



March 2008  
Issue No. 153

## Inside this Issue

- 1** Drinking Water Applications Due
- 2** Funding Sources Committee WRWA Conf.
- 2** CWFP Hardship Financial Assistance Apps Due
- 3** EIF Interest Rates
- 3** Spring Election Results
- 3** Needs Survey Needs Your Help
- 4** Disadvantaged Business Solicitation
- 5** LRLP SFY 09 Priority List

**Appendix:**  
Needs Survey Fact Sheet

SDWLP SFY 09 Priority List

**Phone:** (608) 266-7555

Robert Ramharter, Section Chief  
Bureau of Community Fin. Assist.  
Environmental Loans Section  
Department of Natural Resources  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921

# Loan Interests

## Drinking Water Applications Due

*Jeanne Cargill*

### Application Deadline April 30

Please note: If your municipality is interested in obtaining a loan from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2009, you must submit an application to the Department postmarked no later than April 30, 2008. Your municipality is eligible to apply for SFY 2009 SDWLP funds if your project(s) appears on the SFY 2009 Project Priority List (see Appendix). Two additional actions must occur on or before April 30:

- Your municipality must obtain DNR approval of an engineering report for each of the projects for which you intend to request funding.
- The DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater must receive 3 copies of the plans and specifications for your project.

### Funding List

We will prepare a project funding list based on the applications received and process the loans between July 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009. The SDWLP will likely have about \$36 million dollars available for loans for SFY 2009.

Although it's possible the SDWLP may not have enough funding to provide loans to all eligible applicants, we encourage you to submit your loan application by the April 30 deadline. The fundable range on the final funding

list depends on several factors, including project priority scores, populations of the applicants, and the cost of each project on the list.

### SFY 09 Project Priority List

DNR scored projects based on Priority Evaluation and Ranking Forms (PERFs) submitted by the December 31, 2007 deadline. We update median household income and population data on the PERFs we received in prior years, so projects that were on last year's list may have revised scores this year. The attached Project Priority List indicates the project priority scores of all potentially eligible projects for which the SDWLP received valid Notice of Intent to Apply forms. We listed the projects by priority score in descending order.

### Small Systems < 10,000 Persons

Your municipality has a better chance of receiving funding if your system serves less than 10,000 persons, regardless of your project priority score. The SDWLP is required by statute to allocate at least 15% of available loan funds to systems serving less than 10,000 persons before allocating funds to any other project. We encourage you to apply if your system meets this population requirement.

### Some Applicants Must Re-Apply

If you submitted an application for funds last year (April 30, 2007 deadline) and will not close on an SDWLP loan by April 30, 2008, you need to submit an application for funding again this year if your municipality is still interested in obtaining SDWLP funds for that project.

### Loan Closings/PSC Rate Approvals

All SDWLP loans for the SFY 2009 funding cycle must close by April 30, 2009. This is a statutory requirement, and funds not used by that date will be

released to fund other qualified applicants. Because of previous experiences with having to delay SDWLP loan closings, we strongly encourage you to start the process of receiving PSC approval of your rates early in your process of obtaining funding for your projects. Some past applicants have lost their funding allocations because they were not able to complete the rate review process early enough to close a loan by the deadline.

**Application Contents**

Items required for a complete application are listed in s. NR 166.10(2), Wis. Adm. Code. Read our application contents web page (<http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Guide/appsdw.htm>) and page 1 of the application form for more information about required application contents.

**Where to Get Forms**

You can download the SDWLP Financial Assistance Application #8700-262 (as well as other forms) from our website (<http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Forms/forms.html>), or you may request copies from Deb Olson at (608) 266-5889 or [debra.olson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:debra.olson@wisconsin.gov).

**Questions?**

If you have questions regarding the SDWLP, contact Jeanne Cargill at 608-267-7587 or [jeanne.cargill@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jeanne.cargill@wisconsin.gov).

# Funding Sources Committee WRWA Conference

*Jerry Wilson*

Come talk to members of the Funding Sources Committee at the Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) Conference in Green Bay. The conference runs **April 8–11, 2008**, at the KI Center (see <http://www.wrwa.org/conference.html> for more conference information).

During the conference, the 2008–2009 Drinking Water and Wastewater Funding Sources booklet will be available at the Funding Sources Committee booth. This booklet summarizes loan and grant programs available to Wisconsin municipalities and individuals for the coming year. Some committee members will be on hand to talk about their individual programs and to discuss your specific local needs.

The Funding Sources Committee is made up of representatives from the following agencies:

- Bd of Commissioners of Public Lands
- Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc.
- USDA Rural Development
- WI Community Action Prog. Assoc.
- WI Department of Administration
- WI Department of Commerce
- WI Department of Natural Resources
- WI Department of Veterans Affairs
- WI Rural Water Association
- WI Housing & Economic Development Authority

If you cannot attend the WRWA Conference but have questions for the Funding Sources Committee, contact Jerry Wilson at 608-264-8986 or at [gerald.wilson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:gerald.wilson@wisconsin.gov). The updated Drinking Water and Wastewater Funding Sources booklet will soon be accessible (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Forms/sources.html>).



