant(s) listed in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet where best use(s) are assessed as "impaired" or "precluded".	**1 POINT:** Project does not meet the criteria of the other impact factor point categories.
Bathing Beach Restoration	**4 POINTS:** Project combines two or more practices (e.g., porous pavement, rain gardens and bioswale) to reduce/restore waterbody (such that the water quality benefit is greater than any one practice alone) **AND** the proposed project is located on the beach or within the beach/park property. **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.	**3 POINTS:** Project combines two or more practices (e.g., porous pavement, rain garden and bioswale) to reduce/restore waterbody (such that the water quality benefit is greater than any one practice alone) **AND** the proposed project is located on a tributary adjacent to the beach that has been identified as a source of pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Project with one practice to reduce/restore waterbody **AND** the proposed project is on a tributary adjacent to the beach that has been identified as a source of pollution.	**1 POINT:** Project with one practice to reduce/restore waterbody **AND** the proposed project is located within the HUC 12 watershed of that waterbody.
Stream Culvert Repair and Replacement	**4 POINTS:** Project where hydraulically undersized, improperly placed, or failing/ structurally deficient stream culverts have caused erosion of stream bed and/or banks, **AND** will further protect high risk	**3 POINTS:** Project where hydraulically undersized, improperly placed, or failing/structurally deficient stream culverts have caused erosion of stream bed and/or banks **AND** that would improve NAACC score by at least one level.	**2 POINTS:** Project where hydraulically undersized, improperly placed, or failing/structurally deficient stream culverts have caused erosion of stream bed and/or banks **AND** that will help protect high risk or critical infrastructure.	**1 POINT:** Project where hydraulically undersized, improperly placed, or failing/structurally deficient stream culverts have caused erosion of stream bed

	or critical infrastructure[61] **AND** would improve NAACC score[62] by at least one level. **OR** Project has a DEC-approved Nonpoint Source Planning Grant report.				and/or banks **AND** improvement of NAACC score is unlikely or does not have a NAACC score.
Waterbody Assessment **(for all projects <u>EXCEPT</u> Green Infrastructure Practice/ Stormwater Retrofits project subtypes)** *5 to 0 points possible*	*Waterbody Classification*	**2 POINTS:** AA, A, A-special, AA-special, AA(T), A(T), A(TS), B, B(T), B(TS), SA, SB, C(T), C(TS), GA (primary water supply aquifer) or has a watershed plan		**1 POINT:** C, SC, I, D, SD, GSA, GSB	
	Type of Pollutant (must be nonpoint source pollutant)	**3 POINTS:** Confirmed	**2 POINTS:** Unconfirmed		**0 POINTS:** Unassessed, Fully Supported or Waterbody not included in the WI/PWL
Waterbody Assessment (for Green Infrastructure Practice/ Stormwater Retrofits project subtypes) *5 to 0 points possible*	*Type of Pollutant* (must be a pollutant traditionally identified with CSO discharges)	**5 POINTS:** Confirmed	**2 POINTS:** Unconfirmed		**0 POINTS:** Unassessed, Fully Supported, or Waterbody not included in the WI/PWL

Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound program. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or program costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

[61] High risk or critical infrastructure is defined as schools, hospitals, water treatment facilities, nursing homes, principal arterial interstates, or railroads.

[62] NAACC score refers to the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative's Aquatic Passability Score which uses a numeric scale from 0.0 to 1.0 with six associated levels from "severe barrier" to "no barrier." Culvert repair or replacement must raise the passability score such that the associated descriptor level will change/improve. Where scoring is unavailable, professional judgement will be used to categorize the passability of each structure.

Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals **AND** the project is ready to move forward with construction.		**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay.		**2 POINTS:** Project has not secured any of the necessary approvals but is expected to be completed within five years.		**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***			
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded non-agricultural nonpoint source projects, including the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant, in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently shown the ability to complete this non-agricultural nonpoint source project based upon experience with similar non-agricultural nonpoint source projects within the past 10 years.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete a state funded water quality project that was not related to non-agricultural nonpoint source treatment in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to water quality in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.				**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***		
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.				**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC)[63] *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.				

[63] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

	See Attachment A.					
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in, or serving, a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following CSC actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[64]				**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.					**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 POINTS***					

NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Vision *40 to 2 points possible*	*Vision will be calculated by multiplying Performance Measures times Impact Factor. Performance Measures points and Impact Factor points will not be included in the total project score, only the combined Vision points.*			
Performance Measures *10 to 2 points possible (as part of Vision score)*	**10 POINTS:**	**8 POINTS:**	**6 POINTS:**	**2 POINTS:**

[64] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

Nonpoint Source Programs including: Streambank/ shoreline stabilization, riparian buffers, road ditch stabilization, stream culvert repair/ replacement, septic tank pump-out programs	Programs that address a pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** impact an active public drinking water supply.	Programs that address a pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Programs where work will be completed in the watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Programs that support multiple actions in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program [DWSP2] Plan or Stream Management Plan) that reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Programs where work will be completed in the watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Programs that support an action or priority in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan or Stream Management Plan) that reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Programs where work will be completed in the watershed of a WI/PWL segment that is "fully supported" or "unassessed". **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

Nonpoint Source Programs including: **Rain garden/rain barrel program for SSO areas**	Green infrastructure programs that reduce stormwater flow to a combined sewer system. **OR** Programs that mitigate flooding as identified in a DEC Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC-approved plan or report (i.e., Resilient NY Flood Mitigation Report[65]).	Programs that reduce the pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or HABs Action Plan). **OR** Programs located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded". **OR** Programs that support multiple actions in a DEC-approved Watershed Action Agenda (i.e., Great Lakes, Hudson River Estuary, Long Island Watershed, Mohawk River Basin Action Agendas) or a DEC- accepted plan or report (i.e., DWSP2 Plan[66]) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Programs located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that will reduce a pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheets as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened". **OR** Programs that support an action or priority in a DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., DEC-approved Action Agenda or DWSP2 Plan) that will reduce nonpoint source pollution.	Programs located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment where best use(s) are "fully supported" or "unassessed" **OR** Waterbody is not included on the WI/PWL.

[65] Resilient NY Flood Mitigation Reports: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/resilient-ny
[66] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.

Impact Factor *4 to 1 point(s) possible (as part of Vision score)*	**4 POINTS:** Program will be implemented in the watershed of a waterbody with a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or HABs Action Plan) **AND** implements a practice recommended in the implementation section of that document. **OR** Program will implement projects identified in a DEC-approved plan (i.e., Resilient New York Flood Mitigation Report) or DEC-accepted plan or report (i.e., Drinking Water Source Protection Program Plan [DWSP2][67] or Stream Management Plan) that address nonpoint source pollution or mitigates flooding.	**3 POINTS:** Program addresses pollutant impacts to at least two WI/PWL segments identified as "impaired" or "precluded" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet. **OR** Program addresses aquatic habitat connectivity and/or flood resiliency in addition to nonpoint source pollution.	**2 POINTS:** Program addresses pollutant impacts to at least one WI/PWL segment identified as "impaired" or "precluded" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet **AND** at least one WI/PWL segment identified as "stressed" or "threatened" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet. **OR** At least two WI/PWL segments identified as "stressed" or "threatened" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet.	**1 POINT:** Program will address pollutant impacts to at least one WI/PWL segment identified as "stressed" or "threatened" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet **AND** at least one WI/PWL segment identified as "unassessed" or "fully supported" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet. **OR** At least two WI/PWL segments identified as "unassessed" or "fully supported" in the WI/PWL segment fact sheet.

Program Scale *5 to 1 point(s) possible*	**5 POINTS:** Program will be implemented at a watershed scale (larger than county scale).	**3 POINTS:** Program will be implemented at a county scale.	**1 POINT:** Program will be implemented at the municipal scale.

Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound program. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound program.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound program.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or program costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

[67] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.

Program Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Program has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals. Program is ready to move forward with construction.	**5 POINTS:** Program is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay.	**2 POINTS:** Program has not secured any of the necessary approvals but is expected to be completed within five years.	**0 POINTS:** Program has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded non-agricultural nonpoint source projects, including the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant, or programs in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently shown its ability to complete this non-agricultural nonpoint source program based upon experience with similar non-agricultural nonpoint source projects or programs within the past 10 years.	**3 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete a state funded water quality project or program that was not related to non-agricultural nonpoint source in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to water quality in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the program.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the program. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Program improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.	**5 POINTS:** Program improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	**0 POINTS:** Program does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	

Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population **of** 81 – 100%. .	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.

Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Program is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Program is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following Climate Smart Community actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[68]	**0 POINTS:** Program is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Program is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Program is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Program is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

[68] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

VACUUM TRUCKS IN MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) AREAS

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipality[69] regulated by the MS4[70] General Permit
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts on behalf of regulated MS4 Operators

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

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

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL VACUUM TRUCK APPLICATIONS

- Completed Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet(s)[71] indicating all Basic Elements have been mapped. Applications where the applicant has not demonstrated that all Basic Elements have been mapped will be deemed ineligible.
- Applications will be considered for proposals submitted on behalf of multiple cooperating regulated MS4 Operators. To be considered cooperating MS4 Operators, a separate Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet must be submitted for each MS4 Operator identified in the application. Applications that do not include a Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet or do not demonstrate that all Basic Element Mapping has been completed for each cooperating MS4 Operator will be scored as an individual MS4 Operator and may receive a reduced Vision score.
- Only the current version of the Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet will be accepted; applications that attach an outdated version of the worksheet will be deemed ineligible.
- Catch basin clean-out plan and procedures. Refer to Catch Basin Clean-Out Plan Template[72]
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[73]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the vacuum truck will be stored wholly or partially within a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the storage location indicated. Floodplain maps

[69] For the purposes of Vacuum Truck projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[70] 40 CFR 122.26(b)(16)(i), Small municipal separate storm sewer system means all separate storm sewers that are owned or operated by the United States, a State, city, town, borough, county parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that are discharges to waters of the United States

[71] Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/mapwrsht2024.pdf

[72] Catch Basin Clean-Out Plan Minimum Requirements Template: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqip2024catchbasintemp.pdf

[73] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf

cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[74]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[75]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[76]
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application.
- Applications that attach an outdated version of the Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet will be deemed ineligible. Only the current version of the Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet will be accepted.
- DEC reserves the right to fund only one vacuum truck per regulated MS4 Operator.
- DEC reserves the right to not fund a vacuum truck if the regulated MS4 Operator has received a vacuum truck in a previous round.
- Applications from regulated MS4 Operators with an open WQIP contract for a vacuum truck will be deemed ineligible. Applications from Soil and Water Conservations Districts with an open WQIP contract for a vacuum truck can be considered for municipalities that are not currently covered by an existing contract scope of work.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
Projects to purchase one vacuum truck to be used in an MS4 area	$400,000	25% of award amount	Funding will be considered for proposals submitted on behalf of multiple cooperating regulated MS4 Operators. Projects being undertaken by multiple regulated MS4s in the same county or urbanized area will receive additional points. A list of the cooperating[77]

[74] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[75] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf
[76] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf
[77] Cooperating MS4s are defined as multiple regulated MS4 operators that will share use of the vacuum truck if awarded. Cooperating MS4s can demonstrate this shared service through letters of support, resolution, or other intermunicipal agreement. The intermittent lending of the vacuum truck to another MS4 does not meet this definition.

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
			regulated MS4 Operators must be provided in the application. If a regulated MS4 Operator is applying for a vacuum truck, they cannot be considered a collaborating MS4 Operator on another application. Applications that do not provide Completed Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet demonstrating all Basic Elements Map items have been completed by each cooperating MS4 Operator will be scored as a single MS4 Operator and receive a reduced score. Applicant **must** have completed all Basic Elements Map items (as indicated on the Completed Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet) by the date of application submittal. If an applicant is applying on behalf of other cooperating regulated MS4 Operators, a Completed Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet must be submitted for each MS4 Operator identified in the application demonstrating that each MS4 Operator has completed all Basic Elements Map items.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Equipment
- Contractual services
- Salary and fringe benefits
- Planning and administrative costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project.[78]

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in the budget will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Vacuum truck operation and maintenance

[78] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than 18 , 2026)
- Indirect costs (e.g., space property rent, utilities, and other office supplies)
- Legal fees
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[79]
- Planning and administrative costs in excess of 20% of the award amount

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR VACUUM TRUCK APPPLICATIONS

- MS4 Comprehensive Mapping Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/mapwrsht2024.pdf
- Catch Basin Inspection and Clean-Out Plan Requirements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqip2024catchbasinreq.pdf
- Catch Basin Clean-out Plan Template: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqip2024catchbasintemp.pdf

[79] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

VACUUM TRUCK FOR MS4 AREAS SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 agency points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 agency points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Vision *40 to 2 points possible*	Vision will be calculated by multiplying Performance Measures times Impact Factor. Performance Measures points and Impact Factor points will not be included in the total project score, only the combined Vision points.			
Performance Measures *10 to 2 points possible (as part of Vision score)*	**10 POINTS:** Project addresses a stormwater[80] pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan, or DEC HABs Action Plan) **AND** benefits an active public drinking water supply.	**8 POINTS:** Project addresses a stormwater pollutant of concern identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project is located in the HUC 12 watershed of a Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL) segment that reduce a stormwater pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "impaired" or "precluded".	**6 POINTS:** Project is located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that reduces a stormwater pollutant documented in the WI/PWL segment factsheet as the pollutant causing the waterbody's best use(s) to be assessed as "stressed" or "threatened".	**2 POINTS:** Project is located in the HUC 12 watershed of a WI/PWL segment that is "unassessed" or use(s) are "fully supported" or "impaired," "precluded," "stressed," or "threatened" due to non-stormwater pollutants.
Impact Factor *4 to 1 point(s) possible (as part of Vision score)*	**4 POINTS:** Applicant has letters of support from all cooperating MS4 Operators	**3 POINTS:** Applicant has submitted letters of support from 50% or more of the cooperating MS4 Operators.	**2 POINTS:** Applicant has submitted letters of support from less than 50% of cooperating MS4 Operators. **OR** Applicant is a single municipality that has properly justified why the vac truck will not be shared with other MS4 Operators.	**1 POINT:** Applicant has no letters of support from cooperating MS4 Operators. **OR** Applicant is a single municipality that has not properly justified why the vac truck will not be shared with other MS4 Operators.
Waterbody Assessment *5 to 0 points possible*	*Waterbody Classification*	**2 POINTS:** AA, A special, SA, GA (primary supply aquifer), AA special, AA(T), A(T), C(T), C(TS), A, B(T), GA (other), or has a watershed plan	**1 POINT:** B, SB, C, SC, I, D, SD, GSB, GSA	

[80] Stormwater pollutants are defined as: phosphorus, nitrogen, ammonia, nutrients, turbidity, pathogens, fecal coliform, garbage and refuse, oil/grease, or oil & floating substances.

	Pollutant Confirmation *(must be a pollutant identified with MS4 discharges[81])*	**3 POINTS:** Confirmed		**2 POINTS:** Unconfirmed	**0 POINTS:** Unassessed, Fully Supported or Waterbody not included in the WI/PWL
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving pollutant reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving pollutant reduction. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Vacuum truck will be purchased before December 2027. **AND** Catch basin clean out plan meets all requirements.		**5 POINTS:** Vacuum truck will be purchased before December 2027. **AND** Catch basin clean out plan meets most requirements.	**2 POINTS:** Vacuum truck will be purchased after December 2027. **OR** Catch basin clean out plan meets few requirements.	**0 POINTS:** Project is not expected to be completed within 5 years OR Catch basin clean out plan meets no requirements. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded WQIP projects in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently shown its ability to complete this project based upon experience with MS4-related projects within the last 10 years.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to water quality in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

[81] Eligible pollutants include phosphorus, nitrogen, ammonia, nutrients, silt/sediment, turbidity, pathogens, fecal coliform, garbage and refuse, oil/grease, or oil & floating substances.

Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) or Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[82]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following CSC actions: PE2: Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory; PE3: Fleet Efficiency Policy; PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan.[83]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Vacuum truck will be stored outside of the 0.2% or 1% annual chance floodplain.			**0 POINTS:** Vacuum truck will be stored within the 0.2% or 1% annual chance floodplain.		
Total Maximum	***115 points***					

[82] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[83] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/ctions

LAND ACQUISITION FOR SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[84] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations[85]

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available to purchase land and/or conservation easements, including associated transactional, riparian buffer, or groundwater restoration costs for the purpose of protecting public surface or groundwater drinking water supplies.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL LAND ACQUISITION APPLICATIONS

- Detailed protocol for monitoring and enforcement of properties or easements. The protocols should include all elements listed in the WQIP Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol Guidance.[86]
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet. The Budget Worksheet **must** estimate the value of the land or development rights being acquired (for each specific parcel if there are multiple), transactional costs (for each specific parcel if there are multiple), staff salaries directly devoted to or connected to the project or program, restoration costs, contractual costs and travel costs.
- Map(s) depicting the active public drinking water supply(s), location of wells, intakes, or springs, parcel location(s), parcel tax map I.D.(s), areal extent of the zone of contribution, watershed boundary, land use (National Land Cover Dataset 2024), existing riparian buffer or wetlands (if applicable), proposed riparian buffer or wetland restoration sites (if applicable), circles showing distance to 1,000 feet and 1,500 feet from groundwater wells (if applicable), and circles showing distance to 1,000 feet from surface water intake (if applicable). The map(s) should include all Elements listed in the WQIP Land Acquisition Map Guidance.[87]
- For projects wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency

[84] For the purposes of Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).
[85] For this grant opportunity, a not-for-profit is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General.
[86] Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/monitoringandenforcementprotocol.pdf
[87] WQIP Land Acquisition Map Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/requiredmapguidanceandexamples.pdf

Requirements of this RFA (Floodplain map is not required for land acquisition program applications).
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[88]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[89]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[90]
- For Programs only, applicants must provide fiscal information, such as annual reports, that demonstrate the ability to sustain the level of effort being funded.
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

REQUIREMENTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR ALL LAND ACQUISITION

- Before starting an application, applicants are strongly encouraged to investigate steps that must be taken and state and local approvals that are needed to start a project of this type (permits, easements, etc.).
- Before starting an application, applicants are strongly encouraged to conduct a preliminary inspection of any prospective subject parcel to identify any structures or potential environmental concerns that may be cost prohibitive to the applicant based on eligible and ineligible costs listed below.
- **Only** active public water supplies[91] as defined by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) are eligible.[92]
- **Only** land acquisition projects or programs associated with established and active public water supplies are eligible.
- Land Acquisition projects must drain to the surface water source that is identified as the public water supply.
- Monitoring and enforcement of properties or easements obtained through this grant may be performed by a subcontractor. To ensure all current and future uses are consistent with the public purposes set forth in ECL § 15-3303,[93] an awardee's monitoring and enforcement protocol and the associated properties are subject to inspection by NYSDEC.
- Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM)[94] Tier 2 assessment or Tier 3

[88] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[89] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf
[90] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf
[91] NYSDOH defines a public drinking water supply as "any system with at least 5 service connections or that regularly serves an average of at least 25 people daily for at least 60 days out of the year".
[92] Applicants may contact their local county health departments to verify active public drinking water supplies. Contact information can be found by visiting: https://www.health.ny.gov/contact/contact_information/
[93] Public purpose as set forth in ECL § 15-3303. See https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/ENV/15-3303
[94] For information regarding the Agricultural Environmental Management program, visit https://agriculture.ny.gov/soil-and-water/agricultural-environmental-management

plan may be required **post award** for acquisitions that currently, or in the future, have agricultural uses and activities. AEM plans may be developed, reviewed, and monitored by a qualified subcontractor.

- Parcels acquired prior to an executed contract are not guaranteed reimbursement.
- Donated parcels or parcels to be used as match are subject to the terms of the grant and applicable land acquisition document requirements.
- Parcels previously acquired with WQIP grant funds cannot be used as match.
- For both projects and programs targeting protection of surface waterbodies, parcels adjacent to waterbodies used as a water supply, or adjacent to tributaries draining to a water supply **must** contain an existing riparian buffer OR restore a riparian buffer. Both existing and restored riparian buffers **must** meet the requirements listed below. Only riparian buffer restoration activities performed on properties or easements acquired through this grant opportunity are eligible for funding.
- Riparian Buffer Requirements (Projects and Programs):
    - Riparian buffers must have one of the following minimum widths:
        - Equal to or greater than 300 feet;[95]
        - At least 100 feet but less than 300 feet;
        - At least 35 feet but less than 100 feet,[96]
    - Riparian buffers **must** be revegetated using only native trees, shrubs, or grasses appropriate for the site conditions. Replacement of dead trees or shrubs must be continued until the buffer is, or will progress to, a fully functional condition. Refer to the Native Plant Priority List[97].
    - For newly created or restored buffers, the applicant **must** develop and implement a maintenance plan during the buffer establishment period, defined as 3-5 years after planting of vegetation.
    - Streambanks **must** be stable prior to creation or restoration of riparian buffers. “Soft” streambank stabilization practices including, but not limited to, live staking, contour wattling, erosion control matting, and root wads, are eligible for funding as part of a buffer project. Hard armoring of streambanks, including stone rip rap, is **not** eligible for funding under this category.
    - Selective cutting of trees, removal of invasive species, or supplemental planting of trees, shrubs, or grasses are allowed provided they improve habitat and function of the riparian buffer or remove, mitigate, or warn against unreasonable harm to people, property or health of native species on or around the defined riparian buffer area.
    - Field drains through the riparian buffer are **not** allowed. Existing field drains **must** be terminated prior to entering the riparian buffer in a

[95] Parcels adjacent to a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply must have a riparian buffer width equal to or greater than 300 feet.
[96] Parcels are only eligible to have at least 35 feet but less than 100-foot riparian buffer if they do not fall within the 25- or 15-point performance measure category for both projects and programs.
[97] Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

manner that will allow infiltration of field drain discharge.
    - Physical protective barriers (i.e., fencing or rocks) may be used to limit access to the riparian buffer with DEC review and approval.
- Groundwater Restoration Requirements (Projects or Programs):
    - The area of a parcel, acquired to protect a wellhead **may** be revegetated using only native trees, shrubs, or grasses appropriate for the site conditions. Refer to the Native Plant Priority List[98].
    - Removal of trees, removal of invasive species, or supplemental planting of trees, shrubs, or grasses are allowed provided they improve habitat and function of the groundwater area, or remove, mitigate, or warn against unreasonable harm to people, property or health of native species on or around the defined groundwater area.
    - For newly created or restored groundwater areas, the applicant **must** develop and implement a maintenance plan during the restoration establishment period, defined as 3-5 years after planting of vegetation.
- Wetland Requirements:
    - Project plans **must** describe how the work in and near wetlands will protect drinking water supplies and provide improved wetland function.
    - Work within or immediately adjacent to existing wetlands **must** be limited to activities that will improve wetland function. Disturbances that compromise ecological functions are ineligible.
    - Projects **cannot** mitigate for impacts to regulated wetlands. Wetland mitigation projects are ineligible.
    - The applicant **must** develop and implement a maintenance plan for any wetland creation or enhancement. The maintenance plan **must** include protocols for addressing problems for a minimum of 3 years following creation or enhancement.
- Land Purchase and Conservation Easement Requirements
    - All **municipalities**, whether a project or program, **must** submit a complete water withdrawal permit modification application for all properties being acquired.[99]
    - Lands currently protected by a federal or state easement program are **not** eligible.
    - Conservation easements **must** be acquired in perpetuity. Applicants for easements will make use of the Conservation Easement Template found on https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program/land-acquisition-projects-source-water-protection-toolkit.
    - If the property is used for activities that interfere with the accomplishment of approved purposes, the violating activities[100] **must** cease, and any resulting adverse effects **must** be remedied.
    - Disturbances that compromise the ecological condition of the riparian

[98] Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list
[99] Water withdrawal permitting requirements as stated in 6 NYCRR Part 601.6. See https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4ebfafbecd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=Fu
[100] The following are examples of violating activities: the property is used for the improper storage or illegal dumping of materials including, but not limited to, household materials, car parts, wood, etc.

buffer or wetland areas, including, but not limited to, livestock access, wood or timber harvesting, excessive mowing and recreational vehicular use **must** be prohibited.

- Per Environmental Conservation Law §15-3303, DEC **cannot** provide funding for any land acquisition project by a not-for-profit if any town, village, or city objects to such acquisition. A not-for-profit contact **must** notify any town, village, or city of their interest in acquiring such project. The town, village, or city has 90 days after such notification to object by resolution. A not-for-profit contractor **must** provide DEC with copies of such notification and any responses received from any town, village or city, or certify to DEC that no responses were received within 90 days.
- Phase I environmental assessment reports **are required** for lands acquired in fee and conservation easements. Phase I reports **must** be completed by a qualified consultant and identify any recognized (REC), historical recognized (HREC), or controlled recognized environmental conditions (CREC) as well as any other environmental issues/concerns.
- The applicant **must** hold title to any land or easement acquired through this grant.
- DEC will have a minimum of 120 days from the date all documents are received to review and approve or disapprove of parcel(s) being proposed.
- Upon approval of the DEC, an applicant who acquired an interest in real property using monies obtained through this program may sell, lease, exchange or donate the real property to a not-for-profit or municipality, who will continue to use the real property for the same public purpose, without an express act of the New York State Legislature. Any sale, lease, exchange or donation which will result in the real property no longer having a public purpose must be approved by an express act of the New York State Legislature.
- In the event that a municipality or not-for-profit sells a parcel(s) that was acquired with funds made available pursuant to ECL Article 15 Title 33, other new lands must be acquired, and the following must be met:
  - parcel(s) must be of equal environmental and source water value
  - parcel(s) must be equal to or greater than the original purchase amount, excluding the awardee's match and any stewardship & monitoring expenses incurred; and
  - value of the new parcel(s) must account for any appreciation of the original parcel(s).

  DEC must review and approve the proposed acquisition of a new parcel(s) prior to the sale of the original parcel. This requirement shall remain in effect beyond the term of this contract.

- Public access and passive recreational trails will be reviewed by DEC on a case-by-case basis. The applicant **must** provide at the earliest date practicable, a thorough description and maps showing public access points, proposed activities, proximity to the public water supply, and justification for public access to assist DEC in making the determination of whether public access will have an

impact to the drinking water supply.

- Transaction requirements (post-award):[101]
    - Appraisals and purchase agreements **are required** for all properties prior to reimbursement.
    - Appraisals **must** be completed by a state general certified appraiser following the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) and submitted as non-restricted narrative appraisal reports. Applicants will be expected to make use of the NYSDEC Review check Sheet – USPAP Standards 1 & 2 document found on https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program/land-acquisition-projects-source-water-protection-toolkit. Two appraisals will be required if the appraised value is more than $500,000. DEC may pay up to the highest appraised value if the appraisal report is approved and accepted by DEC. Appraisals must list DEC as an intended/authorized user.
    - DEC may reimburse for purchase of land or development rights above appraised value if, in DEC's opinion, a parcel has exceptional source water value that cannot be factored into a determination of fair market value. DEC may reimburse at a price above the highest approved independent appraisal provided: 1) the price was the result of documented negotiations between the Grantee and the seller and 2) the Grantee demonstrates the unique source water protection value and how it accomplishes the objective of this program to DEC's satisfaction.
    - Boundary surveys **are required** for all properties. Surveys **must** be completed by a professional land surveyor.
    - Baseline Data **is required** for all conservation easement acquisitions.
    - Phase I environmental assessment reports **are required** for **all properties** and must be completed by a qualified consultant. If a Phase II is recommended, the awardee **must** contact DEC to propose and request approval on appropriate next steps if reimbursement will be requested. If the land is determined to be contaminated in either the Phase I or Phase II report, DEC must be contacted to determine whether the parcel is eligible for the program and reimbursement. If conditions are considered unacceptable, DEC will notify awardee within 30 days of receipt of the environmental report.
    - Title insurance **is required** for all properties.
    - Appraisals, surveys, title report and insurance, baseline data and easement language (if applicable), Phase I environmental assessments, and deeds **must** be reviewed and approved or disapproved by DEC for all projects/programs. No reimbursement will be made until the final approval is given by DEC. DEC will have a minimum of 120 days from the date all documents are received to review and approve or disapprove parcel(s) being proposed.

[101] For more information on WQIP Land Acquisition Projects for Source Water Protection resources and up to date standards, visit the WQIP Land Acquisition Projects for Source Water Protection Toolkit: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program/land-acquisition-projects-source-water-protection-toolkit

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with application
- Applications that do not clearly detail costs associated with a land acquisition project or program; or detail costs that do not provide a good value as it applies to achieving source water protection
- Applications that:
    - contain or do not disclose any possession and/or occupancy agreements with landowners;
    - currently contain and plan to continue or establish activities or facilities that do not align with the purpose of source water protection.
- Wetland mitigation projects
- Projects that do not include land acquisition as part of the grant
- Projects to acquire land to be used for a new well
- Acquisition of land that is known or highly suspected of being contaminated (e.g., where past contamination is not uncommon)
- Restoration projects that include hard armoring of streambanks, including stone rip rap.

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

- DEC reserves the right to reject an application for a land acquisition program from an applicant with an open WQIP contract for a land acquisition program.

Subtype	**Description**	**Maximum award**	**Required match**	**Special Requirements**
Land Acquisition Projects	Projects to purchase conservation easements or parcels of land for the purpose of protecting one or more active public surface water drinking supplies (streams, lakes, rivers, and reservoirs) **OR** for the purpose of protecting one or more active public groundwater drinking water supplies (groundwater wells)	$5,000,000	25% of award amount	Land parcel(s) **must** be specifically identified at the time of application to be considered for funding under the Project category. Projects are expected to acquire all parcels identified in application unless unusual circumstances arise.

Subtype	Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
Land Acquisition Programs	Programs to purchase conservation easements or parcels of land at multiple locations throughout the HUC 12 watershed of one or more active public surface water drinking water supplies (streams, lakes, rivers, and reservoirs) **OR** parcels at multiple locations within the areal extent of the zone of contribution[102] of one or more active public groundwater drinking water supplies.	$5,000,000	25% of award amount	**Must** provide fiscal information, such as annual reports, that demonstrate the ability to sustain the level of effort being funded under this grant if grant funds will be used for personal services. Parcels are not required to be specifically identified at the time of application to be considered for funding under the Program category.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- The value of the land or development rights being acquired, provided such value associated with the purchase of the property or purchase of a conservation easement is from an appraisal deemed acceptable by DEC.
- Personal services (e.g., salary, fringe).
    - Grantees will be required to document time worked, tasks, pay ratio and payment, and itemized salaries according to job title and roles/responsibilities. Personal services and Planning costs cannot exceed a total of 25% of the award amount.
- Non-personal services (e.g., contractual services, travel)
    - Value of contractual services provided by professional and technical personnel and consultants (i.e., surveys, plans and specifications, research, design and development of a project, consultant and legal services directly related to a project, feasibility study for a property, etc.) deemed acceptable by DEC.
    - Travel Costs (within New York State) must be directly associated and required to implement the project or program.
    - Transactional costs, provided they result in final acquisition of land or perpetual conservation easement and/or restoration of new riparian buffers or wetlands. Transactional costs can be submitted for reimbursement as incurred throughout the contract term, but payments

[102] Areal extent of the zone of contribution as defined by USGS. See https://water.usgs.gov/water-resources/memos/memo.php?id=1425

may need to be returned to the State should the land transaction not successfully close. Transactional costs are limited to:
    - Title reports and insurance
    - Property surveys
    - Appraisals
    - Certified appraisal review
    - Easement holder and landowner's legal fees to negotiate/close the conservation easement transaction and to review title reports and, as necessary, prepare title curatives, filing fees or other DEC-approved closing costs
    - Map and GIS/remote sensing data
    - Phase I environmental assessment
    - Baseline documentation reports
    - Stewardship or management plans
    - Stewardship fee
    - Project specific defense liability insurance fees
    - Property taxes
    - State or local real estate transfer taxes
- Riparian buffer, groundwater restoration, or wetland restoration costs as defined above and deemed acceptable by DEC. Riparian Buffer design, restoration, and implementation and/or field drain restoration (including equipment rental) cannot exceed a total of 25% of the award amount.
- Planning costs. Personal Services and Planning costs cannot exceed a total of 25% of the award amount.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in the budget will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Out-of-state travel costs and any travel not directly required to implement the project or program
- Project or program costs funded from other state sources
- Indirect costs, including overhead/operating expenses (space, rent, utilities).
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project or program[103]
- Endowment funds
- Major capital expenditures, such as computers
- Costs exceeding the maximum allowable percentage for that type of cost as listed above

[103] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

- Costs associated with DEC accepted public access and passive recreational trails
- Construction oversight
- Any remediation/restoration work associated with removal of contaminants or structures (e.g., hazardous waste, petroleum products, demolition and/or removal of structures)
- Phase II environmental assessment reports unless requested by the DEC
- Costs associated with water withdrawal permit modification (e.g., completion of engineering reports, water withdrawal program forms)
- Forest Management Plans
- Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) assessments or plans
- Nutrient Management Plans

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR LAND ACQUISITION APPLICATIONS

- WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Toolkit: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program/land-acquisition-projects-source-water-protection-toolkit
- Guidance on designing and maintaining riparian buffers: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/nps-program/riparian-buffers
- "Soft" streambank stabilization guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/waterways-coastlines-wetlands-permits/protection-of-waters-program/shoreline-stabilization-techniques
- Examples of maps meeting all required elements (surface water): https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/la.surfacewater.sample.pdf
- Examples of maps meeting all required elements (groundwater water): https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipmapex.gw.2022.pdf
- Example detailed expenditure-based summary budget meeting all required elements (projects): https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipbudget.project.pdf
- Example detailed expenditure-based summary budget meeting all required elements (programs): https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipbudget.program.pdf
- Water withdrawal permitting requirements: https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4ebfafbecd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default)
- Areal extent of zone contribution: https://water.usgs.gov/water-resources/memos/memo.php?id=1425
- Land Acquisition Map Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/monitoringandenforcementprotocol.pdf
- Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol Guidance: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/requiredmapguidanceandexamples.pdf

- National Land Cover Dataset: https://www.mrlc.gov/data?f%5B0%5D=category%3Aland%20cover
- Agricultural Environmental Management program: https://agriculture.ny.gov/soil-and-water/agricultural-environmental-management
- A Framework for Creating a Drinking Water Source Protection Program Plan: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2
- NYS Open Space Plan: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/osp2016final1.pdf

LAND ACQUISITION FOR SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Performance Measures[104] *25 to 2 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Project is identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Project is included in the critical area[105] of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan.[106] **OR** Parcels protect a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply that are adjacent to or within 1,000 feet of shoreline[107]	**15 POINTS:** Project is included in the extended and/or source water protection area[108] of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted DWSP2 Plan. **OR** Parcels protect a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply and are within area 1,001 feet to ½ mile of shoreline[109]and within 10 miles of public water supply intake. **OR** Parcels protect a river or stream used as an active public water supply that are no more than 1 mile upstream of intake and within area 1,001 feet to ½ mile of shoreline.	**5 POINTS:** Parcels are within the HUC 12 watershed of a surface waterbody used as an active public drinking water supply. **OR** Parcels are adjacent to an upstream tributary and within the HUC 12 inlet[110] of the lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply.[111]	**2 POINTS:** Project targets protection of land parcel(s) outside the HUC 12 watershed of a surface waterbody used as an active public drinking water supply. **OR** Project targets protection of parcels that are not adjacent to an upstream tributary and within the HUC 12 inlet of lake or reservoir used as active public drinking water supply. **OR** Greater than 50% of parcel(s) are more than 1,500 feet away from a water supply wellhead permitted as an active public drinking water source.

[104] Projects will be scored based on the area where the majority (over 50%) of the parcel lies.
[105] This is the area of land that is directly surrounding the drinking water source.
[106] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.
[107] Lateral distance from the shoreline.
[108] This is the area of land that extends beyond the critical area, but still has the potential to contribute water to the drinking water source.
[109] Lateral distance from the shoreline.
[110] Inlet is defined as the HUC 12 that drains to, or enters, the lake or reservoir used as a public water supply.
[111] Tributaries should be identified using the National Hydrography Dataset from USGS: https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/ngp/national-hydrography

	and within 10 miles of public water supply intake. **OR** Parcels protect a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply that are adjacent to or within 1,000 feet of tributary shoreline and are no more than 1 mile upstream of reservoir. **OR** Parcels protect a river or stream used as an active public water supply that are adjacent to or no more than 1 mile upstream of intake and within 1,000 feet of shoreline. **OR** Parcels protect a water supply wellhead that are identified in a recharge zone or protection plan produced by a licensed geologist, Rural Water authority or Regional Planning authority as needing protection. **OR** Parcels are within 1,000 feet of a water supply wellhead permitted as an active public drinking water source. **OR** Parcels are identified within a Long Island Special Groundwater Protection Area. **OR** Parcels are specifically identified for drinking water protection in the New York State Open Space Plan and within 10 miles of public water supply intake.	**OR** Parcels are within 1,001 – 1,500 feet from water supply wellhead permitted as an active public drinking water source. **OR** Parcels protect a river or stream used as an active public drinking water supply that are within 1 to 3 miles upstream of intake and within 1,000 feet of shoreline.		

Riparian Buffer[112] *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** **Surface Water:** Parcels protect a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is equal to or greater than 300 feet. **OR** Parcels are adjacent to protect a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is equal to or greater than 300 feet. **Groundwater:** Parcels protect a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and at least 50% of the parcel is designated as wetlands, forested land, open space, or grasslands by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset.	**5 POINTS:** **Surface Water:** Parcels protect a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and buffer is at least 100 feet to less than 300 feet. **OR** **Groundwater:** Parcels protect a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply where at least 50% of the parcel is designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset. **OR** Parcels protect a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and 35% - 49% of the parcel is located within an area designated for source water protection or classified as wetlands, forested land, open space or grasslands by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset.	**2 POINTS:** **Surface Water:** Parcels protect a surface waterbody used as an active public drinking water supply and falls outside of the 25- and 15-point performance measure category but within the HUC 12 watershed and buffer is at least 35 to less than 100 feet. **OR** Parcels protect a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply and within the HUC 12 inlet and buffer is at least 35 to less than 100 feet. **Groundwater:** Parcels protect a groundwater source used as an active drinking water supply and at least 50% of the parcel is designated as high density developed area by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset. **OR** Parcels protect a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and 35% - 49% of the parcel is designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset.	**0 POINTS:** Parcels are adjacent to a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is less than 300 feet. **OR** Parcels protect a lake, reservoir, river, or tributary and riparian buffer is less than 35 feet for eligible parcels.

