

FY 2022-23 Water Quality Program Grant Proposal Questions

Call for Project Proposals

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is seeking project proposals for Water Quality Improvement Grant Program funds. These proposals will be reviewed by DEP to identify viable projects as part of the selection process. You may be asked for additional information as necessary so your project proposal for applicable funding opportunities can be fully evaluated.

Submit eligible project proposals at ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/FY22-23WaterQualityGrants.

This grant is open to local governments and non-state entities. Eligible projects must be designed to improve water quality.

Approved grant projects will be posted under the awardees button for the grant program on the [Grants Portal](#) page.

Eligible project proposals must be submitted by a local government, academic institution, nonprofit organization or for-profit organization that receives state financial assistance. Funding cannot be provided by DEP directly to any federal agency, vendor or private, for-profit entity.

Any information submitted to DEP will become a public record, subject to disclosure in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and Article 1, §24 of the Florida Constitution. Please note that submittal of a proposal does not create an agreement, nor does it guarantee funding.

Proposal Questions

Contact Information

1. Local government or nonstate entity name:
2. Contact name:
3. Address:
4. Phone:
5. Email

Project Information

1. Is this project located within Biscayne Bay or Springs Coast watershed?
2. Project name:
3. County:
4. Primary purpose (education and outreach, modeling, nutrient reduction, restoration, water quality characterization or monitoring, water resources/water supply or other):
5. Project category (domestic wastewater, industrial wastewater, agriculture, stormwater, natural system restoration, data collection/evaluation/education, land acquisition/conservation, water resources and water supply development, recreation, resilience or other):
6. Project type (advanced waste treatment upgrade or enhancement, septic to sewer conversion, stormwater treatment, water quality monitoring, seagrass habitat restoration, living shoreline habitat restoration, sponge habitat restoration, education and outreach, water resource or water supply development, or other):
7. Project description (in 500 words or less, provide a concise project description that will answer three questions: what, where and why. What type of project is being implemented; where is the nearest neighborhood or waterbody this project is benefiting; and why the project is being implemented [intended purpose or benefit]):
8. In 500 words or less, describe how this project will be accomplished. Highlight the method or approach that will be taken:
9. Project location:

Domestic Wastewater Projects

This section is only applicable to projects in the domestic wastewater category. Other projects should continue to question 1 of the Benefits Section.

1. Is this an upgrade or expansion to an existing permitted wastewater treatment facility? If yes:
 - a. Which facility?
 - b. What are this facility's annual average results for Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and flow?
2. Will any septic systems be converted to centralized sewer as part of this project (if no, continue to question 3)?
 - a. Will any septic to sewer conversion occur in a wet, potentially flooded area or an area with a high seasonal water table? If yes, which of the following were considered or performed?
 - i. Considered alternatives to conventional gravity sewer, such as low-pressure or vacuum sewer systems.

- ii. Considered potential inflow and infiltration.
 - iii. Performed life cycle cost analysis.
 - b. What is the current level of acceptance or approval from neighborhood for sewer connections?
 - c. What incentives are offered for hooking up to sewer?
 - d. Will connections be required?
 - e. Will this project subsidize the connection of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to existing infrastructure?
 - f. How many properties with an onsite treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) will this project directly connect to central sewer (provide the number of connections, where lateral sewer lines directly connecting properties formerly serviced by OSTDS to centralized sewer are within scope. If this proposal does not include lateral connections, enter 0)?
 - g. Where direct lateral connections are not currently proposed, how many new connections are expected to be made at a future date or at the property owner's expense (provide the number OSTDS to be taken offline, pending lateral connection at a future date or at the owner's expense)?
 - h. Approximately how many of those OSTDS are within 200 meters of a waterbody?
 - i. Does the utility also provide potable water (with meters) to the locations with OSTDS? If not, how will sewer rates be established?
 - j. If the project involves an alternative collection system, how is the requirement for a central management entity being met?
 - k. How will the abandonment of septic tank be handled?
3. Is this an advanced waste treatment upgrade (if no, continue to question 4)?
- a. Following the proposed treatment upgrades, what are the estimated average effluent concentrations of Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus for this facility?
 - b. Does the project accommodate and consider growth? How many years into the future was growth evaluated?
 - c. Are rates or revenue stream established to cover the annual operating budget, including asset management?
4. Will other types of infrastructure, such as potable lines, be part of the construction? If so, will all minimum setback requirements be met?
5. How will biosolids and septage be handled from this project?

Benefits

- 1. Is there a public outreach component to the project (if yes, describe and include key messages and target audience)?
- 2. Does this project have water quality benefits (if no, continue to question 3)?
 - a. Total Nitrogen Reduced (lbs/yr):
 - b. Total Phosphorus Reduced (lbs/yr):
 - c. Area of contributing drainage basin for stormwater treatment (acres):
 - d. Will this project reduce pathogens?

- e. Additional benefits:
- 3. Does this project have water resource or water supply benefits (if no, continue to question 4)?
 - a. Water made available (MGD):
 - b. Storage created (MG):
- 4. Does this project have additional benefits (if no, continue to question 5)?
 - a. Acres with best management practices implemented or improved:
 - b. Number of partner organizations:
 - c. Number of sites to be monitored:
 - d. Acres to be acquired and/or restored:
 - e. Number of volunteers and/or students to be engaged:
 - f. Other:
- 5. Is this project located within a [basin management action plan \(BMAP\)](#)? If yes, what is the BMAP name?
- 6. Is this project listed in the [Statewide Annual Report](#)? If yes, what is the project name?

Project Funding and Readiness to Proceed

- 1. Is this a new project or a new phase of an existing project?
- 2. Anticipated grant funds needed:
- 3. Local or nonstate contributions:
- 4. Third party contributions:
 - 1. Anticipated start date:
 - 2. Anticipated end date:
- 3. Is this a phased or multi-year project?
- 4. Do DEP funds currently support any aspect of this project?
- 5. Is this project already permitted?
- 6. Is this project already designed?
- 7. Does this project have approval from a city council, county board or other governing board to move forward?
- 8. Describe how this project accomplishes its goals in an affordable, efficient and effective manner:
- 9. List the plans/commitment to operate and maintain project.
- 10. Is there any additional information you would like to provide?