

# Clean Water Fund Program

Learn about the Environmental Loans programs and find guidance at [dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html](https://dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html)

## Funding for Wastewater & Storm Water Projects

Since 1991, the Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) provides affordable financial assistance to municipalities for publicly owned wastewater and water-quality-related storm water infrastructure projects that are needed to achieve or maintain compliance with federal and state regulations, such as WPDES permits.

- Implementation details: ss. 281.58 & 281.59, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 162, Wis. Adm. Code.

### Benefits & program features

- Fixed interest rates on long-term loans.
- Online system for notice of Intent to Apply (ITA) and Application submittals.
- Dedicated DNR project manager and construction management engineer.
- Coordination with other federal and state funding sources.



### What kinds of funding are available?

The Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) is a state revolving loan fund that combines federal capitalization grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) with state funds to provide funding to municipalities in the form of subsidized loans (**reduced-interest rate loans**). Some municipalities may be eligible for further subsidy (**principal forgiveness**) to reduce its loan size.

- **View current rates at** [dnr.wi.gov/aid/documents/eif/guide/interest.html](https://dnr.wi.gov/aid/documents/eif/guide/interest.html).

### How may the funds be used?

The program funds are for reasonable and necessary costs directly related to the **planning, design, & construction** of eligible projects. Funds may be used to construct, improve, modify, purchase, replace, restore, and upgrade wastewater systems and infrastructure, such as collection, transmission, storage, treatment, and disposal.

**Common projects:** sewer replacement or rehabilitation, and wastewater treatment facility/plant upgrades.

- Example of a *general* project scope description:
  - Replace 5,555 feet of sewer to address inflow and infiltration.

### Who may apply?

Eligible applicants and funding recipients, also referred to as **municipalities** or **local governments**, include, but aren't limited to: Wisconsin cities, towns, villages, counties, and sanitary districts.

### How do we apply? When do we apply?

Application guidance and considerations are available on the How to Apply tab at [dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html#tabx3](https://dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html#tabx3).

- **October 31<sup>st</sup>** - CWFP Intent to Apply (ITA) deadline for the *following* state fiscal year funding cycle.
- **September 30<sup>th</sup>** - CWFP Application deadline if requesting principal forgiveness for the *current* funding cycle.
- Applications accepted **year-round** for CWFP projects not seeking principal forgiveness (PF).

Submit ITA by 10/31/2023 deadline if seeking funding in State Fiscal Year 2025 (07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025).

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PUB-CF-039 03/2023 Wisconsin DNR Environmental Loans Section CWFP 608-358-3330 SDWLP 608-720-0802

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Program implementation details are outlined in chs. [NR 162](#) and [NR 166](#), Wis. Adm. Code. [Legal notice](#): This document is intended solely as guidance and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in federal regulations or state statutes or administrative rules are referenced. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing federal regulations and state statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is offered in other formats upon request, call 608-267-9481.