[112] Projects that include more than one parcel will be scored based on where the majority (over 50%) of the parcels fall in the scoring criteria.

Source Water Protection Prioritization *10 to 2 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** At least 50% of the parcel is located within an area designated for the protection of source water identified in a conservation overlay district, wetlands protection plan, DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or DEC HABs Action Plan),or DEC-accepted Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan,[106] or other plan produced by a licensed geologist, Rural Water authority or Regional Planning authority. **OR** At least 50% of the parcel is designated as wetlands, forested land, open space, or grasslands by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD).		**5 POINTS:** At least 50% of the parcel is designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the2024 NLCD. **OR** 35% - 49% of the parcel is located within an area designated for source water protection or classified as wetlands, forested land, open space, or grasslands by the 2024 NLCD.		**2 POINTS:** At least 50% of the parcel is designated as high density developed area by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset. **OR** 35% - 49% of the parcel is designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset.
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre). WQIP budget includes no ineligible costs.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre).	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre).	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing detail but provides reasonable value for the cost (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre) as it applies to achieving source water protection.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving source water protection. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Parcels have been identified and at least 50% of landowner endorsement is demonstrated by a letter of commitment **AND** applicant has provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties that include most elements from the WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Documentation Guidance.		**5 POINTS:** Parcels have been identified but 49% or less of landowner endorsement has been demonstrated **AND** applicant has provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties using elements from the WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Documentation Guidance.		**0 POINTS:** Specific parcels have not been clearly identified. **OR** Applicant has not provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points available*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the project, and has prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants in the past 10 years and completed all tasks in a timely manner.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the project, but does not have prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant does not possess the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the project and does not have prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants. **OR** Applicant has previous experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants and did not complete all tasks in a timely manner or properly manage grant. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[113] See Attachment A.	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.

[113] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following Climate Smart Community actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[114]	**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

[114] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

LAND ACQUISITION FOR SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Program Readiness or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Performance Measures *25 to 2 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Program is identified in a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan (i.e., TMDL, Nine Element Watershed Plan or DEC HABs Action Plan). **OR** Program is included in the critical area[115] of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan.[116]	**15 POINTS:** Program is in a watershed specifically identified for drinking water protection in the New York State Open Space Plan. **OR** Program is included in the extended and/or source water protection area[117] of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted DWSP2 Plan.	**5 POINTS:** Program demonstrates that some level of planning has taken place using tools or methods to prioritize acquiring lands to protect public water supplies. **OR** Inclusion of source water protection in comprehensive plans, municipal resolutions, etc. of the majority of municipalities in the HUC 12 watersheds being proposed.	**2 POINTS:** Program has not demonstrated planning has taken place using tools or methods to prioritize acquiring lands to protect public water supplies. **OR** Program has not been included in a water protection in comprehensive plans, municipal resolutions, etc. of the majority of municipalities in the HUC 12 watersheds being proposed.

[115] This is the area of land that is directly surrounding the drinking water source.
[116] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.
[117] This is the area of land that extends beyond the critical area, but still has the potential to contribute water to the drinking water source.

Riparian Buffer[118] *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** **Surface Water**: Program protects a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is, or will be, equal to or greater than 300 feet. **OR** Program is adjacent to a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is equal to or greater than 300 feet. **Groundwater:** Program protects a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and at least 50% of the parcel is, or will be, designated as wetlands, forested land, open space, or grasslands by the 2024 National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD).	**5 POINTS:** **Surface Water**: Program protects a surface waterbody or tributary used as an active public drinking water supply and buffer is, or will be, at least 100 feet to less than 300 feet. **Groundwater:** Program protects a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and at least 50% of the parcel is, or will be, designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the 2024 NLCD. **OR** Program protects a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and 35% - 49% of the parcel is, or will be, located within an area designated for source water protection or classified as wetlands, forested land, open space or grasslands by the 2024 NLCD.	**2 POINTS:** **Surface Water**: Program protects a surface waterbody used as an active public drinking water supply that fall outside of the 25- and 15-point performance measure category but within the HUC 12 watershed and buffer is at least 35 to less than 100 feet. **Groundwater:** Programs to protect a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and at least 50% of the parcel is, is, or will be, designated as high density developed area by the 2024 NLCD. **OR** Program protects a groundwater source used as an active public drinking water supply and 35% - 49% of the parcel is, or will be, designated as agriculture or low/medium intensity developed area by the 2024 NLCD.	**0 POINTS:** **Surface Water**: Program is adjacent to a lake or reservoir used as an active public drinking water supply and riparian buffer width is, or will be, less than 300 feet. **OR** Program protects a surface waterbody or tributary, and riparian buffer is, or will be, less than 35 feet for eligible parcels.

[118] Programs will be scored based on where the majority (over 50%) of the projects will fall. Programs will be held to a majority of the parcels meeting the riparian buffer width or land cover identified, if awarded.

Source Water Protection Prioritization *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Program prioritizes parcels using scientific methodology or tool that ranks parcels based on greatest impact to water quality (i.e., steep slopes, lack of riparian buffers, intensive development). **OR** Program prioritizes parcels within a community's critical drinking water source protection area that is delineated using methodology or tools found in the Drinking Water Source Protection Program Framework[119]		**5 POINTS:** Program prioritizes parcels based on proximity to the drinking water source. **OR** Program prioritizes parcels within a community's drinking water source protection area that is delineated using methodology or tools found in Drinking Water Source Protection Program Framework	**2 POINTS:** Program prioritizes parcels based on vacancy or availability for acquisition.	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre). WQIP budget includes no ineligible costs.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre).	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving source water protection and being a fiscally sound project (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre).	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing detail but provides reasonable value for the cost (e.g. acres to grant amount requested, price per acre) as it applies to achieving source water protection.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving source water protection. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

[119] Drinking Water Source Protection Program Framework: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/dwsp2framework2025.pdf

Program Readiness *10 to 0 points available*	**10 POINTS:** Watershed parcels have been identified **and** prioritized; at least 50% of landowner endorsement is demonstrated by letters of commitment; applicant has provided protocols for monitoring **and** enforcement of properties using the WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Documentation Guidance; **and** for projects involving personal service costs, applicant has demonstrated the ability to maintain the level of effort funded by this grant.	**5 POINTS:** Watershed parcels have been identified but 49% or less of landowner endorsement has been demonstrated **AND** applicant has provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties using the WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Documentation Guidance **AND** for projects involving personal service costs, applicant has demonstrated the ability to maintain the level of effort funded by this grant.	**2 POINTS:** Drinking water supply watershed targeted for protection has been identified **AND** applicant has provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties using the WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Documentation Guidance **AND** for projects involving personal service costs, applicant has demonstrated the ability to maintain the level of effort funded by this grant.	**0 POINTS:** Drinking water supply watershed targeted for protection has not been clearly identified. **OR** Applicant has not provided protocols for monitoring and enforcement of properties. **OR** For projects involving personal service costs, applicant has not demonstrated the ability to maintain the level of effort funded by this grant. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points available*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the program, and has prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants in the past 10 years and completed all tasks in a timely manner.	**3 POINTS:** Applicant possesses the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the program, but does not have prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant does not possess the knowledge, skills, and ability to complete the program and does not have prior experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants. **OR** Applicant has previous experience with WQIP Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection grants and did not complete all tasks in a timely manner or properly manage grant. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Program improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.			**5 POINTS:** Program improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	**0 POINTS:** Program does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Program does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed. **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) **includes financial hardship)** *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[120] See Attachment A.	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following Climate Smart Community actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[121]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** The municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Program is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Program is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain AND demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.				**0 POINTS:** Program is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.	
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***					

[120] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[121] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

SALT STORAGE AND ROAD SALT REDUCTION

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[122] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available for projects to:

- Construct a permanent structure to cover a salt or a salt/sand mixture storage pile
- Purchase brine making equipment and brine storage tanks
- Retrofit snowplows with live edge or segmented plow blades, plow guards, truck mounted brine spreading equipment, and GPS sensors to implement road salt reduction practices

Applicants seeking funding for both Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction practices must submit two separate applications.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL SALT STORAGE AND ROAD SALT REDUCTION APPLICATIONS

- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[123]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps. For Salt Storage Applications, project maps must mark the exact location of the structure to be built **and** the current location of the salt storage pile.
- If a salt storage structure, brining equipment and brine storage tanks, or plow implements are to be built or stored wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the exact location of the project clearly marked on the map. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- For the **Road Salt Reduction Practices** category, a map or maps showing labeled public highway lanes that equipment will be used on in relation to the following water resources: surface water resources, groundwater resources, and surface or groundwater sources used for a public drinking system.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form [124]

[122] For the purposes of Salt Storage projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[123] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf

[124] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf

- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[125]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[126]
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SALT STORAGE AND ROAD SALT REDUCTION PROJECTS

- Salt storage projects must adhere to the New York State Office of General Services salt storage specifications to be eligible for this grant. https://online2.ogs.ny.gov/DNC/MasterSpec24/MasterSpecListing.asp?Div=13
    - Section 133423 – Rectangular Salt Storage Structure, Parts 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 1.05 and 1.06
    - Section 133424 – Dome Salt Storage Structure, Parts 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 1.05 and 1.06
- Brine storage tanks are required to have secondary containment, regardless of tank size, and follow the design specifications outlined in the "DER-17: Guidelines for Inspecting and Certifying Secondary Containment Systems of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks at Major Oil Storage Facilities"[127].
- For the **Road Salt Reduction** category, documentation of road salt reduction trainings[128], such as NYSDOT Snow University, Cornell Local Roads Snow & Ice, AdkAction Sustainable Winter Road Maintenance Training, or equivalent are required to be completed prior to equipment purchase. If training has already been completed, satisfactory documentation of trainings in the past five years must be attached to application at time of submission. Trainings must be completed by a minimum of one representative per municipality intended to use equipment.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application
- Applications that do not include construction of a permanent structure to cover a salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile, or the purchase of brine making equipment, brine storage tanks, or snowplow retrofits will be deemed ineligible.

[125] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form:https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf
[126] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf
[127] DER-17: Guidelines for Inspecting and Certifying Secondary Containment Systems of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks at Major Oil Storage Facilities https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/der17.pdf
[128] Acceptable documentation of road salt reduction trainings includes: attendee lists, certificate of completion, or sign-in sheets. To receive credit at time of application, these forms of documentation must be attached to application.

- An applicant benefitting from an open WQIP contract for road salt reduction practices is not eligible for funding under another WQIP contract until the contract is closed.
- Costs associated with Road Salt Reduction trainings
- Construction of buildings to store road salt reduction equipment
- Projects to repair salt storage structures, including roof replacement
- Road salt reduction strategies that will address areas other than public roadways

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

- DEC reserves the right to fund all primary priority projects before awarding secondary priority projects.

Project subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Primary Priority				
New Salt Storage Structures	Projects to construct new structures to enclose an uncovered salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile	$600,000	25% of award amount	Highest priority are projects to construct a new structure to enclose an uncovered salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile that is currently located near a groundwater drinking water source (public or private well) or surface water used for a public water system; or within a primary, principal, or sole source aquifer (maps and definitions provided below).
Road Salt Reduction Equipment	Equipment to implement municipal road salt reduction strategies, to the extent practicable, while ensuring public safety on public highways [129]	$400,000	25% of award amount	Projects that minimize or replace traditional road salt (rock salt) application to reduce chloride pollution in surface waterbodies or groundwater. Applicants may apply to retrofit one or more plows. [130] Eligible practices are limited to: • Brine making equipment and Brine storage tanks[131]Live edge blades,

[129] Defined as any highway, road, street, avenue, alley, public place, public driveway or any other public way.
[130] Vehicle retrofit BMPs include: live edge or segmented plow blades, plow guards, truck mounted brine spreading equipment, GPS equipment and sensors to track road salt or brine application, pavement temperature to inform road salt or brine application.
[131] Brine storage tanks are required to have secondary containment, regardless of tank size, and follow the design specifications outlined in the "DER-17: Guidelines for Inspecting and Certifying Secondary Containment Systems of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks at Major Oil Storage Facilities"

				segmented plow blades, or plow guards • Truck mounted brine spreading equipment • GPS equipment and sensors to track road salt or brine application, or pavement temperature to inform road salt or brine application. This equipment may not exceed 40% of total project cost. **Required attachment:** Map or maps with labeled public highway lanes that equipment will be used on in relation to the following water resources: • surface water resources • groundwater resources • surface or groundwater used for a public drinking water system
Secondary Priority				
Replacement Salt Storage structures	Projects to replace an existing[132] salt or salt/sand mixture storage structure	$600,000	25% of award amount	Applications will receive lower points for Vision
Capacity expansion for existing salt storage structures	Projects to expand the capacity of an existing salt or salt/sand mixture structure.	$600,000	25% of award amount	Applications will receive lower points for Vision

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe benefits
- Planning, design, administrative and construction oversight costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project.[133]
- Contractual services

[132] An existing salt storage structure is defined as a permanent or temporary cover of a salt pile. This includes dilapidated or insufficiently sized structures which only partially cover the salt pile.

[133] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

- Costs related to the construction of the salt or salt/sand mixture structure
- Construction of access road and impervious pad surrounding structure necessary to load and unload salt.
- Equipment (road salt reduction only); limited to eligible practices
- Secondary containment for brine storage tanks
- Costs related to the installation and setup of brine making equipment, brine storage tanks or snowplow retrofits
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in the budget will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Planning, design, administrative, and construction oversight costs in excess of 20% of the award amount.
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026).
- Legal fees
- Costs for stormwater controls that are required under the SPDES General Permit for Construction Activities.
- Demolition and/or removal costs for current storage structure if the project is for a replacement.
- Indirect costs (e.g., space/property rent, utilities, office supplies, additional maintenance facilities, etc.).
- Pre- and post-construction monitoring and sampling
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[134]
- Vehicles for snow and ice removal
- Construction of shelters or storage for brine storage tanks
- Construction of buildings to store road salt reduction equipment
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR SALT STORAGE AND ROAD SALT REDUCTION APPLICATIONS

- Office of General Services Specifications for salt storage facilities: https://online2.ogs.ny.gov/DNC/MasterSpec04/MasterSpecListing.asp?Div=13

[134] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

- Secondary containment design specification guidance for brine storage tanks: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/remediation_hudson_pdf/der17.pdf
- Principal aquifers[135] map: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/waterbodies/groundwater/aquifers.
- Primary aquifers[136] map: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/waterbodies/groundwater/aquifers
- Sole source aquifers[137] map: https://epa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9ebb047ba3ec41ada1877155fe31356b

SALT STORAGE SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Project Readiness or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Performance Measures[138] *40 to 10 point(s) possible*	**NEW STRUCTURE** **40 POINTS:** Project is to construct a new structure to enclose an exposed salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile that is currently located: Less than 300 feet from a groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public water system **OR** within a principal, primary, or sole source aquifer	**NEW STRUCTURE** **30 POINTS:** Project is to construct a new structure to enclose an exposed salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile that is currently located: 300 feet or more but less than 1,000 feet from a groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public water system **OR** less than 500 feet from a private well **OR** within the extended and/or source water protection area of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted	**NEW STRUCTURE** **20 POINTS:** Project is to construct a new structure to enclose an exposed salt or salt/sand mixture storage pile that is currently located: 1,000 feet or more from a groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public water system **OR** 500 feet or more from a private well **REPLACEMENT/ CAPACITY EXPANSION** **20POINTS:** Projects to build a structure that replaces an existing	**REPLACEMENT/ CAPACITY EXPANSION** **10 POINTS:** Projects to build a structure that replaces an existing structure or projects to expand the capacity of an existing salt or salt/sand mixture structure that is currently located: More than 300 feet from a groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public water system **OR** more than 500 feet of a private well.

[135] Principal aquifers are aquifers known to be highly productive or whose geology suggests abundant potential water supply, but which are not intensively used as sources of water supply by major municipal systems at the present time.
[136] Primary aquifers are defined as highly productive aquifers presently utilized as sources of water supply by major municipal water supply systems.
[137] Sole source aquifers are designated by the US Environmental Protection Agency as the sole or main source of drinking water for a community, under provisions of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.
[138] Points are based on the location of the current uncovered salt or salt/sand pile.

	OR within the critical area of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted groundwater Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan.[139]	groundwater DWSP2 Plan.	structure or projects to expand the capacity of an existing salt or salt/sand mixture structure which is currently located: Within 300 feet of a groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public water system **OR** Within a principal, primary or sole source aquifer	
Classification Points Factor *5 to 2 point(s) possible*	**5 POINTS:** AA, A, A-special, AA-special, AA (T), A(T), A(TS), B, B(T), B(TS), SB, C(T), C(TS), GA (primary water supply aquifer)		**2 POINTS:** C, SC, I, D, SD, GSA, GSB	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some details but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals. The project is ready to move forward with construction.	**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay.	**0 POINTS:** Project has not secured any of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	

[139] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.

Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete WQIP contracts in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently demonstrated in the application its ability to complete this salt facility project based on similar capital projects within the past 10 years.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (EJ) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[140]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.

[140] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following actions: PE2: Government Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory; PE3: Fleet Efficiency Policy; PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[141]	**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain AND demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

[141] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

ROAD SALT REDUCTION SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Project Readiness or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Vision *40 to 2 points possible*	*Vision will be calculated by multiplying Performance Measures times Impact Factor. Performance Measures points and Impact Factor points will not be included in the total score, only the combined Vision points.*			
Performance Measures *10 to 2 points possible (as part of Vision score)*	**10 POINTS:** Project will implement three or more eligible road salt reduction practices. **And one of the following:** Project has an eligible Winter Road Maintenance Report[142] **OR** Has areas identified in the Adirondack Road Salt Task Force Report[143] within the "Pilot Categories and Location Candidate Recommendations" **OR** Is within the critical area of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted groundwater Drinking Water Source	**8 POINTS:** Project will implement three or more eligible road salt reduction practices. **OR** Project has an eligible Winter Road Maintenance Report[145] **OR** Has areas identified in the Adirondack Road Salt Task Force Report within the "Pilot Categories and Location Candidate Recommendations" **OR** is within the critical area of a DEC/DOH reviewed and accepted groundwater DWSP2 Plan **OR** Equipment will be implemented on public highway lanes that are less than 50 feet from a public or private groundwater drinking water source or a surface water used for a public system and is shown in required map attachment.	**6 POINTS:** Project will implement one or more types of eligible road salt reduction practice. **And one of the following:** Equipment will be implemented on public highway lanes that are less than 100 feet from a public or private groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public system and is shown in required map attachment. **OR** Equipment will be implemented on public highway miles that are less than 100 feet from waterbodies classified as trout (T) or trout spawning (TS) and is shown in required map attachment.	**2 POINTS:** Project will implement only one type of eligible road salt reduction practice. **OR** Equipment will be implemented on public highway lanes that are over 100 feet from a public or private groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public system.

