

Water Quality Improvements Grant Program

Eligible projects include:

- (a) Connecting onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS) to central sewer facilities.
- (b) Upgrading domestic wastewater treatment facilities to advanced waste treatment or greater.
- (c) Repairing, upgrading, expanding or constructing stormwater treatment facilities that result in improvements to surface water or groundwater quality.
- (d) Repairing, upgrading, expanding or constructing domestic wastewater treatment facilities that result in improvements to surface water or groundwater quality, including domestic wastewater reuse and collection systems.
- (e) Projects identified pursuant to [section 403.067\(7\)\(a\) or \(7\)\(e\), Florida Statutes \(F.S.\)](#).
- (f) Projects identified in a wastewater treatment plan or an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plan developed pursuant to [section 403.067\(7\)\(a\)9. a. and b, F.S.](#)
- (g) Projects listed in a city or county capital improvement element pursuant to [section 163.3177\(3\)\(a\)4. b, F.S.](#)
- (h) Where central sewerage is not available, retrofitting OSTDS to upgrade such systems to enhanced nutrient-reducing OSTDS (that is, a system capable of meeting or exceeding a 50 percent total nitrogen reduction before disposal of wastewater in the drainfield, or at least 65 percent total nitrogen reduction combined from onsite sewage tank or tanks and drainfield.)

To be eligible for funding, a project must improve the quality of waters that:

- Are not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards;
- Have an established total maximum daily load; or,
- Are located within a [basin management action plan area](#), a reasonable assurance plan area adopted by final order, an accepted alternative restoration plan area or located within a rural area of opportunity.

Eligible project proposals must be submitted by nonstate entities. Typically, this means local governments, universities or nonprofit organizations.

PROTECTING TOGETHER

The department shall consider and prioritize those projects that:

- (a) Have the maximum estimated reduction in nutrient load per project;
- (b) Demonstrate project readiness;
- (c) Are cost-effective;
- (d) Have a cost share identified by the applicant, except for rural areas of opportunity;
- (e) Have previous state commitment and involvement in the project, considering previously funded phases, the total amount of previous state funding, and previous partial appropriations for the proposed project; or
- (f) Are in a location where reductions are needed most to attain the water quality standards of a waterbody not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards.