

Next Steps for Storm Water 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.

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 Watershed Management

Storm Water 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. The facility plan should include a cost-effectiveness analysis and address the need or purpose of the project.

- Submit required copies of the facilities plan to the [DNR regional storm water engineer plan reviewer](#) or to the DNR central office storm water engineer ([Amy Minser](#)) for approval, prior to submittal of construction plans and specifications. **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](#).

Plans and Specifications Submittal

Follow requirements in DNR's [Storm Water Technical Standards, Models, and Best Management Practices](#).

- Approvable plans and specifications must be submitted to the DNR by the application submittal deadline. Applicants must email plans and specifications to the DNR regional storm water engineer or to the DNR central office storm water engineer **and** upload electronic copies of the plans and specifications with the CWFP 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
- [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 CWFP 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
- Sarah Bolitho, storm water projects specialist, at Sarah.Bolitho@wisconsin.gov
- Ryan Atkinson, Emerging Contaminants Program specialist, at Ryan.Atkinson@wisconsin.gov

For more info on storm water projects, refer to dnr.wi.gov/aid/documents/EIF/guide/Stormwater.html.

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