[142] Winter Road Maintenance Reports can be completed through NPG program funding and approved by DEC, or compiled independently, but must meet the outline required elements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/npg24winterroad.pdf

[143] Adirondack Road Salt Task Force Report: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/adirondackroadsaltreport.pdf

[145] Winter Road Maintenance Reports can be completed through NPG program funding and approved by DEC, or compiled independently, but must meet the outline required elements: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/npg24winterroad.pdf

	Protection Program (DWSP2) Plan [144] **OR** Equipment will be implemented on public highway lanes that are less than 25 feet from a public or private groundwater drinking water source or surface water used for a public system and is shown in required map attachment.				
Impact Factor *4 to 1 point(s) possible (as part of Vision score)*	**4 POINTS:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices on more than 250 lane miles.	**3 POINTS:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices on 101-250 lane miles.		**2 POINTS:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices on 50-100 miles.	**1 POINT:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices on less than 50 lane miles.
Program Scale *5 to 1 point(s) possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices at a county scale.		**3 POINTS:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices in more than one municipality.		**1 POINT:** Project will implement road salt reduction practices in a single municipality.
Reasonable-ness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving road salt reduction and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving road salt reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving road salt reduction and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail and/or includes ineligible costs but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving road salt reduction.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving road salt reduction. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness	**10 POINTS:** Applicant has clearly defined implementation of proposed		**5 POINTS:** Applicant has clearly defined implementation of proposed road		**0 POINTS:**

[144] Applicants can visit https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/dwsp2/participating-dwsp2-communities for information about which municipalities have a complete DWSP2 plan.

10 to 0 points possible	road salt reduction practices **and** has already completed training requirement for road salt reduction practices.		salt reduction practices but has not yet completed training requirement for road salt reduction practices.		Proposal is unclear and is not ready to proceed to implementation. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete WQIP contracts in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently demonstrated in the application its ability to complete this road salt reduction project based on past experience implementing road salt reduction practices within the past 10 years.		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (EJ) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[146]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.

[146] See Attachment A for specific information the DEC has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located within or is directly serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).	**2 POINTS:** Project is located within or is directly serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[147]	**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** The municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Equipment will be stored outside of the 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Equipment will be stored within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Equipment will be stored within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

[147] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

DAM SAFETY REPAIR/REHABILITATION AND DAM REMOVAL

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[148] including Indian Nations
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations[149]

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available to improve dam safety through the repair and rehabilitation or removal of dams with a downstream hazard classification of Class C (High) and Class B (Intermediate) to promote climate change resilience.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DAM SAFETY REPAIR/REHABILITATION AND DAM REMOVAL APPLICATIONS

- The hazard classification assigned to the dam must be Class C – High Hazard or Class B – Intermediate Hazard.
- The applicant must have a current Annual Certification, in conformance with 6 NYCRR Part 673.8 on file with DEC (due by January 31st every year) and provide a copy with the application.
- The dam must be regulated by the NYS Dam Safety Program.
- The applicant must have a current Emergency Action Plan and provide a copy with the application.
- The applicant must own the dam site or provide a letter authorizing the applicant to do the work with the application.
- Projects must resolve a specific deficiency or deficiencies that are directly related to the assigned condition rating, the improvement of which meets Dam Safety criteria as identified in NYS DEC's Guidelines for Design of Dams[150] and other sound engineering principles.
- Applications are limited to one dam per application.

[148] For the purposes of Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof. In the case of aquatic habitat restoration projects, the term municipality shall include the state. (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[149] For this grant opportunity, a not-for-profit is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General.

[150] Guidelines for Design of Dams: dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/damguideli.pdf

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL DAM SAFETY APPLICATIONS

- Engineering report **prepared, stamped, signed, and dated** by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer[151]
    - Feasibility reports and engineering plans not accompanied by engineering reports do not fulfill the engineering report requirement.
    - Engineering reports must include at a minimum the following elements:
        - Project background and history/problem statement
        - Alternatives analysis with cost estimates (if applicable)
        - Summary and comparison of alternatives (if applicable)
        - Recommended alternative
- Current Annual Certification (for 2025 Calendar Year)
- Current Emergency Action Plan (reviewed in calendar year 2025 or more recent)
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[152]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[153]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[154]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[155]
- If the application is a not-for-profit and not the dam owner, a letter authorizing the applicant to do the work.
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

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[151] All plans, specifications and reports prepared by the professional engineer or by a full-time or part-time subordinate under their supervision, shall be signed and sealed when filed with public officials. Whatever the means of production, on all documents on which a seal is required, there shall be visible the required image, satisfying the provisions of Sections 7209, and Part 68.10 of the Regulations of the Commissioner, and which clearly and legibly shows both the professional engineer's name and license number. The documents are to be signed by the New York State licensed Professional Engineer whose name appears on the seal in such a manner that neither the name nor the number appearing on the seal is obscured in any way.
(New York State Education Law Article 145 §7209. Special Provisions)

[152] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf

[153] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf

[154] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf

[155] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application.
- FERC licensed hydroelectric dams and federally owned dams are not eligible.

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

- All primary and secondary priority projects may be funded before general dam repair projects.
- If a Population at Risk (PAR) was developed/calculated, a document with discussion and analysis of how it was developed/calculated must be attached to the application.
- If the dam has 1-foot of freeboard during the Spillway Design Flood (SDF) attach an engineering report or technical document prepared, signed, stamped and dated by a NYS-registered Professional Engineer demonstrating that at least 1-foot of freeboard between the SDF surface water elevation and top of dam is achieved
- If the inundation map in the Emergency Action Plan includes at least one of the following: hospital; nursing home; principal arterial interstate; K-12 school; critical railroad (intercity passenger, commuter, transit, inter-regional and inter-city freight lines (typically Class 1 or Class 2 freight lines)) or impoundment is a primary water supply, clearly define the applicable structure(s) noted above or water supply on the map and attach the map as a separate attachment.

Project subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Primary Priority				
Repair High Hazard Dam Projects or Removal of Class B/C Dams	Projects to remove a Class B/C dam or bring a high hazard dam into conformance with NYS Guidelines for Design of Dams Safety Criteria, that has an assigned condition rating of Unsafe or Unsound	$2,500,000	25% of award amount	Projects must resolve a specific deficiency or deficiencies that are directly related to the assigned condition rating, the improvement of which meets Dam Safety criteria as identified in DEC's Guidelines for Design of Dams, and other sound engineering principles;
Secondary Priorities				
Intermediate Hazard Dam Projects	Projects to bring an intermediate hazard dam into conformance with NYS Guidelines	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects must resolve a specific deficiency or deficiencies that are directly related to the assigned condition rating,

Project subtype	Description	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
	for Design of Dams Safety Criteria, that has an assigned condition rating of Unsafe or Unsound			the improvement of which meets Dam Safety criteria as identified in DEC's Guidelines for Design of Dams, and other sound engineering principles.
General Dam Safety Projects				
Other Dam Repair Projects for High and Intermediate Classified Dams	All other dam repair projects	$1,000,000	25% of award amount	Project **must** result in a safe impoundment structure for an existing dam, that meets Dam Safety criteria as identified in the DEC's Guidelines for Design of Dams, and other sound engineering principles

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Equipment
- Contractual costs (construction, equipment, supplies/materials)
    - Only the repair or rehabilitation/reconstruction of an existing dam and its appurtenant works that are performed in compliance with DEC's Guidelines for Design of Dams, Revised January 1989, and other sound engineering principles are eligible for funding.
    - For removal projects including structure removal, sediment removal, streambank stabilization, and other dam removal tasks.
- Construction inspection (on-site activities typically performed by a licensed professional engineer, e.g., inspection of methods and materials)
- Salary and fringe benefits
- Administrative costs directly related to implementing the project[156]
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

[156] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

Applications that include any of the following ineligible costs in the budget will receive a reduced score in the Reasonableness of Cost category.

- Costs that do not resolve a dam deficiency associated with a condition rating.
- Cost for parks, parking areas, landscaping not related to the dam or its appurtenant works, dredging, bathing areas, and other costs not related to dam safety.
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026).
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[157]
- Legal fees
- Indirect costs (e.g., space/property rent, utilities, office supplies, additional maintenance facilities, etc.).
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR DAM SAFETY APPLICATIONS

- NYS Guidelines for Design of Dams: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/damguideli.pdf
- DOW TOGS 3.1.3 -Emergency Action Plans: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/dow313eaps.pdf
- DOW TOGS 3.1.4 – Guidelines for Engineering Assessment Reports: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/damfengarpt.pdf
- DOW TOGS 3.1.5 – Dam Hazard Classification: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/togs315.pdf
- NYS Dam Safety Webpage: https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quantity/dam-safety-coastal-flood-protection/dam-safety

DAM SAFETY REPAIR/REHABILITATION AND DAM REMOVAL SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost or Project Readiness will not be funded.***	
Hazard Class of Dam	**10 POINTS:** Class C – High Hazard Dam	**0 POINTS:** Class B – Intermediate Hazard Dam

[157] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

10 points to 0 points					
Population at Risk (PAR) *10 points to 0 points*	**10 POINTS:** Greater than 1,001 people		**5 POINTS:** 1 – 1,000 people		**0 POINTS:** 0 people or no PAR document was provided with the application.
Condition Improvement Rating *10 points to 0 points*	**10 POINTS:** Unsafe or Unsound deficiency recognized (DEC assigned) that results in the improvement of a condition rating or dam removal with any unsound rating.		**5 POINTS:** Unsound – any other sub-rating (DEC assigned) that results in the improvement of a condition rating.		**0 POINTS:** Other rating or no rating.
Compliance Status (6 NYCRR Part 673.- .7 - Emergency Action Plan, .8 - Annual Certification, *.13 - Engineering Assessment)* *15 points to 0 points*	**15 POINTS:** Applicant is in compliance with all three (3) identified regulations.			**0 POINTS:** Applicant is NOT in compliance with all three (3) identified regulations.	
Possible Dam Failure Impact to Structures/ Facilities *5 Points to 0 points*	**5 POINTS:** Inundation map includes at least one of the following: hospital; nursing home; principal arterial interstate; K-12 school; critical railroad (intercity passenger, commuter, transit, inter-regional and inter-city freight lines (typically Class 1 or Class 2 freight lines)). **OR** The dam is a primary water supply impoundment. **OR** The project is for a dam removal.			**0 POINTS:** Inundation map does NOT include any of the following: hospital; nursing home; principal arterial interstate; K-12 school; critical railroad (intercity passenger, commuter, transit, inter-regional and inter-city freight) **OR** The dam is not a primary water supply impoundment.	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Cost is good as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Cost is reasonable as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving the project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***

Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits). The project is ready to move forward with construction.		**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but will be completed in the next 5 years.		**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within five years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** PEJA and/or DAC is within the dam failure inundation area. **OR** Dam failure would impact the drinking water supply of a PEJA and/or DAC			**0 POINTS:** PEJA and/or DAC is not within the dam failure inundation area. **OR** Dam failure would not impact the drinking water supply of a PEJA and/or DAC		
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[158]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following CSC actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan.[159]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Enhanced Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Dam will have at least 1-foot of freeboard under the Spillway Design Flood (SDF) as documented in an engineering report or technical document prepared, signed, stamped and dated by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer **OR** Project is a dam removal			**0 POINTS:** Project dam does not maintain at least 1-foot of freeboard under the Spillway Design Flood (SDF) and will not meet this criterion under the proposed project.		
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***					

[158] See Attachment A for specific information the DEC has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[159] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

AQUATIC CONNECTIVITY

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[160] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations[161]

PROJECT SUBTYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available for projects that improve aquatic habitat connectivity at road/stream crossings or dams and may promote flood risk reduction and enhanced flood and climate resiliency.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL AQUATIC CONNECTIVITY APPLICATIONS

- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[162]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[163]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[164]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[165]

[160] For the purposes of Aquatic Connectivity projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof. In the case of aquatic habitat restoration projects, the term municipality shall include the state. (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[161] For this grant opportunity, a not-for-profit is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General.

[162] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf

[163] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf

[164] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf

[165] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

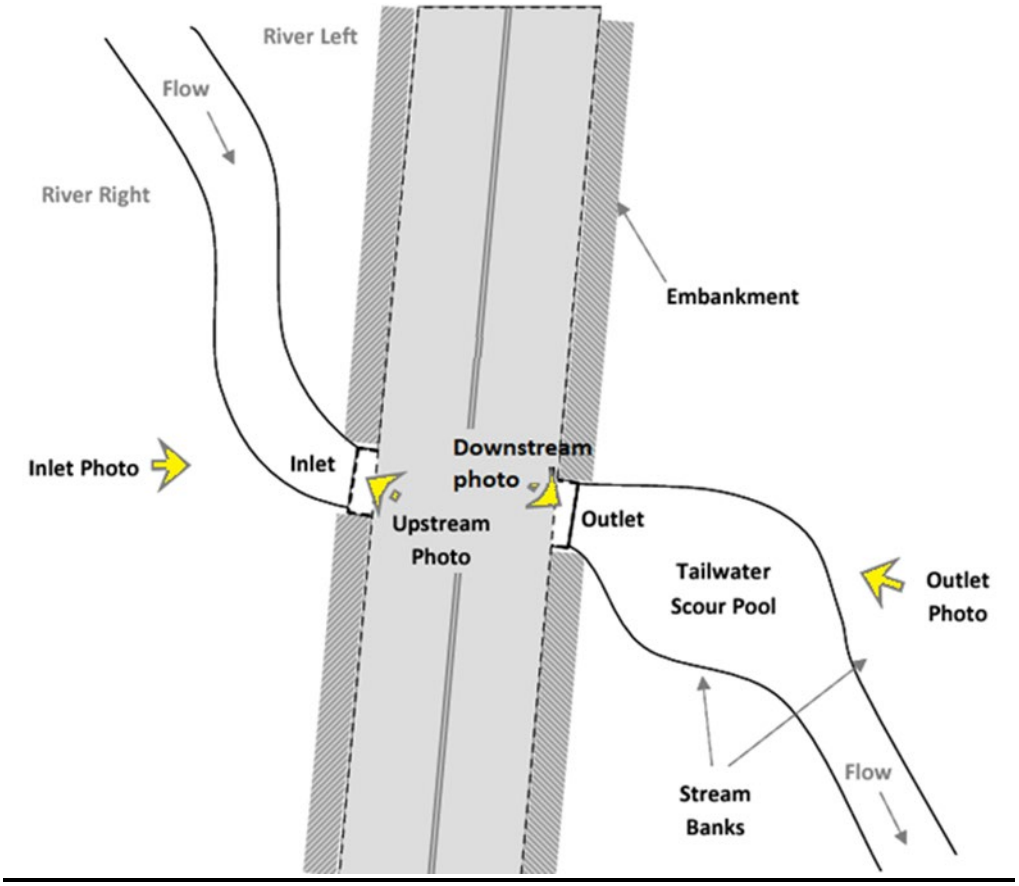
PROJECT SUBTYPES

- All projects will be identified as either “primary priority” or “secondary priority”
- DEC reserves the right to fund primary priority projects before considering secondary priority projects
- Single applications may include multiple project sites. When this occurs, the barrier score for each project site will be scored independently and then averaged together to yield a total application score.
- Culvert replacement projects must be designed, at a minimum, to meet DEC’s Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Technical Guidance for Bridge and Culvert Projects, as well as New York State Department of Transportation’s Highway Design Manual Chapter 8 for culverts. DEC reserves the right to refuse to fund projects that are determined to be inconsistent with design standards described in the above documents.

Project Subtype	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
Primary Priority			
Projects that improve aquatic habitat connectivity at road/stream crossings or dams and may promote flood risk reduction and enhanced flood and climate resiliency.	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects **must** focus on culverts, bridges or dams that are causing the aquatic connectivity obstructions as documented by one of the following additional required attachments: • North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC) assessment • picture(s) of proposed site(s) upstream, downstream, inlet and outlet (culverts), structure (dams). See Figure 1 (below) for diagram of appropriate photograph locations • a DEC-accepted culvert site assessment report or feasibility study Sample projects include but are not limited to: upgrade and replacement of road stream crossing structures (culverts and

Project Subtype	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
			bridges) to a larger size and appropriate design to increase ecological connectivity and hydraulic capacity; removal or breach of stream barriers such as dams or weirs that limit aquatic connectivity, or directly contribute to flooding, and meet the natural resource management goals for the area. Projects that do not meet resource management goals, including those that would have negative impact on native species, may not be funded.
Secondary Priority			
Projects where **poor infrastructure condition** may lead to loss of aquatic connectivity. Projects may additionally promote flood risk reduction and enhance flood and climate resiliency.	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects **must** focus on culverts or bridges. Sample projects include but are not limited to: replacement of failing infrastructure (culverts and bridges) with right-size and appropriate design to promote ecological connectivity and hydraulic capacity, and meet the natural resource management goals for the area. Projects that do not meet resource management goals, including those that would have negative impact on native species, may not be funded. Applications in this category will receive lower points for barrierity. **Additional required attachments:** • Photographs documenting poor condition. Examples of poor condition include such as, but are not limited to: Partial collapse; deterioration of structure/compromised structural integrity; deterioration of culvert invert; severe separation of

Project Subtype	Maximum Award	Required Match	Special Requirements
			joints or seams; voids or sinkholes; and • NAACC assessment; or • Picture(s) of proposed site(s) upstream, downstream, inlet and outlet (culverts), structure (dams). See Figure 1 (below) for diagram of appropriate photograph locations. Applications without this documentation (for secondary priority projects) will be deemed ineligible for Aquatic Connectivity funding. Further, applications with documentation that does not satisfactorily demonstrate poor infrastructure condition (for secondary priority projects) will be deemed ineligible.



Aquatic Connectivity Figure 1: Arrows indicate the appropriate location and angle from which inlet, outlet, upstream, and downstream photographs should be taken for culvert sites where a NAACC survey has not been completed.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe benefits
- Contractual costs
- Travel
- Equipment/materials
- Planning, design, administrative and construction oversight costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project.[166]
- Construction inspection
- Monitoring (may not exceed 20% of award amount)
- Reconstruction, revitalization, and rejuvenation activities[167]

[166] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.
[167] The terms reconstruction, revitalization, and rejuvenation refer to those activities necessary to reestablish stream channel dimensions, structure, and grade, and to revegetate streambanks in the vicinity of the road/stream crossing or dam.

- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Planning, design, administrative, and construction oversight costs greater than 20% of the award amount
- Monitoring costs greater than 20% of the award amount
- Indirect costs (e.g., space property rent, utilities, and other office supplies)
- Legal fees
  Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[168]
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

Connected Stream Miles: Describes the functional gain achieved by removing a barrier(s) to aquatic organism passage or by maintaining connectivity at the project site. Connected stream miles is calculated by totaling the linear distance of each stream segment, including tributaries, from the existing barrier(s) traveling upstream until the next impassable barrier.

