
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

River Protection Planning Grant Program

River Protection Management Grant Program

The following information will provide you with guidance to manage the financial assistance you are receiving and help in filling out the forms for the River Protection Planning Grant Program or the River Protection Management Grant Program. ***Read your grant agreement carefully and share it with your consultant(s). It contains conditions that govern your project.***

Rev. 1-12

Project Grant Awards

You have received a signed grant agreement from the Department outlining the approved project scope, time period, and budget. Your authorized individual should sign one copy of this grant agreement and return it to your regional Environmental Grant Specialist.

Grant Agreement Effective Dates

Note the start date and end date of your grant agreement. All planning grants expire on either June 30 or December 31 of the given year.

Caution!

Costs incurred prior to the starting date listed on the grant agreement will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Changes to the Grant Agreement (Amendments)

Any changes to the grant agreement in project activities (scope), time period, or cost must be requested in writing and submitted to the regional Environmental Grant Specialist **before** the agreement expiration date. Contact your Environmental Grant Specialist to discuss your situation before submitting a request.

Change to the Project Scope

Requests for an amendment to the scope of planning or protection projects must be consistent with the project activity outlined in the original grant agreement. Changes in the agreement will not be made if the nature of the change substantially alters the scope of the project activity. Changes in the scope of the agreement that increase the amount of cost sharing beyond that allowed under law will not be made and are subject to availability of funds.

Changes to the Project Costs

Requests to amend project costs may be submitted when project activity costs are higher than estimated or when a work activity is expanded. However, increases in the amount of cost sharing may not exceed the maximum amount established by law and are dependent on money being available.

Attention!

Cost Amendment Summary

	Cost Request <15%	Cost Request >15%	Cost Request over grant cap
Same Project Scope	Yes, up to grant cap	Compete next grant cycle-use old project score	Compete next grant cycle-new project
Project Scope Change	Yes, up to grant cap	Compete next grant cycle-new project	Compete next grant cycle-new project
DNR-required scope change	Yes, up to grant cap	Yes, up to grant cap	Compete next grant cycle-new project

Changes to the Grant Agreement Time Period

Projects must be completed prior to the expiration date indicated in the grant agreement. If there is the possibility that a project won't be completed by that date, we recommend that you request an extension. Requests to extend the term of the grant agreement must be made prior to the project expiration date listed on the agreement. If the requested change is approved, the Sponsor will receive an amendment to the original grant agreement signed by the Department.

**Financial Administration
During the Project**
Sponsor's Responsibilities

The accounting procedures and fiscal controls used to record project costs and state grant receipts must be based on generally accepted accounting principles. You must:

- Establish a separate ledger account for project expenditures.
- Itemize all project expenditures in sufficient detail to indicate the exact nature of the expenditure and provide evidence of that expenditure. (e.g., a copy of a canceled check). If your bank does not return canceled checks, a copy of the bank statement is acceptable.
- Comply with all local and state contract bidding requirements. (You may need to consult with your attorney to insure that you are in compliance with all applicable laws regarding competitive bidding and awarding bids.)
- Label each document you are submitting with the project number assigned to that project (e.g. RP-168-09 or RM-038-09 – each project has a specific number assigned to only that project and is listed on the grant agreement to the right of the sponsor name.)
- Maintain payroll vouchers for salaries and wages. If payroll voucher forms are not used, a statement must be prepared at the end of each pay period showing the names of employees, the hours spent on the project, project item involved, and the gross amount of salary earned by each. The statement must be verified by the official responsible for the project and approved by appropriate authority. All time associated with the project needs to be clearly documented.
- Report expenditures on the reimbursement claim worksheets.

Local Share
(Sponsor “match”)

The local share (sponsor “match”) of the project cost may include the substantiated value of donated materials, equipment, services and labor subject to all of the following:

- All sources of local share donation shall be indicated when the application for a grant is submitted
- The maximum value of donated, non-professional labor shall be \$12.00 per hour
- The value of donated equipment shall conform to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation’s (WI DOT) highway rates for equipment
- The value of donated materials and professional services shall conform to market rates and be established by invoice. The local share may include:
 - Professional supervision and administration staff time for the project, supported by Force Account Labor worksheets and summaries
 - The value of other professional services in conformance with market rates and as documented by invoice
- For Land Acquisition Projects: Fair market value of donated property as determined by appraisal made under this section and shall be a portion of the property to be acquired.

