

Water Quality Restoration Grants for Barnegat Bay

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Water Resources Management

NJDEP

Funding

**\$2.7M in Federal annual allotment plus additional
\$470,000 from prior year EPA 319(h) funds**

**\$3M in State Natural Resource Damages (NRD)
recoveries**

**\$3.56M in State Corporate Business Tax (CBT)
funds**

**\$270,000 in State Supplemental Environmental
Project (SEP) funds**

The Federal 319(h) Program

- Congress yearly allocates funding for the Section 319(h) program in accordance with a state-by-state formula.
- Funding decisions are made by the states in consultation with EPA.
 - 50% Watershed Project Funds
 - 50% NPS Program Funds.
- **Watershed project funds** go toward restoring impaired waters through the implementation of Watershed Based Plans or acceptable alternative plans.
- **NPS program funds** may be used for the full range of activities to support the goals of the state's approved NPS management program that address NPS pollution.

2018 Barnegat Bay RFP Funding Priorities

Watershed Protection/Restoration Plans (up to \$1.7M)

- Implement the Metedeconk River Protection/Restoration Plan (Up to \$300,000)
- Develop a Toms River Watershed Protection/Restoration Plan (Up to \$400,000)
- Develop other Barnegat Bay Protection/Restoration Plans for major tributaries (Up to \$1M)

Tuckerton Creek

Westecunk Creek

Mill Creek

Oyster Creek/Forked River

Cedar Creek

2018 Barnegat Bay RFP Funding Priorities

Implement Projects (targeted in the southern portion of Barnegat Bay) to restore wetlands, create living shorelines and promote resiliency to address sediment driven turbidity (up to \$3M)

Develop and Implement Education / Stewardship Programs (up to \$500,000)

- Create a “Bay Friendly” stewardship program to mirror the very successful Raritan “River Friendly” stewardship program (Up to \$100,000)
- Create and implement BB specific toolbox of education/stewardship materials and/or programs for municipalities to meet their MS4 permit requirements (Up to \$100,000)
- Further outreach and assistance to waterfront and lagoon communities to control sea nettle populations (Up to \$300,000)

2018 Barnegat Bay RFP Funding Priorities

Expand Municipal Stormwater Infrastructure Mapping beyond what is required under the MS4 permits (up to \$400,000)

Retrofit Stormwater Basins throughout the watershed (Up to \$3M)

Identify and Eliminate Illicit Connections through Source Tracking to reduce negative impacts to shellfish and recreational beaches (Up to \$600,000)

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Mapping (substrate), Restoration and Monitoring to improve ecological health and reduce turbidity (Up to \$300,000)

2018 Barnegat Bay RFP Funding Priorities

Shellfish Enhancement within harvestable but nutrient impaired areas of Barnegat Bay to facilitate nutrient reduction (Up to \$300,000)

Any Other Projects (not included above) Consistent with the Barnegat Bay REP (Up to \$200,000)

Elements of a Successful Project Proposals

- Well designed, viable, readily implementable (shovel ready) projects
- Completed in 3-5 year timeframe
- Able to obtain permits and approvals
- Strong letters of resource commitment:
 - – Staff and resources to complete the project (partners, match, resource commitment)
- Public property vs. private property with an executed agreement with the property owner

Format for Project Proposals (Appendix A - 10 page limit)

1. Application cover sheet (revised for 2018 – Vendor ID #, Federal DUNS #, Financial Officer info, RFP Category)
2. Brief project background summary information
3. Brief summary of the overall project goals and objectives
4. Applicant description – must demonstrate experience and expertise

Format for Project Proposals

(cont'd)

5. Project Goal, objectives, tasks (under each objective), and corresponding task deliverables (required for each task)
6. Implementation schedule by objective - required table format in RFP
7. Budget Tables - required table format in RFP
8. Budget Justification – brief summary

Proposal Evaluation Criteria (Appendix B)

1. Project Applicability (up to 25 points)

- the proposal addresses the RFP, impairment, leverage positive environmental outcomes, integration with federal, state and local programs, magnitude of water quality, public health, and environmental benefits associated with the proposal.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

(Appendix B cont'd)

2. Project Readiness (up to 25 points)

- Project feasibility; Proposed design completion date; Readily implementable (shovel ready); Consistent with existing local, state and federal requirements and are able to attain permits needed to implement the project; The degree of public engagement and support for the proposed concept.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

(Appendix B cont'd)

3. Likelihood of Success (up to 30 points)

- Technical merit; Past performance of the applicant and/or partners; Ability to complete the project; Qualifications of the proposed personnel (in-house and contracted); Letter of resource commitment; Ability to garner approval of property owners and long term maintenance agreements; Ability to deliver measurable outcomes and long term sustainable benefits

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

(Appendix B cont'd)

4. Cost Share/Matching Funds/Leveraging of other Funding Sources (up to 10 points)
 - Level of matching funds (in-kind or other funding); Leverage funding by combining with other funding sources (e.g. Farm Bill, Foundation funding, Water Bank, Hazardous Discharge Remediation Fund); Budget detail (funding source allocation per project component); Cost effectiveness.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

(Appendix B cont'd)

5. Monitoring and Evaluation Information (up to 10 points)
 - How attainment of project objectives will be measured or demonstrated.

Timeline

- Issue RFP – Mid-May 2018
- Hold Two Public Information Sessions in the Watershed (North/South) – June 2018
- Deadline for Submission of Proposals – 5pm EDT Friday August 31, 2018 NPSgrants@dep.nj.gov
- Staff Review Period, Staff Funding Recommendations for Management Review and Approval, Notification Letters – on or about November 30, 2018
- Contract Execution Forms – December 2018