

# **DRY CLEANING ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE GRANT**

**Authorization:** s. 292.65, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 169, Wis. Admin. Code

**Budget:** Spending authority granted by the Legislature:

2011-2012 Fiscal Year = \$2,498,000

2012-2013 Fiscal Year = \$1,025,200

Exact amount spent out of the fund each year varies, depending on the available balance in the fund (currently less than spending authority).

**Objective:** Reimbursing the costs associated with the investigation and cleanup of contamination caused, by the discharges of dry cleaning products from a dry cleaning facility.

**Eligibility:** Owners, operators, parent & subsidiary corporations and their agents of a dry-cleaning facility (as defined under s. 292.65(1)(h) or (j), Wis. Stats.)

**Level of Assistance:** The applicant is reimbursed 100% of the eligible expenses after the variable deductible is withheld to a maximum of \$500,000. (See s. 292.65(8)(e), Wis. Stats., for details.)

**Priorities:** The highest priority is for threats to municipal wells, other water sources, and urgent spill projects. The DNR project manager will assign a risk evaluation to each project based on the amount of material spilled and the level of threat to others.

**Eligible Types of Projects:** Only site investigation and remediation of site-specific dry cleaning product releases are eligible for reimbursement.

**Applications:** Available on the DNR web page (see below), along with details on all of the above. Applications for reimbursing site investigation costs may be submitted when the site investigation report and remedial action options report are submitted to and approved by the department. All applications must be submitted within 120 days of completing the response activity.

**History:** This is a self-insurance program that is funded by a self-imposed 2.8 % tax on dry cleaning sold at all licensed dry cleaners. The statute was first put in place on October 14, 1997. The program is closed to new applicants, but the 230 sites currently enrolled with eligible applicants have until 2032 to complete work and apply for reimbursement.

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**Website:** <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/dryclean.html>