**Claims for
Reimbursement**

Claims for payment of project expenditures are made on a reimbursement basis (with the possible exception of payment of the fair market value of property). To be eligible for reimbursement all costs must be incurred within:

- The project time period shown in the grant agreement
- The scope of activity summarized in the grant agreement and detailed in the application submitted for the project
- The state aid project amount shown in the grant agreement

River Planning grant claims for reimbursement shall be submitted within 6 months after the planning project ending date.

River Management grant claims for reimbursement may be submitted to the department throughout the life of the grant agreement. The frequency of claims for reimbursement should be agreed upon by your regional Environmental Grant Specialist. The department may withhold 10% of the state share for a final payment. Final claims for payment shall be submitted within 6 months of the grant agreement expiration date.

Required Documentation

The following documentation is required to process a claim for reimbursement of project expenditures:

1. Copies of all contracts or agreements with contractors or service providers.
2. Completed department reimbursement forms. Completion instructions are included on the forms.
For all River Protection Grants:
Form 8700-001, **Request for Payment**
Form 8700-002, **Payment Request Worksheet**
3. Photocopy of the vendor invoices for services or materials. Invoices and checks combining costs for multiple grants must be explained so that the specific costs associated with each grant is identified.
4. Photocopies of canceled checks (front and back) issued for payment of all services and materials (or bank statements).

Counties, Please Note:

Counties submitting a reimbursement claim may follow single audit requirements for documentation.

**PROTECT
CONFIDENTIAL DATA**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) takes seriously its responsibility to protect all confidential data that are collected as the DNR administers its programs. For DNR grant programs, “confidential data” typically includes:

- **Personal -- Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number, signature**
- **Financial -- Bank account numbers on cancelled checks and statements. Credit card numbers on submitted receipts. Account and credit balances or limits. Federal or Wisconsin tax returns.**

If a grant is being issued to an individual, we need most of the personal data listed above before we can issue payments or reimbursements. This needed data comes to the DNR on completed W-9 forms. The DNR has a process to restrict access to and secure W-9 forms.

The DNR, however, is often sent *unnecessary* confidential data that are attached to proofs of payment, receipts, or other documents in support of a reimbursement request. Please protect confidential data by blackening out – also called “redacting” – bank account numbers, credit card account numbers, and other confidential data *before* proofs of payment are sent to the DNR. Please do not redact check numbers from bank statements.

**Final Report
Requirements**

All projects with the exception of land acquisition (protection grant program) must result in a final report that is suitable for use by the general public. The final report must meet the criteria agreed to in the grant agreement and be approved by the regional River Coordinator.

**Send All Claims for
Reimbursement to:**

The regional Environmental Grant Specialist.

How Reimbursement Claims are Processed

The regional River Coordinator reviews the final report for technical compliance with the project scope and approves the report. The Environmental Grant Specialist then reviews the reimbursement claim. If the claim for reimbursement is complete (including all required documentation) and in compliance with the project grant agreement, the Environmental Grant Specialist will approve the claim for reimbursement. The reimbursement claim gets forwarded to the regional Finance Office where payment is made.

Audits

The state has the right to audit or examine all books, papers, accounts, documents or other records of the Sponsor as they relate to the project for which the River Protection Grant Program funds were granted.

The Sponsor must retain all project records for a period of not less than 3 years after final payment or final disposition of audit findings.

The purpose of the audit is to check compliance with the terms of the grant agreement and verify that project expenditures were properly incurred and qualify for reimbursement or payment.

When a Project is Not in Compliance with the Grant Agreement

If the department finds that a project has not been satisfactorily completed by the expiration date of the grant agreement or that the Sponsor has violated a term of the grant agreement, the department may terminate the grant and seek reimbursement of the state share or a portion of the state share previously distributed to the Sponsor.

Filling out Payment Reimbursement Claim Worksheets

Make a couple of copies of the blank sheets before you get started. Fill out the worksheet first (form 8700-002). Fill out each line with as much detail as possible.

Make sure you have provided the required documentation for each line:

- A copy of the invoice or bill for the eligible expense
- A copy of both sides of the canceled check to pay that bill (if canceled checks aren't available then a copy of the appropriate bank statement may be substituted)
- Copies of bid proposals, professional service contracts, change orders and authorized detailed force account time sheets or volunteer time sheets, if applicable.