# CWFP Hardship Financial Assistance Applications Due

*Maureen Hubeler*

**Application Deadline June 30**  
The State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2009 postmark deadline for Clean Water

Fund Program (CWFP) hardship financial assistance applications is June 30, 2008.

The deadline applies if a Notice of Intent to Apply (ITA) was submitted by December 31, 2007 and you want to receive hardship financial assistance in SFY 2009 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009).

**Prior to submitting an application, your municipality must receive facilities plan approval from the Department.** If your facilities plan is not yet approved, please work with your DNR plan reviewer to be sure the plan can be approved prior to June 30.

## Calendar of Events

**April 8 - 11, 2008**  
**Funding Sources Committee Members at Booth**  
**KI Convention Center**  
**Green Bay, WI**  
**WRWA Annual Conference**

**April 30, 2008**  
**Postmark deadline**  
**SDWLP applications**

**June 30, 2008**  
**Postmark deadline**  
**CWFP Hardship applications**

The application must contain approvable plans and specifications and other required documents in order to be considered complete. For a list of the required items, see our application contents web page (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Guide/appcwf.htm>) or the checklist on page 1 of the application form.

Need a copy of the CWFHP Hardship Financial Assistance Application (Form 8700-203)? You can either print an application from our forms web page (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/FORMS/forms.html>), or request a copy from Deb Olson at (608) 266-5889 or [debra.olson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:debra.olson@wisconsin.gov).

For more information, contact Maureen Hubeler at (608) 266-0849 or [maureen.hubeler@wisconsin.gov](mailto:maureen.hubeler@wisconsin.gov). You can also check our hardship financial assistance web pages (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Section/hardship.html>). φ

## EIF Interest Rates

*Jeanne Cargill*

The Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) recently completed the process of issuing new bonds for our loan programs. Our loan interest rates are down slightly as a result of this bond issue.

The EIF will now provide loans to municipalities based on a market rate of 4.30%. EIF interest rates for various types of projects are determined using a percentage of the market rate. Our current interest rates are listed below.

**Clean Water Fund Program\***  
Compliance Maintenance or New/Changed Limits projects (55% of market) – 2.365%

Storm Water/Nonpoint Source projects (65% of market) – 2.795%

Projects or portions of projects to sewer Unsewered areas (70% of market) – 3.010%

Projects or portions of projects to construct Septage Receiving Facilities – 0.000%

\*If a Clean Water Fund Program project includes more than one of the above project types, the EIF will proportionately blend the appropriate

interest rates and calculate a composite interest rate for the project.

**Land Recycling Loan Program - 0.000%**

**Safe Drinking Water Loan Program**  
Disadvantaged Municipalities\*\* (33% of market) – 1.419%

Non-Disadvantaged Municipalities (55% of market) – 2.365%

\*\*Disadvantaged municipalities have a population of less than 10,000 and a median household income in the municipality that is 80% or less of the state’s median household income. φ



## Spring Election Results

*Jeanne Cargill*

Please keep us informed! If you are in the process of obtaining a loan or already have a loan from the Clean Water Fund Program, Safe Drinking Water Loan Program, or Land Recycling Loan Program, and your municipality elects a new president, mayor, public works director, clerk or other municipal official this spring, please let us know as soon as possible.

We want to be sure we have the correct name, street address, phone number and e-mail address for the persons in your municipality with which we need to communicate. It is especially important that we get the correct information right away for municipal officials that will be signing Financial Assistance Agreements and bond documents for upcoming loan closings.

If you submitted a Notice of Intent to Apply or a Financial Assistance Application that included the name of an official that is no longer in office, we

want to hear from you! Please inform your project manager or contact Deb Olson at (608) 266-5889 or [debra.olson@wisconsin.gov](mailto:debra.olson@wisconsin.gov). φ

## The Needs Survey Needs Your Help

*Becky Scott*

Please help us return your federal tax dollars to Wisconsin. We need your help to gather documentation for the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey (CWNS).

You may remember being asked four years ago for information and documentation to be used in the CWNS. EPA, in cooperation with the states, conducts the CWNS every four years to collect capital needs for wastewater treatment, stormwater management, and nonpoint source pollution control. Survey results are compiled by EPA and ultimately reported to Congress and made available to the public. The attached information fact sheet shows the CWNS 2004 results for the State of Wisconsin.

### Wisconsin’s Allocation

Submitting documentation that EPA can use in the Needs Survey is extremely important as the federal government may use Survey results to determine each state’s allocation of federal funds to the state revolving loan program in the future. Wisconsin currently receives an annual capitalization grant equal to 2.74% of the national allocation for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program. Wisconsin’s wastewater treatment needs reported in the 2004 survey comprise only 1.94% of national needs; adding stormwater and nonpoint needs raises the percentage to just 2.24%.

There has been an ongoing push in Congress to base the capitalization grant allocation formula on numbers reported in the CWNS. If this happens, Wisconsin stands to lose a considerable amount of federal grant funding for the Clean Water Fund Program. This is why we are asking every municipality to

help us document Wisconsin's needs as completely as possible. Your participation in the CWNS will help us return your federal tax dollars to Wisconsin.

**What Needs Can Be Counted?**

The 20-year timeframe for projects to be counted in the CWNS is from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2028. This means any wastewater, storm water, or nonpoint pollution control project that had not started construction as of January 1, 2008 can be counted. Needs can include traditional wastewater projects, expansion or rehabilitation of your collection system, decentralized wastewater management, water quality related storm water management projects, projects for nonpoint pollution prevention as well as abatement, certain brownfield redevelopment projects and sanitary landfill remediation among others. If you have a capital project that has a water quality benefit or a water-related public health benefit, we can count it in the Survey, regardless of how it is being funded.

**Gathering the Data**

Data collection for CWNS 2008 runs through the beginning of October. CWF staff will contact most municipalities in the state in the next couple of months asking for documentation that can be used in the Survey. It is very important that you respond to these requests even if you do not plan to finance your projects through the CWF.

You don't have to wait for us to contact you to get started; take a look at the documentation requirements listed below, check out EPA's website for more information, or contact Becky Scott at 608-267-7584 or [rebecca.scott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:rebecca.scott@wisconsin.gov) if you have questions. We're anxiously awaiting your information.

**What to Include In Documentation**

In order for EPA to accept your documentation, it needs to include a description of the problem being addressed, a description of the proposed solution to the problem, and the costs of the solution. Facility Plans and Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) often are the best documents for wastewater projects (if the CIP includes a description of the

problem), but most documents that include the necessary information can be used. Documents, or portions of documents, can be submitted by mail or sent electronically, and need to include the cover page and table of contents as well as the sections described above.

More information on the CWNS can be found ([www.epa.gov/cwns](http://www.epa.gov/cwns)).

Please send relevant documentation to: Becky Scott, CF/2  
Department of Natural Resources  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Or by e-mail: [rebecca.scott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:rebecca.scott@wisconsin.gov)

We greatly appreciate your assistance in this effort. φ



## Disadvantaged Business Solicitation

*Jeanne Cargill*

If you are planning to finance a construction project with a loan from the Clean Water Fund Program, Safe Drinking Water Loan Program, or Land Recycling Loan Program, it's important to be informed about the requirements for soliciting disadvantaged businesses when procuring construction work, equipment, raw materials and supplies for your project.

Municipalities applying for funds from these programs and their prime contractors must make good faith efforts to utilize minority business enterprises and women business enterprises (MBE/WBEs) in their projects. Municipalities receiving federal funds must solicit small businesses in rural areas (SBRAs) in addition to MBE/WBEs.

To comply with solicitation requirements, municipalities hiring prime contractors, **and** prime contractors hiring subcontractors, must do *one or more* of the following:

1. Include language in bid advertisements that encourages MBE/WBE/SBRAs to submit bid proposals.
2. Contact 5 MBEs and 5 WBEs (and 5 SBRAs if receiving federal funds) to solicit bids from these firms.
3. Show that there is a lack of MBEs and/or WBEs available to contact who can do the type of work required for the project.
4. Meet the fair share objectives, which are currently 3% participation by MBEs and 12% participation by WBEs. A municipality that awards contracts of 15% or more of project costs to any combination of MBEs and/or WBEs also meets the fair share objectives.

The project manager reviewing a municipality's and their prime contractors' solicitation efforts will apply a sanction to the loan if a good faith effort is not made to utilize disadvantaged businesses.

For more information regarding solicitation requirements, options available for meeting those requirements and applicable sanctions, visit our MBE/WBE/SBRA Solicitation Guidance web page (<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/Guide/MBEproc.html>). φ

# LRLP Priority List for SFY 2009

*Maureen Hubeler*

The Land Recycling Loan Program (LRLP) Project Priority List for State Fiscal Year 2009 is below. Applications are due August 1, 2008 or October 1, 2008. The department will publish a funding list after we receive and review applications. The application form is available on the DNR website

(<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/EL/FORMS/forms.html>).

If you have questions regarding the LRLP, contact Maureen Hubeler at 608-266-0849 or [maureen.hubeler@wisconsin.gov](mailto:maureen.hubeler@wisconsin.gov).

## LRLP Project Priority List for SFY 09

Municipality	Project Number	Project	Amount
West Allis, City	5073-03	SixPoints Redev.-700 Prop.	1,000,000
West Allis, City	5073-04	SixPoints Redev.-101 Block	1,000,000
Baraboo, City	5309-01	Baraboo Riverfront Dev.	2,430,000
Cottage Grove, Town	5001-01	Natvig Road Landfill	700,000
			<b>\$ 5,130,000</b>