

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Runoff Management Program (RM Program) is seeking public input on our proposal to revise the Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Program Construction Grant Application (UNPS-C) form and instructions. We are proposing clarifications in the Cost-Effectiveness question, addition of an option, with score, for projects addressing storm water load reductions assigned by EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) documents, and adjustments of some scores so they are more consistent with other Runoff Management Program grant applications. The DNR is being proactive in notifying potential 2016 applicants now about this anticipated change so that they can better plan their grant application work.

We are now soliciting comments from the public on the proposed changes to the UNPS-C application. Once the 21 day notice period is complete, all comments will be considered, revisions will be made to the application, as needed, and the final application form will be made available on the DNR web site and to all potential grant applicants. Comments related to the UNPS-C application should be sent to: DNRGUIDANCEDOCUMENTS@wisconsin.gov



BUREAU OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Runoff Management Program

Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Program Construction Grant Application (Form 8700-299)

Effective Date: January 15, 2016

Notice: This document is intended as guidance for program implementation, and does not contain any mandatory requirements except where requirements found in statute or administrative rule are referenced. This guidance does not establish or affect legal rights or obligations, and is not finally determinative of any of the issues addressed. This guidance does not create any rights enforceable by any party in litigation with the State of Wisconsin or the Department of Natural Resources. Any regulatory decisions made by the Department of Natural Resources in any matter addressed by this guidance will be made by applying the governing statutes and administrative rules to the relevant facts.

APPROVED:

Pam Biersach, Director
Bureau of Watershed Management

Date

A. Why Are We Making This Change?

Proposed revisions to the UNPS-C application and instructions for scoring will:

- Clarify the information needed to better assess the Cost-Effectiveness question.
- Adjust the score for the Method Used to Calculate Cost Estimates, so that it is scored similarly to other current RM Program grant applications.
- Update the Extent of Pollutant Control question to promote projects that address storm water pollutant load reductions assigned in EPA-approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) documents; increase the score of Part D. of the question to promote project proposals that utilize strategies and prioritization results from local storm water planning efforts.
- Adjust the score for Consistency with Local Resource Management Plans, so that it is scored more similarly to other current RM Program grant applications.

B. Background

The goals of the Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management (UNPS) Grant Program include abating urban nonpoint source water pollution; coordinating urban nonpoint source management activities with the municipal storm sewer discharge permit program; and implementing the non-agricultural nonpoint source performance standards contained in ch. NR 151, Wis. Adm. Code. Priorities for scoring applications include the extent to which the application proposes to use cost-effective and appropriate practices to achieve water quality goals and the extent to which the project will result in the attainment of established water quality objectives.

The changes to the UNPS Construction grant application questions and scores are proposed by the Runoff Management staff to improve consistency across the Runoff Management grant programs; stimulate responses that are project-specific and detailed; reflect storm water management program changes, such as TMDL load allocations; and encourage projects that align with local storm water management plan priorities.

C. Summary of Proposed Changes to the TRM Applications and Instructions

The following materials are excerpts from the UNPS Construction grant application form. The proposed changes are noted at the beginning of each section.

Change to Question 1.D.: Points were reduced from maximum of 10 to maximum of 5, which makes this question consistent with other current Runoff Management construction applications.

Question 1. Fiscal Accountability

D. Method Used to Calculate Cost Estimates Check the method used to establish or estimate project costs. Documentation for the applicable cost-estimate method must be attached to receive points for this question.

- 1. Project costs are based on completed design and competitive bid on the project. Construction components and costs above should be detailed. Attach documentation for this method.

- O 2. Project costs are based on completed design with materials and labor costs based on similar, recently bid projects. Construction components above should be detailed. Attach documentation for this method.
- O 3. Project design is not complete; however, the proposed project and costs are based on similar and recent projects and costs. Provide as much construction detail above as possible. Attach documentation for this method.
- O 4. Project design is not complete and the cost estimate is based on an average or a range of projects and costs. Provide as much construction detail above as possible. Attach documentation for this method.
- O 5. Project and costs are less specific than choices above. Provide explanation of cost estimates below or attach documentation to this application.

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Change to Question 1.E.1.: This question is stated more prescriptively to describe the type of information DNR needs to assess cost-effectiveness.

Question 1. Fiscal Accountability
E. Cost-Effectiveness
1. Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project based on the following factors.

- A. Describe the drainage area land use(s). █

- B. Estimate project drainage **area**. █ **acres**

- C. Estimate **percent impervious** within drainage area from aerial photos or other means. █ **%**

- D. Estimate **pollutant load** from impervious area within drainage area. █ **lbs/year**
 Assume each acre of imperviousness generates 600 lbs/acre/year pollutant load.
 Example: Pollutant Load = B (acres) x C(as decimal) x 600 lbs/acre/year

- E. Estimate pollutant removal **efficiency** of proposed project. █ **%**

- F. Estimated construction **cost** of the project. █ **\$**

- G. Estimate **cost-effectiveness** of project. █ **\$/lbs/year**
 (\$ per lb. of pollutant removed per year).
 Example: Cost-Effectiveness = F(\$)/ (E(as decimal) x D(lbs/yr))

Change to Question 4.B.: New TMDL project goal is included, which will score 15 points.

Question 4. Extent of Pollutant Control

Check A., B., or C. to identify the pollutant control goal of the proposed project. Provide requested information for a score here.

B. Total Maximum Daily Load Allocations

- The project will make progress toward achieving compliance with the storm water wasteload allocation or meeting the load allocation in an EPA-approved TMDL to reduce pollutant(s) of concern carried in storm water runoff from existing developed urban areas to waters of the state. (Notes: Check only if reduction in storm water allocation is assigned in the TDML. This does not include streambank or shoreline restoration.)

If checked, describe how the project will reduce the pollutant(s) of concern in storm water runoff.

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Change to Question 4.D.: Increase to 10 points from 5 to encourage utilization of planning information in project proposal.

D. Planning Data and Source Targeting

Check this box if the applicant has quantitative planning information that ranks pollution sources from highest to lowest in severity and the proposed project will manage a pollution source contained in the top 50% of the ranked list. If yes, provide the following information:

1. Summary of the targeting analysis that justifies the proposed project and provides the project's ranking from that analysis.

2. Name of the document(s):

3. Date(s) published:

4. Pertinent page number(s):

5. A copy of non-state department document(s) is available (check all that apply):
 - At this website: ■
 - Attached to this application.

Change to Question 6.: Points were reduced from 4 to 2 to score this question more consistently with other Runoff Management grant applications, which receive 1 pt. for this question, yet still recognize the importance of aligning projects with locally approved water quality planning recommendations.

Question 6. Consistency with Local Resource Management Plans

- Check this box if the proposed project implements a **water quality** recommendation from a locally approved resource management plan. Examples include Smart Growth plans, Legacy Community plans, Water Star plans, local Storm Water Management plans, wellhead protection, lake management, regional water quality plans, Remedial Action plans and other watershed-based nonpoint source pollution control plans.

(This question does not include a TMDL report, TMDL implementation plan, or County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.)

If checked, cite the name and date(s) of publication of the document. Attach pertinent page(s) or provide URL. Summarize the water quality recommendation(s) and describe how it relates to the goals of this proposed project.



D. Remaining Steps

Once the 21-day comment period is complete, all comments will be considered, revisions will be made to the application form and instructions as warranted and *A Response Summary* will be prepared. Both the *Response Summary* and final language and scores for the application will be made available using the existing DNR Program Guidance web page (<http://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/guidance.html>).