Species of Management Concern: Identifies species that will benefit from aquatic organism passage at the project site. The total number of species may be derived from Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) (https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/biodiversity-species-conservation/state-wildlife-action-plan) and other aquatic species of management concern to DEC known to inhabit or utilize the project site's stream system.

Barriority: Describes the severity to which a structure creates a barrier to aquatic organism passage. It is derived from a protocol for calculating this value as part of the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Project (NAACC) found at https://streamcontinuity.org/naacc. When this methodology is not possible, professional judgement will be used to assess a structure that most closely replicates the categories used by NAACC. In such scenarios, the applicant should provide appropriate photographs of the inlet, outlet, upstream, and downstream, as shown in the diagram above (culverts) or of the structure, upstream, and downstream (dams).

[168] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

Barrierity	Aquatic Passability Score
Severe	0.19 or less
Significant	0.20 – 0.39
Moderate	0.40 – 0.59
Minor	0.60 – 0.79
Insignificant	0.80 – 0.99
No barrier	1.0

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR AQUATIC CONNECTIVITY APPLICATIONS

- Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Technical Guidance for Bridge and Culvert Projects: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-04/gs2401.pdf
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN): https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/biodiversity-species-conservation/state-wildlife-action-plan
- North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative (NAACC): https://streamcontinuity.org/naacc

AQUATIC CONNECTIVITY SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Barrierity[169] *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Significant or severe	**20 POINTS:** Moderate	**10 POINTS:** Minor OR Replacement of failing stream crossing structure	**0 POINTS:** Insignificant or no barrier
Connected Stream Miles[170] *15 to 0 points possible*	**15 POINTS:** 3 or more miles	**10 POINTS:** 2 to 2.9 miles	**8 POINTS:** 1 to 1.9 miles	**5 POINTS:** Less than 1 mile

[169] Barrierity: See explanation above of this matrix.
[170] Species Miles: See explanation above of this matrix.

Species of Management Concern[171] *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Species of management concern will benefit from aquatic organism passage at the project site.			**0 POINTS:** No identified species of management concern that will benefit from aquatic organism passage at the project site.	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Cost is good as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Cost is reasonable as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals. The project is ready to move forward with construction.		**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay.		**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded aquatic connectivity restoration projects in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has successfully completed right-sized culvert projects in the past 10 years (must attach pictures demonstrating completed project).		**3 POINTS:** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to aquatic connectivity in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the program. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves aquatic habitat **and** is within a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves aquatic habitat **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve aquatic habitat within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve aquatic habitat **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed of a PEJA or DAC area.

[171] Species of Management Concern: See explanation above this matrix.

Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[172]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 - 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 - 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 - 40%.	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 - 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following CSC actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan, PE7: Watershed Plan for Water Quality.[173]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**3 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain.		**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.	
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***					

[172] See Attachment A for specific information DEC has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[173] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

MARINE DISTRICT HABITAT RESTORATION

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[174] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations[175]

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Projects that improve the ecological condition of waters within the marine district[176] with the intent to support a spawning, nursery, wintering, migratory, nesting, breeding, or foraging environment for fish and wildlife, and other biota.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL MARINE DISTRICT HABITAT APPLICATIONS

- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[177]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps. If the project is in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[178]
- Completed signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[179]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[180]

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[174] For the purposes of Marine District Habitat Restoration projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof. In the case of marine district habitat restoration projects, the term municipality shall include the state. (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[175] For this grant opportunity, a NFP is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General.

[176] New York's Marine District Waters: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/recreational-marine-fishing-registry

[177] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf

[178] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf

[179] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf

[180] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

- Feasibility study for the project that includes Marine District Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study Outline required elements[181]
- Landowner agreements[182] (if property not owned by applicant)
- Pictures of successful marine district project(s) if the applicant has successfully completed marine district habitat restoration projects in the past 10 years (if applicable)

- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
Projects for habitat restoration within the marine district[183]	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects **must** improve the ecological condition of the waters within the marine district including tidal wetlands, bays, sounds, tidal streams or rivers, and shorelines with the intent to support a spawning, nursery, wintering, migratory, nesting, breeding, or foraging environment for fish and wildlife, and other biota. Sample projects, include, but are not limited to: • Restoration or management of tidal wetlands • Creation or restoration of submerged aquatic vegetation • Replacement of traditional hardened shoreline structures (i.e., bulkheads, revetments) with natural and nature-based features such as living shorelines. • Projects that address erosion and increase coastal resiliency on natural shorelines using natural and nature-based features.

[181] Marine District Habitat Restoration Feasibility Study Outline: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipmarinefeasibility24.pdf

[182] If the property owner is a municipality: a resolution by the municipality supporting the project; If the property is not owned by the applicant: a formal written agreement between the applicant and the landowner that allows the applicant access to the property, represent the landowner, and accomplish the proposed project; If the applicant is a not-for-profit proposing a project on municipal property: a signed municipal endorsement that provides authorization for the not-for-profit to conduct the proposed project on municipal property.

[183] New York's Marine District Waters: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/recreational-marine-fishing-registry

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
			• Restoration or enhancement of shellfish and shellfish beds • Removal of tidal restrictions (i.e., berms, culverts) to reconnect formerly functioning wetlands • Restoration of fish passage in tidal steams and rivers through barrier removal or modification (i.e., dam removal, culvert resizing, installation of a fish ladder).

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe benefits
- Contractual costs
- Travel
- Equipment
- Planning, design, administrative, monitoring, and construction oversight costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project[184]
- Construction inspection
- Reconstruction**,** Revitalization, and Rejuvenation activities[185]
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Indirect costs (e.g., space property rent, utilities, and other office supplies)
- Legal fees
- Projects with planning, design, administrative, and construction oversight costs in excess of 20% of the award amount may be deemed ineligible.

[184] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.
[185] The terms reconstruction, revitalization, and rejuvenation refer to those activities necessary to restore and/or improve the ecosystem processes or functions of the associated marine habitat.

- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[186]
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR MARINE HABITAT APPLICATIONS

- Marine District Habitat Feasibility Study Outline: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/wqipmarinefeasibility24.pdf
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN): https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/biodiversity-species-conservation/state-wildlife-action-plan
- New York's Marine District Waters: https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/permits-licenses/sporting-and-use/sporting/recreational-marine-fishing-registry
- NYSDOS Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat Mapper: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?layers=bfd454f77fbe4598bb04adea2563acd9
- Natural Resource Management Plans
    - NY/NJ Harbor Estuary Program Action Agenda https://www.hudsonriver.org/NYNJHEPActionAgenda.pdf
    - South Shore Estuary Reserve Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP): https://dos.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/09/2022-sser-cmp.pdf
    - Peconic Estuary Partnership CCMP: https://www.peconicestuary.org/ccmp2020/
    - Long Island Sound Study CCMP: https://lispartnership.org/2025/06/2025-comprehensive-conservation-and-management-plan-ccmp/
    - Hudson River Estuary Action Agenda: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/hudsonestuaryactionagenda_.pdf
    - New York Ocean Action Plan: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/nyoceanactionplan.pdf
    - New York State Ocean Acidification Task Force Final Report: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-01/ocean-acidification-task-force-report.pdf

[186] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

MARINE DISTRICT HABITAT RESTORATION SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Incorporation of Conservation Priorities and Concerns *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project addresses one or more marine habitat restoration actions or objectives identified in a Federal or State natural resources management plan. Applicant must identify the specific management plan(s) and actions(s) and/or objective(s) that are being addressed.	**0 POINTS:** Project does not address habitat restoration actions or objectives identified in a Federal or State natural resources management plan.		
Project Impact – Habitat Values for At-Risk Species *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 Points** Project improves (or could improve) habitat for an endangered or threatened species or high priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) **OR** Project benefits a designated NYS Dept. of State Significant Coastal Fish and Wildlife Habitat	**5 Points** Project improves habitat for a SGCN or other Federal Trust Species	**0 Points** Project does not improve habitat or benefit any species or resources of priority.	
Project Impact – Current Condition *9 to 0 points possible*	**9 points** Highly degraded or expected to become highly degraded without immediate management action.	**4 points** Moderately degraded – some primary habitat functions are impaired.	**2 points** Functional, some stressors or threats are present but do not currently alter habitat functions.	**0 points** Pristine, no impairments present.
Project Impact – Probability of Net Positive Outcome *8 to 0 points possible*	**8 Points** Project has a high probability of positive outcome (sound, scientifically supported approach and methods **AND** no foreseeable negative impacts).	**4 Points** Project has a moderately high probability of positive outcome (previously successful approach and methods **AND** negative impacts are adequately avoided, minimized, or mitigated).	**2 Points** Project has a moderate probability of positive outcome (experimental or unproven approach and methods, negative impacts are not adequately addressed or are unavoidable, but do not outweigh positive potential).	**0 Points** Project is unlikely to achieve positive outcome (negative impacts outweigh any potential benefits).
Project Impact – Project Benefit Duration *8 to 0 points possible*	**8 Points** Project benefits are expected to persist for more than 20 years after project completion without additional management inputs. Project must consider future climate risks such as sea level rise. **OR**	**4 Points** Project benefits are expected to persist for 10-20 years after project completion without additional management inputs.	**0 Points** Project benefits are expected to persist for less than 10 years without additional management inputs.	

	There is a long-term maintenance plan with dedicated (non-grant) resources/funding in place that will maximize benefits over the duration of 20 or more years.				
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities	**15 POINTS:** Cost is good as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Cost is reasonable as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals. The project is ready to move forward with construction.	**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay	**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***		
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor working with the applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded marine district habitat restoration projects in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant or third-party contractor working with the applicant has successfully completed marine district habitat restoration projects in the past 10 years (must attach pictures demonstrating completed project).	**3 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor working with the applicant has not been awarded a state grant related habitat restoration in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor has demonstrated poor management of WQIP or habitat restoration contract(s) in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant or third-party contractor has not been awarded a WQIP grant or habitat restoration contract (s) in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the program. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***		

Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves habitat **and** is within a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves habitat **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve habitat within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve habitat **and** within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[187]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%.	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan.[188]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.				**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.	
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***					

[187] See Attachment A for specific information the DEC has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[188] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities,[189] including Indian Nations
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations[190]

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding is available for projects that will, as their primary goal, restore and/or enhance impaired, degraded, or marginal fish and wildlife habitat by directly addressing one or more factors that are compromising the habitat's value and function to serve as a high-quality spawning, nursery, wintering, migratory, nesting, breeding, or foraging environment for one or more species of fish or wildlife of conservation concern or interest.

Funding in this category will be directed to two project subtypes: 1) wetland restoration and enhancement and 2) riparian corridor restoration and enhancement. If the primary goal of a project is to filter nutrients and sediment, prevent streambank/shoreline erosion, or reduce thermal impacts to waterbodies, the project should apply in the non-agricultural nonpoint source abatement and control category.

Single applications may include multiple project sites. When this occurs, each project site will be scored independently and then averaged together to yield a total application score.

Please note that while the scoring criteria award more points to projects that are closer to starting construction or implementation, a project with less progress is not disqualified from applying. Applicants are still encouraged to submit applications for their projects in this project type, as they can make up for the loss in the project readiness score in points from other criteria. However, a project can still be deemed ineligible if it has not received any of its required approvals or has not demonstrated adequate preparation to move forward with further planning or construction of the project (e.g., if the project cannot meet DEC or federal permit issuance standards).

[189] For the purposes of Fish and Wildlife Habitation projects under this grant opportunity, “Municipality” means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof. In the case of aquatic habitat restoration projects, the term municipality shall include the state. (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).

[190] For this grant opportunity, a NFP is subject to New York State’s Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL FISH AND WILDLIFE APPLICATIONS

- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[191]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[192]
- Completed signed, and dated (on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form [193]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[194]
- All required attachments are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application
- Projects that do not improve aquatic habitat function, increase species abundance for endangered or threatened species, or protect species of greatest conservation need or species of conservation need
- Projects that have a negative effect on native fish and wildlife populations

PROJECT SUBTYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
Wetland Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects must improve the ecological habitat condition of current and/or historic wetlands of the state, including marshes, swamps, bogs, fens, and other wetland types, with the intent to support fish and wildlife, and other biota.

[191] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf
[192] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[193] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf
[194] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
			Projects may involve activities such as: • Removal of historic fill; • Revegetation of degraded wetland habitats and buffers; • Restoration of wetland hydrology through the removal of tiles, ditching, other drainage or diversion structures, or other constrictions or conditions that impact, impair, or influence surface or subsurface water movement; • Control and management of invasive or native plant species and replanting with native species (Refer to the Native Plant Priority List[195]) • Enhancement of wetland habitat functions and values. • Reestablishment or enhancement of benthic/littoral zone topography to create shallow-water vegetated habitats (e.g., SAV beds); or • Other similar management actions.
Riparian Corridor Habitat Restoration and Enhancement	$2,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects must improve the ecological habitat condition of the riparian corridors of the state including stream and river channels (bed and banks) and the associated riparian buffer and/or floodplain and/or adjoining upland habitats serving complementary riparian function with the intent to support fish and wildlife, and other biota. Projects may involve activities such as:

[195] Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
			• Installation of in-stream/in-channel habitat structures, features, and improvements using natural channel design principles including rock or wooden deflectors, cribbing, lunkers, rock vanes, rock piles, boulders, engineered log jams, gravel bars, step pools, etc. • Restoration or enhancement of natural channel sinuosity • Installation of fish passage structures • Restoration or enhancement of riparian buffers and/or floodplains and/or adjoining upland habitats serving complementary riparian function through planting or other means of revegetation to provide shading, thermal protection, overhead cover, terrestrial habitat connectivity, etc. • Other similar management actions.

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Salary and fringe benefits
- Contractual costs
- Travel
- Equipment/materials
- Planning, design, administrative and construction oversight costs (total may not exceed 20% of award amount). Administrative costs must be directly related to implementing the project.[196]
- Construction inspection (on-site activities typically performed by a licensed professional engineer, e.g., inspection of methods and materials)

[196] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

- Reconstruction, revitalization, and rejuvenation activities[197]
- Restoration[198] and enhancement[199] activities
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the WQIP Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Construction oversight (e.g., monitoring the schedule and budget, contract performance, and quality control)
- Non-construction costs incurred during the construction phase of the project.
- Land acquisition
- Indirect costs (e.g., space property rent, utilities, and other office supplies)
- Legal fees
- Pre- and post-construction monitoring and sampling
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[200]
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT APPLICATIONS

- Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) Mapper: https://gisservices.dec.ny.gov/eafmapper/
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN): https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/biodiversity-species-conservation/state-wildlife-action-plan
- North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Project (NAACC): https://streamcontinuity.org/naacc

[197] Activities necessary to reestablish stream channel dimensions, structure, and grade, and to revegetate streambanks in the vicinity of the road/stream crossing or dam, or creating or adding herbaceous, non-forested, vegetated buffers that are not managed via agriculture at stream banks.
[198] Activities that transform significantly functionally impaired wetlands or riparian corridors into improved or functioning water bodies that help with WQIP objectives such as flood resilience, water quality, erosion mitigation, and stormwater control, as well as habitats for threatened or at-risk species.
[199] Activities that improve wetland or riparian corridor function, aesthetic value, biodiversity or species richness, habitat value for threatened or at-risk species, stream classification, initial conditions of wetland or streams, or other similar improvements.
[200] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

- EPA – Wetland Restoration, Creation, and Enhancement: Introduction and User's Guide: Document Display | NEPIS | US EPA - Wetland Restoration, Creation, and Enhancement: Introduction and User's Guide
- Riparian Corridor: BLM – Riparian Restoration: https://www.blm.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Library_BLMTechnicalReference1737-22.pdf
- Native Plant Priority List: https://dec.ny.gov/nature/animals-fish-plants/plants/native-plant-priority-list

FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***			
Incorporation of Conservation Priorities and Concerns *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project addresses a goal or priority identified in an existing species conservation plan, habitat conservation plan, land management plan, watershed plan, or similar document.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not address a goal or priority identified in an existing species conservation plan, habitat conservation plan, land management plan, watershed plan, or similar document.	
Relationship to Aquatic Connectivity Project *2 to 0 points possible*	**2 POINTS:** Project is directly associated with a recently completed or approved aquatic connectivity project.		**0 POINTS:** Project has no direct association with an aquatic connectivity project.	
Number of Sites *2 to 0 points possible*	**2 POINTS:** Project involves more than one (1) site within a single HUC 10 watershed. **OR** Project involves more than one (1) site with complementary ecological function/value.		**0 POINTS:** Project involves only one (1) site.	
Project Impact – Habitat Value for At-Risk Species *8 to 0 points possible*	**8 POINTS:** Project improves (or could improve) habitat for an endangered or threatened species or high priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). **OR**	**4 POINTS:** Project improves (or could improve) habitat for an SGCN or Species of Conservation Need (SCN). **OR** Project benefits one significant natural community.	**2 POINTS:** Project improves (or could improve) habitat for a unique or noteworthy assemblage of common native or naturalized species. **OR** Project benefits species that are	**0 POINTS:** Project does not benefit any species or resources of priority.

	Project benefits two or more significant natural communities.		essential to outdoor recreation in NY.	
Project Impact – Size *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project affects more than 50 acres of rural landscapes **OR** over 10 acres of suburban landscapes **OR** over 5 acres of urban landscapes. **OR** Project affects more than 2,000 linear feet.	**3 POINTS:** Project affects 20 to 50 acres of rural landscapes **OR** 4 to 10 acres of suburban landscapes **OR** 2 to 5 acres of urban landscapes. **OR** Project affects 1,500 to 2,000 linear feet.	**2 POINTS:** Project affects 10 to 20 acres of rural landscapes **OR** 2 to 4 acres of suburban landscapes **OR** 1 to 2 acres of urban landscapes. **OR** Project affects 1,001 to 1,500 linear feet.	**0 POINTS:** Project affects less than 10 acres of rural landscapes **OR** less than 4 acres of suburban landscapes **OR** less than 1 acre of urban landscapes. **OR** Project affects less than 1,000 linear feet.
Project Impact – Current Condition *7 to 0 points possible*	**7 POINTS:** Highly degraded or expected to become highly degraded without immediate management action.	**4 POINTS:** Moderately degraded - some primary habitat functions are impaired.	**2 POINTS:** Functional, some stressors or threats are present but do not currently alter habitat functions.	**0 POINTS:** Pristine, no impairments present.
Project Impact – Probability of Net Positive Outcome *8 to 0 points possible*	**8 POINTS:** Project has a high probability of positive outcome (sound, scientifically supported approach and methods **AND** no foreseeable negative impacts).	**4 POINTS:** Project has a moderately high probability of positive outcome (previously successful approach and methods) **AND** negative impacts are adequately avoided, minimized, or mitigated).	**2 POINTS:** Project has a moderate probability of positive outcome (experimental or unproven approach and methods, negative impacts are not adequately addressed or are unavoidable, but do not outweigh positive potential).	**0 POINTS:** Project is unlikely to achieve positive outcome (negative impacts outweigh any potential benefits).
Project Impact – Project Benefit Duration *8 to 0 points possible*	**8 POINTS:** Project benefits are expected to persist for more than 30 years after project completion without additional management inputs. **OR** There is a long-term maintenance plan with	**4 POINTS:** Project benefits are expected to persist for 20 to 30 years without additional management inputs.		**0 POINTS:** Project benefits are expected to persist for less than 20 years without additional management inputs. ***Applicants that fall into this category may not be***

	dedicated (non-grant) resources/funding in place that will maximize benefits over the duration of 30 or more years.				***funded due to probable life requirements associated with the 2022 Environmental Bond Act.***
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving wildlife conservation and habitat revitalization and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Good value for the cost as it applies to both achieving wildlife conservation and habitat revitalization and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Reasonable value for the cost as it applies to both achieving wildlife conservation and habitat revitalization and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to wildlife conservation and habitat revitalization.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving wildlife conservation and habitat revitalization. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits) and approvals. The project is ready to move forward with construction.		**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to lead to construction without delay.		**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within 5 years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor working on behalf the applicant has shown the ability to complete state-funded habitat restoration and enhancement projects in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant or third-party contractor working on behalf of the applicant completed a habitat restoration projects in the past 10 years (must attach pictures demonstrating the completed project).		**3 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor working on behalf of the applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to habitat restoration or enhancement in the past 10 years but appears to have the project management experience and ability to carry out the program.		**0 POINTS:** Applicant or third-party contractor working on behalf of the applicant has demonstrated poor management of WQIP contract(s) or other habitat restoration contracts in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant or third-party contractor working on behalf of the applicant has not been awarded a habitat restoration grant or a WQIP grant in the past 10 years and does not appear to have the project management experience and ability to carry out the program.

					Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.	
Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves habitat **and** is within a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves habitat **and** is within the same HUC 10 watershed as a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve habitat within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve habitat within the same HUC 10 watershed as a PEJA or DAC.	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.[201]	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following CSC actions: PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan.[202]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR** the municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.	
Flood Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.				**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.	
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***					

[201] See Attachment A for specific information the DEC has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[202] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions

LANDFILL LEACHATE TREATMENT

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Municipalities with permitted active municipal solid waste landfills or active construction and demolition debris landfills with leachate collection systems[203]

PROJECT TYPE DESCRIPTION

Funding[204] is available for projects to treat landfill leachate for contaminants, including but not limited to polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), at municipally-owned active municipal solid waste landfills or active construction and demolition debris landfills with leachate collection systems.

PROJECT AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Leachate treatment technologies must be located at the generating landfill, another landfill or an alternate location, excluding those located at a water resource recovery facility. Concentrated residual waste resulting from treatment is required to be properly disposed. Plan for disposal must be included in the engineering report.
- Treatment technologies are required to be installed prior to delivery of treated leachate to a water resources recovery facility or other authorized discharge location.
- The location for leachate treatment must be identified in the application and project map.
- The selected treatment method must be reviewed and approved by DEC prior to application.
- The selected treatment method must treat specific contaminants found in the landfill's leachate and be verified using appropriate parameter specific methods as identified in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 136, if applicable.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS FOR ALL LANDFILL LEACHATE TREATMENT APPLICATIONS

- Engineering report **prepared, stamped, signed, and dated** by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. Feasibility reports and engineering plans not accompanied by engineering reports do not fulfill the engineering report requirement. DEC requires

[203] For the purposes of Landfill Leachate Treatment projects under this grant opportunity, "Municipality" means a local public authority or public benefit corporation, a county, city, town, village, school district, supervisory district, district corporation, improvement district within a county, city, town or village, or Indian nation or tribe recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York State, or any combination thereof (Environmental Conservation Law §56-0101).
[204] Funding for this project type is contingent on Clean Water Infrastructure Act (CWIA) allocations.

engineering reports follow the Engineering Report Outline for New York State Landfill Leachate Projects[205] (see resources list below).
- Completed WQIP Budget Worksheet[206]
- Project map uploaded as a separate file. Project maps cannot be imbedded within another attachment. Map must be a 1:24,000 scale USGS or DOT planimetric map, or equivalent to such maps.
- If the project is wholly or partially in a floodplain, attach the applicable floodplain map with the location of the project indicated. Floodplain maps cannot be imbedded within another required attachment. Refer to the Flood Resiliency Requirements of this RFA.
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form[207]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form[208]
- Completed, signed, and dated (must be dated on or after May 18, 2026) Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form[209]
- All required attachments must be complete and are due at the time of application through the CFA. Attachments will not be accepted after the application deadline or outside of the CFA.

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES/APPLICATIONS

- Applications that do not include required attachments with the application
- Applications for non-municipally owned landfills
- Applications for planning, design, or to create a study

[205] Engineering Report Outline for NYS Landfill Leachate Projects: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program#Resources
[206] WQIP Budget Worksheet: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-05/wqipbudget.pdf
[207] Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/wqipshcert.pdf
[208] Executive Order No. 16 Certification Form: https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/administration_pdf/eo16certification.pdf
[209] Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification Form: https://dec.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/attachg_genderbasedviolenceform.pdf

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Description	Maximum award	Required match	Special Requirements
Projects to add or upgrade treatment of landfill leachate at permitted active municipal solid waste landfills or active construction and demolition debris landfills with leachate collection systems	$10,000,000	25% of award amount	Projects **must** treat and remove contaminants from landfill leachate generated at municipally-owned active municipal solid waste landfills or active construction and demolition debris landfills. Projects **must** be prepared, stamped, and signed designed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer. **Additional required attachments:** • Engineering report that follows the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation/DEC Engineering Report Outline for New York State Wastewater Infrastructure Projects[210]

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Equipment
- Contractual costs (construction, equipment, supplies/materials)
- Salary and fringe benefits
- Construction inspection (on-site activities typically performed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer, e.g., inspection of methods and materials). Total may not exceed 10% of award amount.
- Administrative costs directly related to implementing the project[211]
- Reasonable contingency costs may be included in the budget estimate for the eligible costs listed above and must specify which eligible cost to which the contingency is attributed. Contingency costs cannot be listed as a separate line item in the Budget Worksheet.

INELIGIBLE COSTS

- Planning, design, specification, and engineering costs

[210]Engineering Report Outline for New York State Landfill Leachate Projects can be found online under Landfill Leachate Treatment Application Attachments and Resources: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program#Resources

[211] The following are examples of **eligible administrative costs**: Procuring sub-contractors and materials needed to implement the project; contacting municipalities to schedule projects; and reviewing and paying invoices for materials and sub-contractors associated with the project.

- Construction oversight (e.g., resident inspection, monitoring the schedule and budget, contract performance and quality control)
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget
- Non-construction costs incurred during the construction phase, including traffic control
- Indirect costs (e.g., travel, space/property rent, utilities, office supplies)
- Administrative costs not directly related to implementing the project[212]
- Legal fees
- Pre- and post-construction monitoring and sampling
- Costs incurred outside the start and end date of the contract (no earlier than June 1, 2026)
- Contingency costs listed as a line item in the budget or contingency costs not specifically attributed to an eligible cost in the budget

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES LANDFILL LEACHATE TREATMENT APPLICATIONS

- Engineering Report Outline for New York State Landfill Leachate Projects can be found online under Landfill Leachate Treatment Application Attachments and Resources: https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/wqip-program#Resources

LANDFILL LEACHATE TREATMENT SCORING CRITERIA

Agency Points	***Up to 115 points are available, as defined below. Applications must receive a minimum of 40 points to be eligible for funding. Applications that receive 0 points for Reasonableness of Cost, Project Readiness, or Experience and Ability will not be funded.***		
Performance Measures *40 to 10 points possible*			
Volume of Leachate Treated/Year	**40 POINTS** More than 5,000,000 gallons/year	**20 POINTS** 2,000,000-5,000,000 gallons/year	**10 POINTS** Less than 2,000,000 gallons/year

[212] The following are examples of **ineligible administrative costs**: preparing, completing, submitting the WQIP application for funding; preparing, completing, submitting information and documents needed to get a contract in place; preparing, completing, submitting information for progress reporting, payment requests and contract amendments; preparing, completing, and submitting environmental regulatory approvals/permits needed to implement the project.

Impacted Waterbody Classification Points *5 to 2 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** AA, A, A-special, AA-special, AA (T), A(T), A(TS), B, B(T), B(TS), SA, SB, C(T), C(TS), GA (primary water supply aquifer)			**2 POINTS:** C, SC, I, D, SD, GSA, GSB	
Reasonableness of Cost *25 to 0 points possible*	**25 POINTS:** Exceptional value for the cost as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project. WQIP budget includes no ineligible activities.	**15 POINTS:** Cost is good as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**10 POINTS:** Cost is reasonable as it applies to both achieving the project objectives and being a fiscally sound project.	**5 POINTS:** Budget is missing some detail but provides reasonable value for the cost as it applies to achieving project objectives.	**0 POINTS:** Budget is not completed and/or costs are not justified and/or project costs do not provide a reasonable value as it applies to achieving project objectives. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***
Project Readiness *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project has all necessary permits (or does not need permits). The project is ready to move forward with construction.	**5 POINTS:** Project is not ready to proceed with construction but has some of the necessary approvals and is expected to begin construction within two years.	**2 POINTS:** Project is expected to be completed within five years.	**0 POINTS:** Project has none of the necessary approvals and is not expected to be completed within five years. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***	
Experience and Ability *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete wastewater treatment projects in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has sufficiently shown its ability to complete this landfill leachate project based upon experience with capital projects.	**3 POINTS:** Applicant has shown the ability to complete a state-funded water quality project that was not related to wastewater treatment in the past 10 years in a timely manner. **OR** Applicant has not been awarded a state grant related to water quality in the past 10 years but appears to have the experience and ability to carry out the project.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant has demonstrated poor management of past state contracts in the past 10 years. **OR** Applicant does not appear to have the experience and ability to carry out the project. ***Applications that fall into this category will not be funded.***		

Potential Environmental Justice Area (PEJA) and Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Benefits *10 to 0 points possible*	**10 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is within the HUC 10 watershed **and** upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC.		**5 POINTS:** Project improves water quality **and** is within the HUC 10 watershed and upstream of a PEJA or DAC.		**0 POINTS:** Project does not improve water quality within a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a drinking water source that will protect the drinking water quality serving a PEJA or DAC. **OR** Project does not improve water quality **and** is not within the HUC 10 watershed **and** not upstream of a PEJA or DAC .	
Disadvantaged Communities (DAC)[213] **(includes financial hardship)** *10 to 0 points possible* See Attachment A.	**10 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 81 – 100%.	**8 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 61 – 80%.	**6 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 41 – 60%.	**4 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 20 – 40%	**2 POINTS:** Applicant is a municipality with a DAC population of 1 – 19%.	**0 POINTS:** Applicant is not a municipality with a DAC population.
Climate Resilience *5 to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a certified bronze or silver Climate Smart Community (CSC).		**2 POINTS:** Project is located in or serving a municipality that is a registered CSC and has completed one or more of the following actions:; PE7: Climate Vulnerability Assessment; PE7: Watershed-based Flood Mitigation Plan; PE10: Greenhouse Gas Tracking System.[214]		**0 POINTS:** Project is not identified in a POTW capital improvement plan **OR** Project is not located in or serving a bronze or silver certified CSC **OR**	

[213] See Attachment A for specific information the Department has compiled, and is providing, for applicants to identify the percent of DAC populations within NYS municipalities. Additional information on the population and environmental characteristics of DAC areas can be found here: https://climate.ny.gov/Resources/Disadvantaged-Communities-Criteria

[214] Descriptions for Climate Smart Community actions can be found at https://climatesmart.ny.gov/actions-certification/actions.

			municipality has not completed any of the identified CSC actions.
Flood Resilience 5 *to 0 points possible*	**5 POINTS:** Project is outside a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain. **OR** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain **AND** demonstrates flood resilience that is consistent with the State Flood Risk Management Guidance for Implementation of the Community Risk and Resiliency Act.		**0 POINTS:** Project is within a 0.2% or 1% annual chance of occurrence floodplain and does not demonstrate flood resilience.
Total Maximum Points	***115 points***		

GRANT OPPORTUNITY GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO:

- Award additional and available funding for scored and ranked projects consistent with this grant opportunity.
- Award geographically specific or project specific funding for scored and ranked projects consistent with this grant opportunity.
- Award an agreement for any or all parts of the Program Overview in accordance with the method of award or withdraw the Program Overview at any time at the DEC's sole discretion.
- Evaluate an application under a different project type than what the applicant selected, provided that eligibility criteria for the new project type are met.
- Award only one application for funding in the event there are multiple application submissions for a single project or for pieces of a single project.
- Award to the next highest scoring application in the event a grantee fails to negotiate a grant contract with the Department within 120 days of email notification of contracting next steps.
- Consider regional distribution in the determination of awards and funding allocations, to the extent practicable.
- Monitor the progress of all grant awards and withdraw grant funding if the grantee fails to make significant and timely progress on the project or fails to receive the necessary permissions and permits for the project.
- Refuse to fund projects that are determined to be inconsistent with NYS's Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act.
- Refuse to fund projects that are determined to be inconsistent with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act or its implementing regulations.[215]
- Reject any or all applications in response to the Program Overview at the agency's sole discretion.
- Reduce an award from the amount requested in the application, should the project budget contain costs considered ineligible under this grant program.
- Reduce an award from the amount requested in the application, as long as the reduced funding does not jeopardize the viability of the project to proceed at the reduced funding level.
- Deny a change in workplan tasks from the application project description because of fairness to competitive process.
- Requests for scope of work changes will be reviewed on a case by case basis and approved if they are consistent with the competitive process. Requests will only be accepted within 12 months of the contract execution date; requests after this date will be denied.

[215] The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act is in Chapter 106 of the laws of 2019.

- Reject any or all applications where the scope of work is the same as or partially overlaps with a project awarded in a previous grant round.
- Accept Regional Economic Development Council feedback and, if possible/practicable, use this feedback in the review of projects.
- Limit all or some funding for a project in the final scored ranked list if the same activities have been awarded funding by another funding source.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION

PRE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must register in the NYS State Financial System (SFS) to be considered eligible to accept this grant opportunity https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/. The applicant name must exactly match the name of the eligible entity registered in SFS. It may not be the name of an individual.

TIE BREAKER

In case of a scoring tie, DEC will look at individual scoring categories or project subtypes to determine the order of projects on the award list. The tie breaker will be determined in the following order by category:

Wastewater Treatment: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, classification points, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Nonpoint Source Projects and Vacuum Trucks: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, impact factor, waterbody assessment, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Nonpoint Source Programs: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, impact factor, program scale, program readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, source water prioritization, riparian buffer, project or program readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Salt Storage: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, impact factor, classification points, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Road Salt Reduction: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, impact factor, program scale, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Dam Safety Repair/Rehabilitation and Dam Removal: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, hazard class, condition improvement rating, population at risk, possible dam failure impact, compliance status, reasonableness of cost, project readiness, climate resilience, enhanced flood resilience.

Aquatic Connectivity: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, barrierity, connected stream miles, species of management concern, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Marine Habitat Restoration: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, project impact total (sum of project impact – habitat values, project impact – total current condition, project impact – probability of net positive outcome, project impact – benefit duration), incorporation of conservation priorities and concerns, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, project impact total (project impact total (sum of project impact – habitat values, project impact – total current condition, project impact – probability of net positive outcome, project impact – benefit duration), incorporation of conservation priorities and concerns, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, flood resilience, experience and ability, number of sites, relationship to aquatic connectivity project.

Landfill Leachate Treatment: disadvantaged communities, EJ/DAC score, performance measures, classification points, project readiness, reasonableness of cost, climate resilience, flood resilience, and experience and ability.

If the individual scoring categories do not break the tie, the time the application was received, as noted in the CFA system, will be used as the final tie breaker.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT PREQUALIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

For this grant opportunity, an NFP is subject to New York State's Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, is qualified for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, and has an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter to be incorporated in New York State and is current in their charities reporting requirements with the Office of the Attorney General. Pursuant to the New York State Division of Budget Bulletin H-1032, H-1032 Revised, effective July 16, 2014, New York State has instituted key reform initiatives to the grant application and contract processes. These initiatives require not-for-profit organizations to complete the Vendor Prequalification process to be considered eligible to apply for a grant.

The SFS Handbook: SFS Training for Vendors guide is available on SFS Coach and includes guidance for prequalification. Additional training is available on SFS Coach.

If you are not familiar with SFS Grants Management, there are many resources available to help you register and become Prequalified on the NYS Grants Management Website https://grantsmanagement.ny.gov/transition-sfs or contact the SFS Help Desk at 518-457-7717, 855-233-8363 or HelpDesk@sfs.ny.gov for more information.

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY IN BEGINNING AND COMPLETING THE PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS. PLEASE VISIT THE GRANTS MANAGEMENT Prequalification Page TO GET STARTED.

THE STATE RESERVES 5 DAYS TO REVIEW SUBMITTED PREQUALIFICATION APPLICATIONS. PREQUALIFICATION APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE STATE FOR REVIEW LESS THAN 5 DAYS PRIOR TO THE WQIP APPLICATION DUE DATE MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED.

APPLICANTS SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT THEIR PREQUALIFICATION INFORMATION WILL BE REVIEWED IF THEY DO NOT ADHERE TO THIS TIMEFRAME.

DEBRIEFING REQUEST

In accordance with section 163 of the NY State Finance Law, DEC must, upon request, provide a debriefing to any unsuccessful offeror that responded to the Program Overview, regarding the reasons that the proposal or application submitted by the unsuccessful offeror was not selected for an award. An unsuccessful offeror wanting a debriefing must request a debriefing in writing, within fifteen calendar days of receipt of the notice that their proposal did not result in an award. Debriefings requested after fifteen calendar days may be denied.

PROTEST PROCEDURE

DEC does not have a formal protest procedure, therefore, an applicant may file an initial protest with OSC's Bureau of Contracts (BOC) after the Department has made a contract award. The protest must be in writing and filed with BOC within ten business days of notice of the contract award or if a debriefing has been requested by the interested party, within five business days of the debriefing (whichever is later). If the interested party is not provided with notice of the contract award, the interested party may file a protest with BOC at any time after the contract award and prior to the Comptroller's final action on the contract.

Formal protests concerning a pending contract award must be received within five (5) business days after the protesting party knows or should have known of the facts that constitute the basis of the formal protest.

The protest must be filed with:

Bureau Director
at bidprotests@osc.ny.gov or
Bureau of Contracts
New York State Office of the State Comptroller
110 State Street, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12236.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION CERTIFICATION

State Finance Law §139-l requires all applicants of grant funding to certify that they have a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and

provide annual sexual harassment training (that meets the Department of Labor's model policy and training standards) to all its employees.

Where applying for grant funding is required pursuant to statute, rule or regulation, every application submitted to the state or any public department or agency of the state must contain the following statement: "By submission of this application, each applicant and each person signing on behalf of the applicant certifies, and in the case of a partnering application each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant has and has implemented a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and provides annual sexual harassment prevention training to all of its employees. Such policy shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of section two hundred one g of the labor law."

Applications that do not contain the certification will not be considered for award; provided however, that if the applicant cannot make the certification, the applicant may provide a signed statement with their application detailing the reasons why the certification cannot be made. After review and consideration of such statement, the Department may reject the application or may decide that there are sufficient reasons to accept the application without such certification.

