

# PROTECTING TOGETHER

## Springs Grant Information Sheet

### Call for Suggestions

The information below is general information about the springs grant funding opportunity that is coordinated through our Water Management District funding partners.

The Department partners with the State's Water Management Districts to identify and award springs grant projects. This Water Management Districts' annual springs grant evaluation process begins as early as the fall before the beginning of the subsequent fiscal year (e.g. projects are evaluated in fall 2020 for potential funding that would be appropriated July 1, 2021). The formal springs grant process document is available at: <https://floridadep.gov/springs/restoration-funding/documents/guidance-springs-funding>.

### ELIGIBLE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Governmental entities in Florida, as described in Subsection 287.012(14), Florida Statutes (F.S.)

### AMOUNT OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

The current fiscal year of funding for springs has been allocated. However, the Water Management Districts are beginning their evaluation process in advance of an anticipated \$50 million in the State Fiscal Year 2021-2022 General Appropriations Act.

### LOCAL MATCH REQUIRED

Match is not required but is a consideration on project selection.

### TYPES OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE

Land acquisition to protect springs and capital projects that protect the quality and quantity of water that flow from springs. Examples include: land acquisition, wastewater collection and treatment, stormwater management, reuse, water conservation, agricultural best management practices.

### KEY FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

- Water quality benefits
- Water quantity conserved
- Readiness to construct
- Projects is geographically located in a water quality restoration plan (e.g. reasonable assurance plan or basin management action plan) or a water supply caution area
- Leveraging of funds and local commitment (match funding and public support)

### FUNDING PROCESS STEPS

Project suggestions must be submitted to the Water Management Districts for evaluation as part of their evaluation process. Each Water Management District will review project suggestions and make recommendations to their Governing Boards. The project lists approved by the Water Management District Governing Boards are routed to the Department in May of each year for funding consideration. The Department posts those project submittals at <https://floridadep.gov/springs/restoration-funding> for public review and comment. The Department completes its project review and selection over the summer and posts final project selections at <https://floridadep.gov/springs/restoration-funding>.

### FUNDING PARTNERS

- Northwest Florida Water Management District <https://nwfwmd.com/Water-Resources/Funding-Programs>
- Suwannee River Water Management District <http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us/373/Funding-Initiatives>
- St. Johns River Water Management District <https://www.sjrwmd.com/localgovernments/funding>
- South Florida Water Management District <https://www.sfwmd.gov/doing-business-with-us/coop-funding>
- Southwest Florida Water Management District <https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/business/finance/cooperative-funding-initiative>