For land acquisition projects, you must also submit:

- A copy of the recorded grant agreement and the recorded deed at the Register of Deeds with the new disclaimer inserted (see the financial section of the grant agreement).
- A copy of the title insurance or Opinion of Title
- A copy of the relocation cost statement , if applicable

Filling out Payment Reimbursement Claim Form

Total the appropriate columns on the worksheet and move the total to the reimbursement claim form. If filling out a reimbursement claim for a River Management Grant (8700-001), be sure to indicate whether this is a partial or final payment. (For River Planning Grants, only an advance payment requested at the time of award acceptance and/or a one-time final pay request is possible.)

Who to Contact with Questions

Your regional Environmental Grant Specialist.

Where the Program Funds Come From

The source of funds for these programs is the state excise tax on gasoline for boats and from the Environmental Fund.

DNR Contacts

For assistance with specific or science-related aspects of your project, contact the River Coordinator in your area. For assistance with financial aspects of your project, contact the Environmental Grant Specialist in your area. For assistance with land acquisition or conservation easement projects, contact the Community Service Specialist or Environmental Grant Specialist in your area.

NER Northeast Region: 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay WI 54313-6727		
Counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Oconto, Outagamie, Waushara, and Winnebago.		
Mary Gansberg River Coordinator Phone: (920) 662-5489 Fax: (920) 662-5498	Gary Hanson Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (920) 662-5123 Fax: (920) 662-5415	
NOR Northern Region (Rhineland): 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhineland, WI 54501		
Counties: Florence, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Oneida, Price, Taylor and Vilas		
Jim Kreitlow River Coordinator Phone: (715) 365-8947 Fax: (715) 365-8932	Jane Malischke (Spooners) Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (715) 635-4062 Fax: (715) 635-4105	
NOR Northern Region (Spooner): 810 West Maple Street, Spooner, WI 54801		
Counties: Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer and Washburn		
Pam Toshner River Coordinator Phone: (715) 635-4073 Fax: (715) 635-4013	Jane Malischke (Spooners) Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (715) 635-4062 Fax: (715) 635-4105	
SCR South Central Region: 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711		
Counties: Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock and Sauk.		
Greg Searle River Coordinator Phone: (608) 275-3304 Fax: (608) 275-3338	Sandy Chancellor Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (608) 275-7760 Fax: (608) 275-3338	Mary Zickerman Community Service Specialist Phone: (608) 275-3218 Fax: (608) 275-3338
SER Southeast Region: 2300 North Dr. Martin Luther King., Jr., Dr., PO Box 12436, Milwaukee, WI 53212 and Plymouth Service Center, 1155 Pilgrim Road, PO Box 408, Plymouth, WI 53703		
Counties: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha		
John Masterson (Plymouth) River Coordinator Phone: (920) 892-8756 x3055 Fax: (920) 892-6638	Walt Ebersohl (Milwaukee) Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (414) 263-8569 Fax: (414) 263-8661	
WCR West Central Region: 1300 West Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701; PO Box 4001 54702-4001		
Counties: Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Crawford, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marathon, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Portage, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon and Wood.		
Daniel Helsel River Coordinator Phone: (715) 284-2431 Fax: (715) 284-1737	Bruce Neeb Environmental Grant Specialist Phone: (715) 839-3713 Fax: (715) 839-6076	

Other Contacts

For help with project ideas and grant proposals, please contact:

River Alliance of Wisconsin

Allison Werner, Local Groups Assistance Program – awerner@wisconsinrivers.org

Phone: 608-257-2424

Web: www.wisconsinrivers.org

Gathering Waters Conservancy

211 S. Paterson St., Ste. 180

Madison, WI 53703

PH: 608-251-9131

Web page: <http://www.gatheringwaters.org/>

Environmental Task Force Program

College of Natural Resources

Room 200

Stevens Point, WI 54481

PH: 715-346-3209

Contact: Nancy Turyk

nturyk@UWSP.edu

For information on registering nonprofit corporations/organizations, see Commerce web page:

<http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/MT/MT-FAX-0966.html>

For searching for information on non-stock organizations, see Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (WDFI) web page:

<http://www.wdfi.org/corporations/crispix/> Corporate Registration Information System (CRIS) record search

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources

