Winooski River Basin Clean Water Service Provider Project Development Funding

The Winooski River Basin CWSP is seeking proposals to fund project assessment, identification, and development of non-regulatory, phosphorous-reduction projects in the Winooski River Basin. Up to \$10,000 is available to each pre-qualified project implementor through 30 June 2024. The funds can be allocated so that up to **\$YYY** is paid for each proposed project. Before submitting an application please review the Clean Water Initiative Program <u>Grant Recipient Responsibilities and Guidance.</u>

Entity Name:	
Primary contact name: _	
Primary contact Email:	
Primary contact Phone:	

- 1. Project Type(s): (drop down)
- 2. Watershed Project Database ID:
- 3. Watershed Project Database Project name:

*If the project is not yet in the Watershed Project Database, project proponents should complete a Batch Import File (BIF) or Clean Water Project - New Project Form in ANR Online. <u>https://anronline.vermont.gov/?FormTag=CWPNewProject</u>

- 4. Project Budget includes <u>ineligible expenses</u>: Y____N____
- 5. Funding Program Specific Eligibility. Project meets funding program eligibility requirements of Clean Water Service Providers as identified in the Act 76 Law, Rule, and Guidance: Y___N___

6. Project Assessment and Identification: Describe the project(s), including project type(s), potential partners, and a brief timeline. Explain why this project is a priority for your organization and strategies for stakeholder engagement to target cost effective best management practices. It is expected that assessment work will lead to a prioritized list of potential clean water projects to pursue.

7. **Project Development:** Describe scoping work on any identified project to determine feasibility, constraints, and overall suitability for implementing the project. Explain strategy for consulting with the Department of Environmental Conservation and CWSP to determine project budget, permit needs, natural and cultural resource constraints, and other feasibility factors. Outcomes from a project development phase should include a clear plan for advancing any projects deemed feasible with an explanation of the water quality improvement objectives and goals. This includes a specific timeline for when proposed projects will be brought before the Winooski BQWC to be considered for design and implementation funding.

For more information visit the <u>CVRPC CWSP webpage</u> Submit completed applications to Brian Voigt: voigt@cvregion.com

References / Source Text

Assessment, Project Identification, and Project Development Projects seeking funds to perform assessments, project identification, or development must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Eligibility Criteria # 2: Project Types and Standards
- Eligibility Criteria # 3: Watershed Projects Database
- Eligibility Criteria # 6: Budget
- Eligibility Criteria # 8: Funding Program-Specific Eligibilities

Assessments and Project Identification

Sector-specific and multi-sector assessments follow established protocols to identify areas with the highest contributions of pollutants and recommend potential clean water projects/best management practices (BMPs). Work includes landscape level assessments and field work, project identification, and project prioritization through stakeholder engagement to target cost effective actions. Established assessment methodologies require the use the tools and protocols developed and provided by the DEC. It is expected that assessment work will lead to a prioritized list of potential clean water projects to pursue.

Development

CWIP provides funds for project development activities recognizing that well-planned projects save both time and money. Project development is defined as the scoping work on any identified project to determine feasibility, constraints, and overall suitability for implementing the project. This typically includes reviewing site assessments or other project identification tools and prioritized plans, conducting site visits, refining project scope and phasing, developing conceptual maps and drawings, estimating pollutant reduction benefits, confirming landowner/municipal interest, identification of—and possible engagement with—other stakeholders, partners, and likely concerned parties (e.g., neighbors, funders, regulators), identifying the prospective responsible operations and maintenance party, consulting with DEC staff, and determining project budget and permit needs (local, state and federal), natural and cultural resource constraints, co-benefits, and other project considerations, site constraints, and feasibility factors (e.g., rights-of-way, infrastructure, invasive species presence, hazardous materials concerns) in advance of design or between design phases. Outcomes from a project development phase should include a clear plan for advancing any projects deemed feasible with a clear articulation of the water quality improvement objectives and goals and how proposed project will meet these goals. Project development sometimes also includes articulation of a funding strategy and list of potential funding sources. The project feasibility factors identified during this project development phase provide the progress anchors for future design stages. They are a benchmark to touch base on as the project progresses to confirm roadblocks are addressed and no new feasibility concerns have arisen.