

## **LAKE PROTECTION AND CLASSIFICATION GRANTS**

**Authorization:** s. 281.69 and s. 281.71, Wis. Stats., and NR 191

**Budget:** 2012 Fiscal Year = \$1,882,600 million  
2013 Fiscal Year = \$1,882,600 million

**Objective:** To provide lake protection grants for projects to protect and improve the water quality of lakes and their ecosystems.

**Eligibility:** Counties, cities, towns, villages, tribes, qualified lake associations as defined in s.281.68 (1) (b), public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, town sanitary districts, other local governmental units as defined in s. 66.299 (1) (a) that are established for the purpose of lake management and qualified nonprofit conservation organizations as defined in s. 23.0955 (1).

**Level of Assistance:** 75% of project costs up to a maximum grant amount of \$200,000, except for the restoration of wetlands or shoreline habitat which are eligible for a maximum grant amount of \$100,000, a special subset of wetland restoration incentive grants eligible for maximum grant of \$10,000, and development of local regulations or ordinances and lake classification projects which are eligible for a maximum grant amount of \$50,000.

**Priorities:** Priorities are set on a statewide basis (see s. NR 191.08) and consider the following factors:

- The degree to which the project provides for the protection or improvement of water quality
- The degree to which the project provides for protection or improvement of other aspects of the natural ecosystem such as fish, wildlife or natural beauty
- The availability of public access to, and public use of, the lakes
- The degree to which the proposed project complements other lake and watershed management efforts
- The level of support for the project from other affected management units.
- The level of financial support provided by the sponsor.
- For lake classification projects, there are additional factors to consider (please see NR 191.08 (5)).

**Eligible Types of Projects:** Grants are available for the purchase of land or easements, restoration of wetlands, development of local regulations or ordinances to protect water quality, and lake management plan implementation projects called

for in a Department approved plan, and lake classification projects. (Lake classification projects are available only to counties.)

**Applications:** Applications need to be received in the regional offices by May 1 of each year. Application information is available from the DNR Regional Lake Coordinator or DNR Regional Environmental Grants Specialists.

**History:** Since the inception of this program, the program has provided over \$32.2 million for lake protection grants.

**Contacts:** For questions about project eligibility, contact appropriate [DNR regional Lake Coordinator](#). For eligible project costs, contact appropriate DNR regional Environmental Grants Specialist.

**Website:** <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/Grants/Lakes/lakeprotection.html>