

E-Bulletin Newsletter



To provide affordable financial assistance to communities within Wisconsin for water infrastructure projects that protect and improve public health and water quality for current and future generations.



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Update New Officials' Contact Info

Did your municipality elect any new officials on April 2, 2019? Please inform your [DNR project manager](#) with any new officials' contact information:

- name
- municipal title
- street address
- phone number
- email address



We need the correct contact information on file for the people in your municipality involved with a Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) or Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) project, regardless of what stage you're at in the process of obtaining your funding.

This is very important for new village presidents and city mayors. We recommend that the municipality authorize the representative by "title" rather than by "name" so a newly elected official would already be authorized to act on behalf of the municipality.

Authorized representatives

An [authorized representative resolution](#) is a resolution authorizing a municipal official (or an individual employed by the municipality) to act as the applicant's representative in connection with the application and other documentation required for obtaining CWFP/SDWLP financial assistance.

An authorized representative resolution is required so DNR knows that the governing body of the municipality authorized submittal of the application for financial assistance.

- A copy of the resolution must accompany the application submittal.

Staffing Update

Michelle Eis resigned—her last day in the office was March 27th. She was a Project Manager and Small Loans Program Specialist. After five years in the EL Section, Michelle decided to accept a position with USDA Rural Development. She is working out of Shawano, which is a shorter commute for her.

We wish Michelle and her family all the best!

Note: [Kevin Olson](#) is now the Small Loans Program (SLP) Specialist.

DNR, Environmental Loans Section—CF/2, 101 S. Webster Street, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921
dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html | CWFP phone: 608-267-7475 | SDWLP phone: 608-266-0849 | [staff directory webpage](#)



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Loan Project Manager Recruitment

The DNR Bureau of Community Financial Assistance (CFA) will be recruiting for two Loan Project Manager positions in the Environmental Loans (EL) Section. The jobs (and full position descriptions) will likely be announced in April through [Wisc.Jobs](#).

The recruitment will also be for any future vacancies that might occur during 2019. The Loan Project Manager po-

sition is an excellent opportunity for anyone considering a career in environmental management and the water/wastewater industry.

Contact information

If you have questions about becoming a DNR Loan Project Manager, please reach out to Matt Marcum at 608-264-8986 or MatthewR.Marcum@wisconsin.gov.

Federal Equivalency Form Under Revision

The Federal Equivalency Projects Assurances and Certification is unavailable because it's being revised. Form 8700-201 will soon be posted on the [Forms](#) webpage. Newly designated federal equivalency projects in the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) should wait to use the newly revised form.

Contact information

Direct questions about the revised form to Becky Scott at 608-267-7584 or Rebecca.Scott@wisconsin.gov.

Revised Disbursement Form Available

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Community Financial Assistance
101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921

Request for Disbursement for
Financial Assistance Programs
Form 8700-215 (R 02/19) Page 1 of 5

The updated Request for Disbursement [Form 8700-215](#) is available online. From now on, use this new version with the **revision date of February 2019 (R 02/19)**.

Key improvements to the form include:

- Updated instructions.
- Auto-calculations.
- Streamlining and removal of obsolete fields.
- Auto-transfer of information between pages.
- Updated budget categories to match Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) budget categories.

Tips to expedite disbursements

Learn about [Requests for Disbursement](#).

Change orders

Submit your **change orders** for approval to your DNR Construction Management Engineer (CME) as soon as possible to avoid delaying your disbursement. The change order will need to be approved before disbursements can be made on a construction contract.

Contract invoice dates

In addition, make sure all **invoices submitted are within the contract dates**. If they are outside of the contract dates, an amendment or change order will be needed to change the contract date before payment can

be made. This also applies to invoices that go over the total contract amount; an amendment or change order will be needed to pay the amount over contract.

Davis-Bacon Certification

If construction costs are requested, make sure the dates on the **Davis-Bacon Certification** (page 5) cover all the dates on the construction pay application period. Construction costs will be withheld until a complete, correct form is received.

Miscellaneous budget line items

Lastly, check to see that costs requested are included in the Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) budget. **Miscellaneous costs** may need CME approval before payment can be made (for example, some miscellaneous construction costs).

Email requests for disbursement

Email complete disbursement requests as PDFs to: dncrfeldisbursements@wisconsin.gov

- For each email message, the file size limit is 10MB.
- We do not accept stamped and electronic signatures as certification on the disbursement form.
- See [2019 disbursement schedule](#) for deadlines and payment dates.

Note: For email submittals, we suggest you sign the paper form, scan it to a computer, save it as a PDF, then email the completed submittal.

Recent Federal Legislation Impacting SRFs - AWIA

[America's Water Infrastructure Act \(AWIA\)](#), (P.L. 115-270), was enacted on October 23, 2018. This act contained numerous provisions that impact or are related to the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (DWSRFs) as well as a few that are related to the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRFs).

These provisions are highlighted below and primarily impact program administration at the federal & state level. Direct any questions to Becky Scott at 608-267-7584 or Rebecca.Scott@wisconsin.gov.

Section 2002

Section 2002 revives the drinking water Source Water Protection set-aside that was previously only available from the 1996 and 1997 capitalization grants. These funds may be used for delineation and assessment of source water protection areas.

Section 2003

Section 2003 requires EPA, in consultation with the Departments of Agriculture and Health & Human Services, to complete a study that identifies intractable water systems and describes barriers to the delivery of potable water to individuals served by these systems.

