

# Next Steps for Wastewater Applicants of the Clean Water Fund Program



Refer to the [Clean Water Fund Program \(CWFP\) State Fiscal Year \(SFY\) 2027 Project Priority List](#) to find your project's priority (PERF) score and priority ranking. Direct any questions about the application process to the CWFP coordinator at [Lisa.Bushby@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Lisa.Bushby@wisconsin.gov).

## Deadline

For SFY 2027 funding, you must submit your CWFP financial assistance application with all [required documentation](#) through the [online application system](#):

- If competing for [principal forgiveness \(PF\)](#), applicants must submit the complete CWFP application by **Sept. 30, 2026**.
- If not competing for PF during SFY 2027, it is recommended that applicants submit an application by the Sept. 30, 2026, deadline due to potential limitations with [loan capacity](#).

## Plan Reviews by DNR Bureau of Water Quality

### Facilities Plans

An **approved** facilities plan is a requirement of the application. Any project seeking CWFP funds must be submitted to DNR for plan review and approval, regardless of a "reviewable" or "maintenance" project classification. For example, an abbreviated form of a facilities plan, or engineering report, is required even for sanitary sewer replacement or rehabilitation projects, if seeking CWFP funding. The facility plan covers certain federal requirements such as the cost-effectiveness analysis and the environmental analysis.

Requirements for submitting a facilities plan are explained on the [Municipal Wastewater Facility Planning webpage](#).

- Submit required copies of the facilities plan to the Bureau of Water Quality for approval. **Provide enough lead time** (preferably six months) before the Sept. 30 application deadline for the DNR to complete the facilities plan review.
- Include a [parallel cost estimate](#) and an [environmental assessment](#). See also [Septage Considerations Guidance](#).

### Plans and Specifications Submittal

Follow requirements as explained in DNR's [Wastewater Plan Submittals by Project Type](#).

- Submit approvable plans and specifications to the DNR by the application submittal deadline. Submit final construction plans and specifications to the Bureau of Water Quality (postmarked by the application deadline) **and** upload electronic copies of the plans and specifications with the CWFPP application.

## Accomplish in the Near Future

- Pass a [Reimbursement Resolution](#).
- Prepare an [Equipment Replacement Fund \(ERF\) schedule](#).

## Federal Requirements

Applicants must comply with:

- [Cost and Effectiveness Certification](#) – required for all projects at the time of application submittal.
- [Davis-Bacon and Related Acts \(DBRA\)](#)
- [Disadvantaged Business Enterprises \(DBEs\)](#)
- [Environmental Review](#) – as part of facility planning.
- [American Iron and Steel \(AIS\)](#)
- [Build America, Buy America \(BABA\)](#) – required only for projects designated as [federal equivalency](#) and emerging contaminants (e.g., PFAS) projects.

## Preconstruction Meeting Reminder

If CWFPP financial assistance will be sought for a project, contact the regional DNR [construction management engineer \(CME\)](#) to confirm their availability **at least one week prior to scheduling** the preconstruction meeting. If the meeting is rescheduled or canceled, promptly notify the CME. For details, refer to the [Construction Management webpage](#).

## Contact Information

If you have any questions about the application process, contact:

- Lisa Bushby, Clean Water Fund Program coordinator, at [Lisa.Bushby@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Lisa.Bushby@wisconsin.gov)
- Sarah Bolitho, storm water projects specialist, at [Sarah.Bolitho@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sarah.Bolitho@wisconsin.gov)
- Ryan Atkinson, Emerging Contaminants Program specialist, at [Ryan.Atkinson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Ryan.Atkinson@wisconsin.gov)

For more information on the Clean Water Fund Program, visit our website at [dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html).



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