Applicants are required to sign and upload the Sexual Harassment Prevention Certification form or upload a signed statement with their application detailing the reasons why the certification cannot be provided. The certification or notice of non-certification must be signed and dated on or after May 18, 2026 by a staff of the vendor with official capacity.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 16

Executive Order No. 16 provides that "all Affected State Entities are directed to refrain from entering into any new contract or renewing any existing contract with an entity conducting business operations in Russia." The complete text of Executive Order No. 16 can be found at https://www.governor.ny.gov/executive-order/no-16-prohibiting-state-agencies-and-authorities-contracting-businesses-conducting. The Executive Order remains in effect while sanctions against Russia imposed by the federal government are in effect. Accordingly, applicants who may be excluded from award because of current business operations in Russia are nevertheless encouraged to respond to solicitations to preserve their contracting opportunities in case the sanctions are lifted during a solicitation or even after award in the case of some solicitations. As defined in Executive Order No. 16, an "entity conducting business operations in Russia" means an institution or company, wherever located, conducting any commercial activity in Russia or transacting business with the Russian Government or with commercial entities headquartered in Russia or with their principal place of business in Russia in the form of contracting, sales, purchasing, investment, or any business partnership. Applicants responding to this solicitation are required to complete and submit the form entitled "Certification Under Executive Order No. 16 Prohibiting State Agencies and Authorities from Contracting with Businesses Conducting Business in Russia".

All applicants must complete and submit the Executive Order No. 16 Certification form with their application. Failure to submit will render your application non-responsive, and no award will be made. The certification must be signed and dated on or after May 18, 2026 by a staff of the vendor with official capacity.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND THE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION

State Finance Law §139-m requires applicants on state procurements to certify that they have a written policy addressing gender-based violence and the workplace and have provided such policy to all of its employees, directors and board members. Such policy shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of subdivision 11 of section five hundred seventy-five of the executive law.

Where competitive bidding is required pursuant to statute, rule or regulation, for work or services performed or to be performed or goods sold or to be sold, every application made to the state or any public department or agency of the state must contain the following statement:

“By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that the bidder has and has implemented a written policy addressing gender-based violence and the workplace and has provided such policy to all of its employees, directors and board members. Such policy shall, at a minimum, meet the requirements of subdivision 11 of section five hundred seventy-five of the executive law.”

Applicants that do not contain the certification will not be considered for award; provided however, that if the applicant cannot make the certification, the applicant shall provide a signed statement with their application detailing the reasons why the certification cannot be made. After review and consideration of such statement, the Department may reject the application or may decide that there are sufficient reasons to accept the application without such certification.

Applicants are required to sign and submit the Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification form, (Attachment G). If the applicant cannot make the certification, then a signed statement must be submitted with the application detailing the reasons why the certification cannot be made. The certification form must be signed by an authorized staff of the contractor, and dated after the application start date.

All applicants must complete and submit the Gender-Based Violence and the Workplace Certification form with their application. Failure to submit will render your application non-responsive, and no award will be made. The certification must be signed and dated on or after May 18, 2026 by a staff of the vendor with official capacity.

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQR) AND PERMITS

The applicant is responsible for assuring that any SEQR determinations, permits, approvals, lands, easements and rights-of-way that may be required to carry out the activities of the project are obtained.

LETTERS OF PERMISSION/MUNICIPAL ENDORSEMENT

The applicant must own the property, or obtain an applicable access agreement, for the proposed project site. This includes:

- If the property is owned by the applicant – a copy of the current deed.
- If the property owner is a municipality – A resolution by the municipality supporting the project.
- If the property is not owned by the applicant – a formal written agreement between the applicant and landowner which allows the applicant access to the property, and represent the landowner, to accomplish the proposed project.
- If the applicant is a not-for-profit proposing a project on municipal property - a signed Municipal Endorsement. A municipal endorsement provides authorization for the not-for-profit to conduct the proposed project on municipal property.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality assurance applies to all programs/projects that involve the collection, generation or use of environmental data associated with the mapping, modeling, monitoring, and assessment of water quality data intended for use by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for its regulatory purposes. This includes the design or use of water quality focused environmental technology. Guidance and resources for DEC's quality assurance can be found at https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/assurance. Activities associated with these types of programs/projects, conducted in the field or laboratory, shall be:

1. Performed in accordance with an effective quality system for planning and assessing environmental measurements and tests, and for conducting required quality assurance and quality control procedures to promote and maintain the accuracy and reliability of environmental measurements and test results. An effective Quality System includes a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) based on guidance provided by the USEPA Standard for Quality Assurance Project Plans (CIO 2105-S-02.1, August 2023), or American National Standard ASQ/ANSI E4:2014: Quality management systems for environmental information and technology programs—Requirements with guidance for use, approved February 4, 2014.
2. The fulfillment of the data verification, validation, and usability component of QAPP is to be documented in a Data Usability Assessment Report (DUAR) or Modeling Usability Assessment Report (MUAR).
3. Performed by a laboratory certified by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) under the Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP)

pursuant to Section 502 of the Public Health Law. This requirement shall not apply to specific parameters where NYS DOH ELAP has not issued a certificate for the specific parameter.

4. Performed in a manner that ensures all requisite quality control and calibration requirements are met, including field testing, sample collection, preservation, and record-keeping. Basic quality assurance and quality control requirements defined in 40 CFR Part 136.7 shall be followed as well as any specific method requirements.
5. Required to submit environmental monitoring data electronically to US EPA Water Quality Exchange (WQX) following the guidance as set by US EPA's WQX Submission Instructions.
6. Covered under the Publicity clause (article IV.G.) of the State of New York Contract for Grants– Standard Terms and Conditions. Specifically, the Contractor agrees that any work products, including but not limited to, water quality data or environmental information; measured, generated, or developed under this contract shall not be released, published, cited, or shared in draft or final form without prior written authorization from the Department.
7. At a minimum, performed in accordance with water quality standards in 6 NYCRR Part 703 and/or guidance values in Technical and Operational Guidance Series (TOGS) 1.1.1. Projects designed to assess water quality or inform regulatory decisions must measure parameters with applicable water quality standards and/or guidance values.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

For projects that involve properties listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places, all work undertaken as part of a grant-assisted project must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

Questions about or proposals for listing on the State or National Register should be directed to the OPRHP National Register Unit at (518) 237-8643. To ensure the public benefit from the investment of state funding, preservation covenants or conservation easements will be conveyed to the State (OPRHP) for all historic property grants.

COASTAL CONSISTENCY REQUIREMENTS

SEQR Type I and Unlisted actions located within the NYS Department of State's coastal zone boundaries must meet the consistency requirements of the Secretary of State's Coastal Management Program. This consistency determination will be performed by the Department as part of the grant review process. If the proposed project is located within a municipality that has an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP), the policies of that LWRP apply. Projects in other areas will need to be consistent with the State's 44 coastal policies. The coastal policies can be found at

https://dos.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/02/coastalpolicies.pdf. Applicants are encouraged to determine if their project is located within the coastal zone, and to include in their site plan or sketch map their project's location within the coastal zone boundaries if applicable. Maps of the coastal zone boundaries can be found at https://dos.ny.gov/coastal-consistency-review.

WHAT TO EXPECT IF YOU RECEIVE AN AWARD

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

Applicants selected to receive a grant award will be notified by email and in an official Department award letter.

IMPORTANT NOTE: By accepting an award, applicant agrees to abide by all State of New York Contract for Grants or purchase order terms and conditions. Any changes to the terms and conditions will not be accepted and may affect applicant's award.

STATE OF NEW YORK CONTRACT FOR GRANTS

Applicants selected to receive a grant award are expected to execute a State of New York Contract for Grants within 120 days from the time of their award notification. Failure to submit timely required State of New York Contract For Grants documents could cause a grantee to lose their grant award. Applicants should review and be prepared to comply with all State of New York Contract For Grants terms and conditions should grant funding be awarded. The State of New York Contract for Grants and attachments include:

- State of New York Contract For Grants Face Page
- State of New York Contract For Grants Standard Terms and Conditions (NYS standard terms and conditions)
- Appendix A – Statewide Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A-1 Agency Specific Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A-2 Program Specific Terms and Conditions
- Attachment A-3 Federally Funded Grant Terms and Conditions (if awarded federal funding)
- Attachment B-1 Expenditure Based Budget (project expense categories and detail)
- Attachment C Work Plan (project objectives, tasks and performance measures)
- Attachment D Payment and Reporting Schedule (claims for reimbursement and grant reporting provisions)

IMPORTANT NOTE: Project related costs must be incurred within the term of the State of New York Contract For Grants to be considered eligible for reimbursement or match. Contract payments will not be approved or processed by the DEC until a State of New York Contract For Grants is fully approved by the DEC, and as applicable the Attorney General and the State Comptroller. All contracts must be approved by the contract start

date of which will be determined at the time of an official award. For more contract resources, refer to the Information for WQIP Grantees website.

STATE OF NEW YORK CONTRACT FOR GRANTS REQUIREMENTS

Applicants (referred to as "contractor" following award of grant contract) should be prepared to comply with the following State of New York Contract for Grants requirements:

1. Insurance Requirements
   Contractor will be required to carry appropriate insurance as specified in the State of New York Contract For Grants or Letter of Agreement (for awards less than $10,000), Attachment A-1 Agency Specific Terms and Conditions, and agree that each project consultant, project contractor and project subcontractor secures and delivers to the contractor appropriate policies of insurance issued by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of New York. Policies must name the contractor as an additional insured, with appropriate limits, covering contractor's public liability and property damage insurance, contractor's contingency liability insurance, "all-risk" insurance and workers compensation/disability benefits coverage for the project.
2. Permit Requirements (if applicable)
   Contractors agree to obtain all required permits, including but not limited to, local, state and federal permits prior to the commencement of any project related work. The Contractor agrees that all work performed in relation to the project by the Contractor or its agents, representatives, or contractors will comply with all relevant federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and standards, zoning and building codes, ordinances, operating certificates for facilities, or licenses for an activity.
3. State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Documentation
   With respect to the project, the Contractor certifies that it has complied, and shall continue to comply with all requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The Contractor agrees to provide all environmental documents as may be required by the DEC. The Contractor has notified, and shall continue to notify, the DEC of all actions proposed for complying with the environmental review requirements imposed by SEQRA.

VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

Not-For-Profit contractors, and/or subcontractors of all awardees, are subject to a vendor responsibility review by the State to ensure public dollars are being spent appropriately with responsible contractors. Landowners selling property or a conservation easement to an applicant in the Land Acquisition category are also considered sub-contractors and are subject to vendor responsibility requirements. A vendor responsibility review may include a contractor and/or subcontractor to present evidence of its continuing legal authority to do business in NYS, integrity, experience, ability, prior performance, and organizational and financial capacity. To enroll in and use

the NYS VendRep System, see the VendRep System instructions or log in at https://onlineservices.osc.state.ny.us.

IRAN DIVESTMENT ACT

As a result of the Iran Divestment Act of 2012 (Act), Chapter 1 of the 2012 Laws of New York, a new provision has been added to the State Finance Law (SFL), § 165-a, effective April 12, 2012. By entering into a Contract, the Contractor certifies that it is not on the "Entities Determined To Be Non-Responsive Bidders/Offerers Pursuant to The New York State Iran Divestment Act of 2012" list ("Prohibited Entities List") posted on the OGS website at: http://www.ogs.ny.gov/about/regs/docs/ListofEntities.pdf and further certifies that it will not utilize on such Contract any subcontractor that is identified on the Prohibited Entities List. Additional detail on the Iran Divestment Act can be found in the State of New York Contract For Grants, Attachment A-1 Agency Terms and Conditions.

MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MWBE) AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (EEO) REQUIREMENTS

The Department is required to implement the provisions of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A and 5 NYCRR Parts 142-144 (MWBE Regulations) for all State contracts with a value (1) in excess of $25,000 for labor, services, equipment, materials, or any combination of the foregoing or (2) in excess of $100,000 for real property renovations and construction.

Applicants subject to executing a future State of New York Contract of Grants agree, in addition to any other nondiscrimination provision of the State of New York Contract For Grants and at no additional cost to the Department, to fully comply and cooperate with the Department in the implementation of New York State Executive Law Article 15-A. These requirements include equal employment opportunities for minority group members and women (EEO) and contracting opportunities for certified Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs). Contractor's demonstration of Good Faith Efforts (GFEs) pursuant to 5 NYCRR §142.8 shall be a part of these requirements. These provisions shall be deemed supplementary to, and not in lieu of, the nondiscrimination provisions required by New York State Executive Law Article 15 (the "Human Rights Law") or other applicable federal, state or local laws.

Failure to comply with MWBE and EEO requirements may result in a Department finding of non-responsiveness, non-responsibility and/or a breach of contract, leading to the withholding of funds or such other actions, liquidated damages, or enforcement proceedings.

Please refer to the State of New York Contract For Grants - Article IV (J) and Attachment A-1 Agency Specific Terms and Conditions - Article X, to review MWBE and EEO requirements.

- The local government is responsible for designating someone to serve as their Affirmative Action representative. The governing body should make this designation through official means.

- A list of certified MWBE enterprises can be obtained via the internet from the NYS Department of Economic Development at https://ny.newnycontracts.com/FrontEnd/searchcertifieddirectory.asp

MWBE reporting for Department of Environmental Conservation contracts must now be completed using the New York State Contract System (NYSCS) https://ny.newnycontracts.com/.

All contracts of $25,000 or more will be assessed for MWBE goals. Contracts which meet the established MWBE-EEO thresholds require the Contractor to submit the Utilization Plan prior to the execution of the contract and Monthly Compliance Audits in the NYSCS after the contract is executed. To submit the required MWBE Utilization Plan, log-in to NYSCS and access the Utilization Plans section displayed on the user dashboard. Plans requiring action will be displayed in red.

All contractors shall complete an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy Statement and Staffing Plan form and submit it prior to the execution of the contract.

For more information regarding MWBE compliance and reporting guidelines, and to download required forms, please visit https://dec.ny.gov/about/doing-business#MWBE.

The following MWBE "Fair Share" goals are established as follows:

- Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Overall Participation Goals:

  Construction/Engineering – up to 30%
  Commodities – up to 30%
  Services/Technologies –up to 30%

  DEC MWBE Compliance
  NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
  Bureau of Contract and Grant Development/MWBE Program
  625 Broadway, 10th Floor
  Albany, New York 12233-5028
  Mwbe@dec.ny.gov
  Phone: (518) 402-9240
  Fax: (518) 402-9023

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES (SDVOB) PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

The Department is required to implement the provisions of New York State Veteran's Law Article 3. The contractor must make Good Faith Efforts to subcontract a goal of 6% of the contract amount to New York State Certified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses (SDVOBs), for purposes of providing meaningful participation by SDVOBs.

The contractor is required to complete and submit a SDVOB Utilization Plan detailing how the contractor intends to meet the SDVOB goal. In addition, the contractor must complete and submit quarterly compliance reports detailing the amount spent on SDVOBs in the previous quarter. In addition, all forms and guidance can be located at; Division of Service-Disabled Veterans' Business Development Compliance and Reporting | Office of General Services (ny.gov). Please contact the Department's SDVOB compliance staff with any questions at:

DEC SDVOB Compliance Unit
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Contract and Grant Development/SDVOB Program
625 Broadway, 10th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-5028
SDVOB@dec.ny.gov
Phone: (518) 402-9240

PROCUREMENT OF CONTRACTORS/SUBCONTRACTORS

Municipalities must comply with General Municipal Law Sections 103 (competitive bidding) and 104-b (procurement policies and procedures). Not-for-profit corporations must follow procurement policies that ensure prudent and economical use of public money. Failure to comply with these requirements could jeopardize full reimbursement of your approved eligible project costs.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In the event the monies defined herein are to be used for the development of facilities, outdoor recreation areas, transportation or written or spoken communication with the public, the Contractor shall comply with all requirements for providing access for individuals with disabilities as established by Article 4A of the New York State Public Buildings Law, Americans with Disabilities Act, and relevant sections of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. Standards for certain Recreation Facilities are found in the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design while others are found in the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Recreation Areas https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards.

DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT 2006

In 2007, New York State passed legislation establishing the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act 2006 (DERA). This Act amended the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) by adding Section 19-0323 which requires the use of best available retrofit technology (BART) and ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel (ULSD) for heavy duty vehicles owned or operated by, including on behalf of, state agencies and state or regional public authorities. The Department has promulgated regulations (6 NYCRR Part 248) to provide guidance on provisions of the law. The regulations may be found on the Department's website at https://dec.ny.gov/regulatory/regulations/chapter-iii. If applicable, the contractor must comply with the specifications and provisions of ECL Section 19-0323 and 6 NYCRR Part 248, which require the use of BART and ULSD,

unless specifically waived by the Department. Qualifications for a waiver under this law are the responsibility of the Contractor.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY PAYMENT AND REPORTING CONDITIONS

ADVANCE PAYMENTS

For all WQIP project types except wastewater treatment, upon approval of the State of New York Contract for Grants by the Office of the State Comptroller, an advance payment of up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the total Contract Amount may be provided to the Contractor, including Contractors that are municipalities, for project start-up funding.[216] Contractors must provide justification of the need for the advance payment.

For Land Acquisition Projects for Source Water Protection, awardees may request advance payment of transactional and purchase costs.

- Transactional advance: To provide funds needed to complete land acquisition research (for programs) and documents prior to closing.
- Purchase advance: To provide funds needed to purchase a parcel or easement including associated personal and legal services.

No reimbursement payments under the State of New York Contract For Grants will be made by the Department to the Contractor until the Contractor provides documentation to support how the 25% advance funding was spent on the Project. Future reimbursement payments shall be made upon audit and approval by the Department and the Comptroller's Office of vouchers executed by an authorized officer of the Contractor.

Project costs eligible for reimbursement and project match must be incurred between the State of New York Contract For Grants term start date and the State of New York Contract For Grants term end date. Costs incurred prior to the State of New York Contract For Grants term start date or after the State of New York Contract For Grants term end date are not eligible for reimbursement or match. Copies of supporting documentation (paid invoices, receipts, cancelled checks, etc.) must be audited and approved by the Department for costs to be eligible for grant reimbursement.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS

Payment for invoices submitted by the Contractor shall only be rendered electronically unless payment by paper check is expressly authorized by the head of the State Agency, in the sole discretion of the head of such State Agency, due to extenuating

[216] For Land Acquisition project types, please note that transactional costs (e.g., property surveys, land appraisals, staff time devoted to the project) are acceptable by the DEC, provided they result in final acquisition of land or perpetual conservation easement and/or restoration of new riparian buffers. As such, before successful applicants request advance payment or submit reimbursement claims, we recommend that you take into consideration the requirement to return state assistance payments should the land transaction not successfully close.

circumstances. Such electronic payment shall be made in accordance with OSC's procedures and practices to authorize electronic payments.

GRANT PROGRAM REPORTING

Quarterly Narrative Reports must be submitted in narrative form, no later than 30 days from the end of the quarter. The reports should summarize how the project progressed towards meeting project objectives and deliverables during the quarter. Quarterly reports shall be submitted via email to the Project Manager assigned to the contract.