Note: Intractable water systems are those that serve fewer than 1,000 people where the owner of the system is unable or unwilling to provide safe and adequate service to customers and is in significant noncompliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), among other criteria.

Section 2005

Section 2005 authorizes a new competitive Drinking Water Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability grant program for federal fiscal years (FFYs) 2019 and 2020, subject to the availability of appropriations. The bill authorizes \$4 million for both FFYs.

Section 2006

Section 2006 added a technical assistance component to the Lead Testing in School and Child Care Programs grant program that was created in section 2107 of the WIIN Act (P.L. 114-322) and also gives priority for the grants to applicants that will assist in voluntary testing for lead contamination at schools and child care programs that are in low-income areas.

This section also adds a new section 1465 to the SDWA, which establishes a new EPA grant program to provide assistance for the replacement of drinking water fountains in schools where the fountains were manufactured prior to 1988.

Section 2007

Section 2007 creates a new competitive EPA grant program to provide assistance to public water systems, educational institutions, or non-profits to develop, test, or deploy innovative water technologies. The bill authorizes \$10 million for both FFY 2019 and 2020.

Section 2015 (b)

Section 2015 (b) placed the existing prevailing wage requirement for DWSRF-funded infrastructure projects into the DWSRF-authorizing section of the SDWA. Congress had previously made this a permanent requirement via the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012.

Section 2015(c)

Section 2015(c) made changes to section 1452(d) of the SDWA. This section previously allowed states to use up to 30% of their annual capitalization grant to provide additional subsidy (principal forgiveness) to disadvantaged municipalities. This additional subsidy was completely optional.

The changes now mandate that a minimum of 6% of the annual capitalization grant be used for additional subsidy up to a maximum of 35%. This additional subsidy for disadvantaged communities is in addition to any additional subsidy that is required under annual appropriation acts.

Section 2015(d)

Section 2015(d) extends the maximum-authorized DWSRF loan amortization period up to 30 years for any DWSRF-eligible community or up to 40 years for disadvantaged communities, or design life, whichever is shorter. Previously, the maximum amortization period was 20 or 30 years, respectively.

This section also extends the authorized repayment initiation up to 18 months after project completion, an increase from the previous authorization of 12 months.

Note that these changes are at the federal level and that implementing them in the SDWLP requires changes to Wisconsin's state statutes.

Section 2015(e)

Section 2015(e) added a requirement that the Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey, which occurs every four years, must include the assessment of costs to replace all lead service lines of eligible public water systems and must separately report the public and private portions of those costs.

Recent Federal Legislation Impacting SRFs - AWIA continued from page 3

Section 2015(g)

Section 2015(g) directs the EPA to conduct a best practices evaluation related to administration of state revolving loan funds and to disseminate this information to the states by October 23, 2021.

Section 2019

Section 2019 directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study whether state or local environmental cross-cutter laws “may be substantially equivalent” to those required by Congress and the EPA for DWSRF-funded infrastructure projects. Congress directs the GAO to work with the state drinking water primacy agencies and public water systems on this study.

The report is due to Congress by October 23, 2019. The scope of the study may include all cross-cutters, including the Davis-Bacon Act.

Section 2020

Section 2020 authorizes \$100 million in supplemental DWSRF capitalization grants for states with community water systems serving an area for which the President issued a Stafford Act emergency declaration after January 1, 2017 or systems that can extend service to an “underserved area” that received Stafford Act disaster assistance.

The EPA will release additional guidance about this section if or when Congress provides an appropriation to fund these supplemental capitalization grants.

Section 2022

Section 2022 extends the American Iron and Steel provision for DWSRF-funded projects through FFY 2023.

Section 4101

Section 4101 requires EPA to establish a stormwater infrastructure funding task force to study the availability of funding sources for stormwater infrastructure.

Section 4102

Section 4102 requires EPA to update and disseminate information on cost-effective and alternative wastewater recycling and treatment technologies, including on-site and decentralized systems.

Section 4103

Section 4103 authorizes EPA to provide grants to non-profit organizations to provide technical assistance to rural, small, and tribal municipalities to assist in obtaining CWSRF financing for eligible activities or helping them to protect water quality.

Section 4106

Section 4106 reauthorizes and amends the Clean Water Act grant programs for addressing sewer overflows and stormwater management. Under these programs, EPA would award grants directly to municipalities in FFYs 2019 and 2020. After that EPA would award grants to states in accordance with a not-yet-developed formula based on stormwater needs.

These grants would require 20% of the funds to be used for projects utilizing green infrastructure, water and energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities.

Section 4107

Section 4107 amended CWSRF eligibility provisions to authorize assistance to nonprofits for repair or replacement of individual-household decentralized wastewater treatment systems, or to connect individual households to a publicly-owned treatment works, when the households have a combined income <50% of the state’s median nonmetropolitan household income.

It also requires EPA to submit a report to Congress within two years describing the prevalence of low- and moderate-income households that lack access to wastewater treatment.

Note that this is a change at the federal level and that implementing it in the CFWP would require a change to Wisconsin’s state statutes.

Section 4201

Section 4201 reauthorized the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) and also made a number of changes related to interactions between WIFIA and the State Revolving Funds (SRFs).



Visit our funding table!

Wisconsin Rural Partners
[Rural Summit](#)

April 25, 2019
 WITC–Rice Lake