Clean Water Fund Program

Learn about the Environmental Loans programs and find guidance at dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html.

Funding for Wastewater & Storm Water Projects

Since 1991, the Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP) provides affordable financial assistance to municipalities for publicly-owned wastewater and storm water infrastructure projects that are needed to achieve or maintain compliance with federal and state regulations, such as Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permits.


Benefits & program features

- Fixed interest rates on long-term loans.
- Online system for notice of Intent to Apply (ITA) and Application submittals.
- Dedicated DNR project manager and construction management engineer.
- Coordination with other federal and state funding sources.

What kinds of funding are available?

The Wisconsin Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) is a state revolving loan fund that combines federal capitalization grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) with state funds to provide funding to municipalities in the form of subsidized loans (reduced-interest rate loans). Some municipalities may be eligible for further subsidy (principal forgiveness) to reduce its loan size.


How may the funds be used?

The program funds are for reasonable and necessary costs directly related to the planning, design, & construction of eligible projects. Funds may be used to construct, improve, modify, purchase, replace, restore, and upgrade wastewater systems and infrastructure; such as collection, transmission, storage, treatment, and disposal.

Common projects: sewer replacement or rehabilitation, and wastewater treatment facility/plant upgrades.

- Example of a general project scope description:
  - Replace 5,555 feet of sewer to address inflow and infiltration.

Who may apply?

Eligible applicants and funding recipients, also referred to as municipalities or local governments, include, but aren’t limited to: Wisconsin cities, towns, villages, counties, and sanitary districts.

How do we apply? When do we apply?

Application guidance and considerations are available on the How to Apply tab at dnr.wi.gov/aid/eif.html#tabx3.

- **October 31st** - CWFP Intent to Apply (ITA) deadline for the following state fiscal year funding cycle.
- **September 30th** - CWFP Application deadline if requesting principal forgiveness for the current funding cycle.
- Applications accepted year-round for CWFP projects not seeking principal forgiveness (PF).

Submit ITA by 10/31/2019 deadline if seeking funding in State Fiscal Year 2021 (07/01/2020 through 06/30/2021).