Quarterly Expenditure Reports, detailed by object of expense as defined in the State of New York Contract For Grants Attachment B-1 Expenditure Based Budget, must accompany the quarterly Narrative Reports, within 30 days from the end of the quarter. These reports must correlate to subsequent vouchers submitted for reimbursement payment.

Quarterly State of New York Contract For Grants payment reimbursement requests will be accepted prior to submission of a final closeout reimbursement request. Approved project design, required permits, and landowner permissions must be in place to submit a reimbursement request.

Final Report must be submitted and approved by the Department prior to the release of the final contract payment to the Grantee. The Contractor must submit the Final Report no later than 60 days after the end of the contract period. The Final Report should report on all aspects of the program and detail how the grant funds were utilized in achieving the goals set forth in the approved State of New York Contract For Grants Attachment C Work Plan. Copies of appropriate documents (i.e., inventory and/or management plan) must be submitted and approved by the Department.

A DEC on-site inspection may be required to confirm all work was completed in accordance with the approved project work plan (including the installation of funding signage, if applicable, at the project site).

Projects already receiving funds from another NYS are not eligible to receive funding for the same project activities identified in this RFA.

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

Grant recipients are expected to show satisfactory progress with the development of a project workplan and implementation of the project. Satisfactory progress includes, but is not limited to, timely submission of all necessary documents needed for contract execution, such as, required proofs of insurance and an MWBE Utilization Plan. A grantee must also submit timely quarterly payment requests, quarterly narrative reports, quarterly expenditure reports, and a final project summary report. Successful applicants are expected to manage their WQIP projects in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State of New York Contract for Grants. Failure to make satisfactory progress or to complete the project to the satisfaction of the State may be deemed an

abandonment of the project and may cause the termination of any financial obligation of the State.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COMPLETED WQIP PROJECTS

Grant recipients are fully responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient monitoring operation and maintenance of the project satisfactory to the Department, including, but not limited to, retaining a sufficient number of qualified staff and ensuring performance or required tests and requirements. After completion of the project, the grantee shall, for a period of time appropriate for the type of project (the useful life of the project as provided in State Finance Law § 61[18]), which ranges from five to thirty years, operate the project or otherwise cause the project to be operated properly and in a sound and economical manner and shall maintain, preserve and keep the project, or cause the project to be maintained, preserved and kept, in good repair, working order and condition and shall make, or cause to be made, all necessary and proper repairs, replacements and renewals from time to time, so that at all times the project may be operated properly in a manner consistent with the performance standards for the project, with the contract and with the requirements of any related permit or other governmental approval of the project.

SIGNAGE REQUIREMENTS

The Department may require the installation of a project sign that identifies the Environmental Protection Fund, Clean Water Infrastructure Act, or 2022 Clean Air, Clean Water, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act as a source of funding as outlined in the requirements and specifications attached to and made part of the State of New York Contract For Grants as an attachment (Attachment E).

For projects with multiple funding sources the Contractor acknowledges that a portion of this grant is funded by the Department as a Water Quality Improvement Project. The Contractor agrees to identify the Department as a source of funding for this project in any communications to the public.

CONTRACT TERM

The Department expects the term of each contract to be consistent with the project timeline proposed in the grant application. The initial term of each contract (other than will need to fall between June 1, 2026 and May 31, 2031. Time extensions beyond the contract term end date will be determined by the Department based upon written justification from the Contractor. All project costs must be incurred between the start and end dates of the contract to be eligible for reimbursement, or to be used as match for the grant.

RETAINAGE

The State reserves the right to withhold up to fifteen percent (15%) of the total amount of the Contract as security for the faithful completion of services or work, as applicable, under the Contract. This amount may be withheld in whole or part from any single payment or combination of payments otherwise due under the Contract. In the event

that such withheld funds are insufficient to satisfy Contractor's obligations to the State, the State may pursue all available remedies, including the right to setoff and recoupment.

CONTRACT CLOSE OUT

All obligations must be incurred prior to the end date of the contract. The final claim of the contract term shall be submitted to the State Agency up to ninety (90) calendar days after the contract end date to make final expenditures if the contract is State Funded. However, if the contract is funded, in whole or in part, with Federal funds, the Contractor shall have up to sixty (60) calendar days after the contract end date to make expenditures and submit the claim to the State Agency.

ATTACHMENT A: LIST OF MUNICIPALITIES THAT CONTAIN DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY (DAC) POPULATIONS

This list of municipalities was created specifically for use with the WQIP grant program. Population data is drawn from the 2010 Census data to align with the Climate Justice Working Group final criteria established on March 27, 2023 and current at the time of this RFA publication on June 1, 2026. Town population is town-outside-village. Final percentages have been rounded following the standard rounding rule, up if over 0.5 and down if under 0.5. Any municipality not listed below was estimated to have no DAC population.

Name	Type of Municipality	County	DAC Percentage
Alabama	Town	Genesee	100%
Albany	County	Albany	26%
Albany	City	Albany	52%
Albion	Town	Orleans	45%
Albion	Village	Orleans	100%
Allegany	County	Allegany	16%
Amenia	Town	Dutchess	100%
Amity	Town	Allegany	48%
Amsterdam	City	Montgomery	85%
Angelica	Town	Allegany	8%
Angelica	Village	Allegany	1%
Arcadia	Town	Wayne	5%
Ashford	Town	Cattaraugus	1%
Athens	Town	Greene	59%
Athens	Village	Greene	100%
Auburn	City	Cayuga	66%
AuSable	Town	Clinton	69%
Babylon	Town	Suffolk	24%
Baldwinsville	Village	Onondaga	38%
Barker	Village	Niagara	100%
Barre	Town	Orleans	100%
Barton	Town	Tioga	1%
Batavia	City	Genesee	31%
Bath	Town	Steuben	47%
Bath	Village	Steuben	100%
Beacon	City	Dutchess	73%

Beekman	Town	Dutchess	14%
Belmont	Village	Allegany	100%
Benton	Town	Yates	11%
Bethel	Town	Sullivan	44%
Bethlehem	Town	Albany	8%
Binghamton	City	Broome	76%
Bombay	Town	Franklin	100%
Brighton	Town	Monroe	19%
Brockport	Village	Monroe	53%
Brocton	Village	Chautauqua	100%
Brookhaven	Town	Suffolk	12%
Broome	County	Broome	32%
Buchanan	Village	Westchester	100%
Buffalo	City	Erie	71%
Butler	Town	Wayne	85%
Carlton	Town	Orleans	28%
Catskill	Town	Greene	30%
Catskill	Village	Greene	100%
Cattaraugus	County	Cattaraugus	18%
Cayuga	County	Cayuga	28%
Chautauqua	County	Chautauqua	29%
Cheektowaga	Town	Erie	18%
Chemung	County	Chemung	28%
Chenango	County	Chenango	6%
Chester	Town	Orange	10%
Chester	Village	Orange	98%
Chili	Town	Monroe	16%
Clarkstown	Town	Rockland	17%
Clarksville	Town	Allegany	50%
Clifton Springs	Village	Ontario	78%
Clinton	County	Clinton	10%
Clyde	Village	Wayne	100%
Cohoes	City	Albany	60%
Collins	Town	Erie	11%
Colonie	Town	Albany	1%
Columbia	County	Columbia	17%
Conquest	Town	Cayuga	100%
Corfu	Village	Genesee	100%

Cortland	County	Cortland	24%
Cortland	City	Cortland	62%
Cortlandt	Town	Westchester	31%
Coxsackie	Town	Greene	2%
Coxsackie	Village	Greene	99%
Cuba	Town	Allegany	38%
Cuba	Village	Allegany	100%
Deerpark	Town	Orange	100%
Delaware	County	Delaware	12%
DeWitt	Town	Onondaga	29%
Dickinson	Town	Broome	69%
Dover	Town	Dutchess	44%
Dresden	Village	Yates	100%
Dundee	Village	Yates	100%
Dunkirk	City	Chautauqua	100%
Dunkirk	Town	Chautauqua	100%
Dutchess	County	Dutchess	45%
East Fishkill	Town	Dutchess	17%
East Syracuse	Village	Onondaga	100%
Elbridge	Town	Onondaga	59%
Elbridge	Village	Onondaga	100%
Ellenville	Village	Ulster	99%
Ellicottville	Town	Cattaraugus	11%
Elmira	City	Chemung	64%
Elmira	Town	Chemung	1%
Elmira Heights	Village	Chemung	48%
Elmsford	Village	Westchester	83%
Endicott	Village	Broome	68%
Enfield	Town	Tompkins	3%
Erie	County	Erie	25%
Esopus	Town	Ulster	38%
Fallsburg	Town	Sullivan	93%
Farmersville	Town	Cattaraugus	37%
Fishkill	Town	Dutchess	60%
Fishkill	Village	Dutchess	100%
Fonda	Village	Montgomery	100%
Fort Covington	Town	Franklin	100%
Fort Plain	Village	Montgomery	100%

Franklin	County	Franklin	16%
Franklinville	Town	Cattaraugus	37%
Franklinville	Village	Cattaraugus	100%
Freeport	Village	Nassau	72%
Friendship	Town	Allegany	88%
Fulton	County	Fulton	19%
Fulton	City	Oswego	75%
Fultonville	Village	Montgomery	100%
Gaines	Town	Orleans	59%
Galen	Town	Wayne	51%
Gates	Town	Monroe	51%
Geddes	Town	Onondaga	18%
Genesee	County	Genesee	19%
Geneva	City	Ontario	34%
German Flatts	Town	Herkimer	1%
Glen	Town	Montgomery	69%
Glen Cove	City	Nassau	49%
Glens Falls	City	Warren	30%
Gloversville	City	Fulton	43%
Goshen	Town	Orange	53%
Goshen	Village	Orange	53%
Granby	Town	Oswego	100%
Great Valley	Town	Cattaraugus	10%
Greece	Town	Monroe	18%
Greene	County	Greene	30%
Green Island	Village	Albany	100%
Greenport	Town	Columbia	100%
Greenport	Village	Suffolk	100%
Hamlin	Town	Monroe	47%
Hammond	Town	St Lawrence	76%
Hammond	Village	St Lawrence	100%
Hanover	Town	Chautauqua	
Harriman	Village	Orange	100%
Harrison	Village	Westchester	13%
Haverstraw	Town	Rockland	19%
Haverstraw	Village	Rockland	100%
Hempstead	Town	Nassau	10%
Hempstead	Village	Nassau	90%

Henrietta	Town	Monroe	12%
Herkimer	County	Herkimer	13%
Herkimer	Village	Herkimer	26%
Heuvelton	Village	St Lawrence	100%
Highland Falls	Village	Orange	30%
Highlands	Town	Orange	15%
Hillburn	Village	Rockland	100%
Holley	Village	Orleans	60%
Horseheads	Town	Chemung	9%
Horseheads	Village	Chemung	44%
Hudson	City	Columbia	100%
Hudson Falls	Village	Washington	66%
Humphrey	Town	Cattaraugus	8%
Huntington	Town	Suffolk	4%
Hyde Park	Town	Dutchess	84%
Ilion	Village	Herkimer	42%
Irondequoit	Town	Monroe	17%
Islandia	Village	Suffolk	100%
Islip	Town	Suffolk	20%
Ithaca	City	Tompkins	19%
Ithaca	Town	Tompkins	4%
Jamestown	City	Chautauqua	45%
Jefferson	County	Jefferson	13%
Johnson City	Village	Broome	36%
Johnstown	City	Fulton	46%
Jordan	Village	Onondaga	100%
Kingston	City	Ulster	65%
Kingston	Town	Ulster	100%
Kirkwood	Town	Broome	100%
Lackawanna	City	Erie	51%
Liberty	Town	Sullivan	37%
Liberty	Village	Sullivan	100%
Livingston	County	Livingston	5%
Lloyd	Town	Ulster	100%
Lockport	City	Niagara	56%
Lockport	Town	Niagara	36%
Long Beach	City	Nassau	19%
Lyndon	Town	Cattaraugus	10%

Lyndonville	Village	Orleans	100%
Lyons	Town	Wayne	64%
Machias	Town	Cattaraugus	22%
Mamaroneck	Village	Westchester	51%
Manchester	Town	Ontario	49%
Manchester	Village	Ontario	100%
Marlborough	Town	Ulster	45%
Massena	Town	St Lawrence	18%
Massena	Village	St Lawrence	62%
Maybrook	Village	Orange	100%
Medina	Village	Orleans	43%
Menands	Village	Albany	100%
Mentz	Town	Cayuga	46%
Middleport	Village	Niagara	100%
Middletown	City	Orange	88%
Milo	Town	Yates	13%
Minden	Town	Montgomery	46%
Minisink	Town	Orange	86%
Mohawk	Town	Montgomery	79%
Mohawk	Village	Herkimer	100%
Monroe	County	Monroe	32%
Monroe	Town	Orange	4%
Monroe	Village	Orange	14%
Montgomery	County	Montgomery	68%
Montgomery	Town	Orange	39%
Montgomery	Village	Orange	100%
Monticello	Village	Sullivan	100%
Mount Kisco	Village	Westchester	41%
Mount Morris	Village	Livingston	100%
Mount Pleasant	Town	Westchester	5%
Mount Vernon	City	Westchester	89%
Murray	Town	Orleans	58%
Nassau	County	Nassau	17%
Nelliston	Village	Montgomery	100%
Newark	Village	Wayne	99%
Newburgh	Town	Orange	85%
Newburgh	City	Orange	100%
Newfane	Town	Niagara	30%

Newfield	Town	Tompkins	2%
New Paltz	Town	Ulster	20%
New Paltz	Village	Ulster	100%
New Rochelle	City	Westchester	71%
New Windsor	Town	Orange	100%
New York	City	Multiple	49%
Niagara	County	Niagara	43%
Niagara	Town	Niagara	100%
Niagara Falls	City	Niagara	84%
North Hempstead	Town	Nassau	6%
North Tonawanda	City	Niagara	31%
Norwich	City	Chenango	43%
Nyack	Village	Rockland	100%
Ogdensburg	City	St Lawrence	100%
Olean	City	Cattaraugus	25%
Oneida	County	Oneida	24%
Oneonta	City	Otsego	22%
Onondaga	County	Onondaga	31%
Onondaga	Town	Onondaga	10%
Ontario	County	Ontario	13%
Orange	County	Orange	52%
Orangetown	Town	Rockland	8%
Orleans	County	Orleans	62%
Ossining	Village	Westchester	85%
Oswegatchie	Town	St Lawrence	84%
Oswego	County	Oswego	30%
Oswego	City	Oswego	100%
Otsego	County	Otsego	5%
Owego	Village	Tioga	100%
Oyster Bay	Town	Nassau	2%
Palatine	Town	Montgomery	59%
Palatine Bridge	Village	Montgomery	100%
Patchogue	Village	Suffolk	100%
Peekskill	City	Westchester	100%
Pembroke	Town	Genesee	83%
Penfield	Town	Monroe	4%
Plattekill	Town	Ulster	52%
Plattsburgh	City	Clinton	16%

Plattsburgh	Town	Clinton	18%
Pomfret	Town	Chautauqua	22%
Port Byron	Village	Cayuga	100%
Port Chester	Village	Westchester	61%
Port Dickinson	Village	Broome	100%
Porter	Town	Niagara	58%
Port Jervis	City	Orange	100%
Poughkeepsie	Town	Dutchess	64%
Poughkeepsie	City	Dutchess	89%
Pulaski	Village	Oswego	100%
Red Creek	Village	Wayne	100%
Red Hook	Town	Dutchess	17%
Rensselaer	County	Rensselaer	28%
Rensselaer	City	Rensselaer	100%
Riverhead	Town	Suffolk	56%
Rochester	City	Monroe	83%
Rockland	County	Rockland	28%
Rockville Centre	Village	Nassau	22%
Rome	City	Oneida	41%
Root	Town	Montgomery	100%
Rose	Town	Wayne	100%
Rosendale	Town	Ulster	48%
Rossie	Town	St Lawrence	100%
Rotterdam	Town	Schenectady	10%
Salamanca	City	Cattaraugus	94%
Salina	Town	Onondaga	35%
Saugerties	Town	Ulster	30%
Saugerties	Village	Ulster	100%
Savannah	Town	Wayne	100%
Savona	Village	Steuben	100%
Schenectady	County	Schenectady	30%
Schenectady	City	Schenectady	67%
Scio	Town	Allegany	13%
Seneca	County	Seneca	26%
Seneca Falls	Town	Seneca	
Shelby	Town	Orleans	51%
Shortsville	Village	Ontario	100%
Sidney	Town	Delaware	32%

Sidney	Village	Delaware	100%
Sleepy Hollow	Village	Westchester	69%
Sodus	Town	Wayne	68%
Sodus	Village	Wayne	100%
Sodus Point	Village	Wayne	100%
Solvay	Village	Onondaga	39%
Somerset	Town	Niagara	80%
Southampton	Town	Suffolk	22%
South Nyack	Village	Rockland	100%
Spring Valley	Village	Rockland	79%
Starkey	Town	Yates	52%
Steuben	County	Steuben	13%
St Johnsville	Town	Montgomery	34%
St Johnsville	Village	Montgomery	100%
St Lawrence	County	St Lawrence	24%
Stony Point	Town	Rockland	30%
Suffern	Village	Rockland	29%
Suffolk	County	Suffolk	16%
Sullivan	County	Sullivan	45%
Syracuse	City	Onondaga	74%
Tarrytown	Village	Westchester	44%
Thompson	Town	Sullivan	34%
Tioga	County	Tioga	16%
Tivoli	Village	Dutchess	100%
Tompkins	County	Tompkins	6%
Tonawanda	Town	Erie	7%
Tonawanda	City	Erie	15%
Torrey	Town	Yates	67%
Troy	City	Rensselaer	70%
Ulster	County	Ulster	47%
Ulster	Town	Ulster	100%
Union	Town	Broome	5%
Unionville	Village	Orange	100%
Utica	City	Oneida	67%
Valley Stream	Village	Nassau	47%
Van Buren	Town	Onondaga	2%
Walden	Village	Orange	100%
Wallkill	Town	Orange	69%

Wappinger	Town	Dutchess	30%
Wappingers Falls	Village	Dutchess	100%
Warren	County	Warren	7%
Watertown	City	Jefferson	57%
Watervliet	City	Albany	100%
Waverly	Village	Tioga	95%
Wawarsing	Town	Ulster	55%
Wawayanda	Town	Orange	63%
Wayne	County	Wayne	39%
Wayne	Town	Steuben	0%
Westbury	Village	Nassau	29%
Westchester	County	Westchester	44%
Westhampton Beach	Village	Suffolk	100%
West Haverstraw	Village	Rockland	100%
West Seneca	Town	Erie	16%
Westville	Town	Franklin	100%
White Plains	City	Westchester	57%
Wirt	Town	Allegany	16%
Wolcott	Town	Wayne	57%
Wolcott	Village	Wayne	100%
Woodridge	Village	Sullivan	100%
Yates	County	Yates	23%
Yates	Town	Orleans	67%
Yonkers	City	Westchester	79%
Youngstown	Village	Niagara	4%