



State of New Jersey

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Informational Session: Funding For Water Quality Projects in the Barnegat Bay

The Governor has authorized the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) to fund stormwater and septic projects that that will result in improvements to the water quality of the Barnegat Bay. At this time the Governor has authorized up to \$10 million dollars in loan forgiveness funds and up to \$100 million dollars in low interest loans for this purpose.

The Department is proposing to establish the following priority for funding these projects:

Principal forgiveness loans will be available for the following types of projects:

1. The construction of new stormwater best management practices (BMPs) (e.g., gravel wetlands, bioretention basins, constructed wetlands) or retrofits of existing BMPs that **reduce existing nitrogen** discharges into Barnegat Bay;
2. The purchase of equipment (e.g. vacuum trucks, street sweepers, etc.) to reduce the pollution from stormwater runoff discharging into the Bay; and
3. The construction of new stormwater best management practices (BMPs) or retrofits of existing BMPs that **reduce other existing pollutants** (e.g., suspended solids) discharge into Barnegat Bay (e.g., infiltration basins, extended detention, manufactured treatment devices).

In addition to the three priority areas above, low interest loans will continue to be available to communities under the existing program for water quality improvement projects including, land acquisition and the upgrade of septic systems within the contributory drainage area to the Bay.

Projects involving the construction or retrofit of Stormwater BMPs will be prioritized based on the potential for nutrient reduction through a BMP, as shown by the potential loading resulting from the land use contributing to the receiving BMPs. The Department will seek to ensure the applicant is utilizing state-of-the-art treatment systems. Projects that involve the purchase of equipment will be prioritized based on the cost/area to be addressed by the equipment. Applicants are strongly encouraged to identify equipment that would be utilized in large areas and to incorporate sharing of equipment. All loans will be made to governmental entities only.