District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment



## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

Watershed Restoration and Education Projects (Short name: Watershed Projects) RFA # 2016-1609-WPD

Publication date: 8/12/2016

Application deadline: by 4:30 PM 9/14/2016

Government of the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment 1200 First Street, NE 5th Floor Washington, DC 20002 (202) 535-2600



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## SECTION 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

#### **1.1 Introduction**

The District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment ("DOEE") is soliciting grant applications from eligible entities (called "Applicants"). The goals of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to help control, prevent, and remediate nonpoint sources of polluted runoff to District of Columbia (District) waters and the Chesapeake Bay. Engaging, educating, and empowering District residents to become stewards of the District's waters and the Chesapeake Bay are important facets of this RFA. The WATERSHED PROTECTION DIVISION (WPD) of DOEE is administering this RFA.

#### **1.2 Purpose of the Grants**

The purpose of these grants is to help control, prevent, and remediate nonpoint sources of polluted runoff to District waters and the Chesapeake Bay. Engaging, educating, and empowering District residents to become stewards of the District's waters and the Chesapeake Bay are important facets of this RFA.

#### **1.3 Source of Funds**

The sources of funds for the grants are District Stormwater Enterprise Fund, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant, U.S. EPA Nonpoint Source Management Grant, and Local Funds.

## 1.4 Competition for a Grant Award

This RFA is competitive. Each Applicant must demonstrate its ability to carry out the activities for the grant for which it applies (called a "project"). A review panel will evaluate the applications for each advertised grant according to the stated list of criteria in each project's description. The proposal/s with the highest score/s will be awarded the grant.

Specifically, grant awards will be made based on eligibility (Section 1.6), the extent to which the proposed project fits within the scope and available funding of the grant, strength of the application, and the organization's capacity to achieve the grant's goals.

Each Applicant may submit an application for more than one project.

## **1.5 Projects and Funds Available**

DOEE seeks applications for:

Project	Project Name	Project
Number		Amount
1	Implement Schoolyard Conservation Site Education Program	\$65,000
2	Innovative Low Impact Development-Green Infrastructure	\$750,000
	Demonstration Program	
3	Green Infrastructure Job Training Program	\$400,000
4	Kingman and Heritage Islands Planning and Feasibility Study	\$200,000
5	Overnight Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for	\$300,000
	Fifth Grade Students in the District of Columbia	
6	Pervious Paver Rebate Program	\$300,000
7	RiverSmart Communities Demonstration Program	\$250,000
8	Stream Restoration Monitoring	\$100,000
9	Trash-Focused Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences	\$50,000
	for Third through Eighth Grade Students in the District of	
	Columbia	
10	Watershed Training and Information Dissemination for District	\$25,000
	Residents	
	Total	\$2,440,000

## **1.6 Eligibility**

The following entities are eligible to apply for one or more of the projects in this RFA. See individual projects for complete information.

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

⊠-Faith-based organizations;

 $\square$ -Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

⊠-Private Enterprises.

Continuing conditions of eligibility are that the information in the application is complete and truthful and that the Applicant at all times is able to meet any material conditions stated in its application. For instance, if an Applicant's ability to fulfill the terms of the grant is based on the availability of skilled staff and those staff should leave after the application's submittal or the grant award to the Applicant, the Applicant has the responsibility to advise DOEE in writing of

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this change in material conditions. Another example of change in material conditions that could result in the loss of eligibility would be the loss of the Applicant's tax-exempt status

Two informational meetings/conference calls and opportunity for question and answers will be held on 08-24-2016 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, and on 08-25-2016 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

The location of the meetings will be: 1200 First Street NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20002

The conference call number is (866) 830-5784 and conference code is 6971510.

#### **1.7 Definitions**

District - The District of Columbia.

Grantee - The person provided a grant by the District, including a sub-grantee.

**Person** - A natural person or a legal entity, including a partnership, firm, association, joint venture, public or private corporation, trust, estate, commission, board, public or private institution, cooperative, the District government and its agencies, and the federal government and its agencies.

**Writing** - A tangible or electronic record of a communication or representation, including handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostat, fax, photography, word processing computer output, and e-mail. A "signed" writing includes an electronic symbol or process attached to, or logically associated with a writing, and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the writing.

#### **1.8 Permissible Use of Grant Funds**

A Grantee may use grant funds only for allowable grant project expenditures. Grant funds related to work performed will be provided on a reimbursement basis, except that an advance of funds may be provided for grant administration expenses in limited circumstances for good cause approved by DOEE at its sole discretion.

#### **1.9 Grant Monitoring**

In its sole discretion, DOEE may use several methods to monitor the grant, including site visits, periodic financial reports and the collection of performance data. Each grant is subject to audit.

#### **1.10 General Terms and Conditions**

Appendix 1, "General Terms and Conditions" is incorporated by reference in this RFA. Applicants and Grantees must comply with any and all applicable terms and conditions outlined in Appendix 1.

#### 1.11 RFA Conditions - Promises, Certifications, and Assurances

Appendix 2, "Applicant's Promises, Certifications, and Assurances" ("PCA"), is incorporated by reference in this RFA.

## **1.12 DOEE's Authority to Make Grants**

DOEE has grant-making authority under:

- The Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act of 2004 (D.C. Law 15-340, D.C. Official Code §§ 34-1431-40), including § 34-1436(b) and (c)
- The Water Pollution Control Act of 1984, effective March 16, 1985, as amended, (D.C. Law 5-188; D.C. Official Code § 8-103.01 *et seq.*);
- The District Department of the Environment Establishment Act of 2005, effective February 15, 2006, as amended, (D.C. Law 16-51, D.C. Official Code § 8-151.01 *et seq.*);
- The Comprehensive Stormwater Management Enhancement Amendment Act of 2008, effective March 25, 2009, (D.C. Law 17-371; D.C. Official Code § 8-152.01 *et seq.*); and
- Other applicable laws and regulations.

# 1.13 Conflicts between RFA and Applicable Law

If any requirement of this RFA conflicts with a provision of any applicable law, including a District or federal law or regulation, the applicable legal provision shall control.

## SECTION 2. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

#### 2.1 RFA Release Date

The release date of this RFA is 8/12/2016.

#### 2.2 Obtaining a Copy of the RFA

A person may obtain a copy of this RFA at doee.dc.gov or by requesting a copy through any of the methods listed in Section 2.6. Please add to any note the heading "RE: RFA 2016-1609-WPD."

#### 2.3 Applications: When, What, and Where

When: All applications must be received at the address below by 4:30 p.m. on 9/14/2016.

Applications will be dated and recorded as "received" pending review by DOEE for completeness. DOEE considers an application to be "filed" only if all the required materials are submitted. Late or incomplete applications will be considered received, not filed.

**What:** The contents of the Application are specified in Section 3. For each project, each applicant must submit:

Five paper copies of the application; and

One electronic copy.

The Department will not receive faxed copies.

Where: The paper copies must be filed with DOEE at the following address:

#### District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment

RFA – Grants 1200 First Street NE 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, DC 20002

Attn: RFA 2016-1609-WPD

Email: The electronic copy, formatted as a .pdf file should be sent to 2016WatershedProjects@dc.gov

#### 2.4 Award Announcement

DOEE expects to notify each Applicant in writing of its award status within six weeks after the application due date.

## 2.5 Updates and Questions and Answers (Q & A)

Additional information may become available before the application is due. It is the Applicant's responsibility to stay up-to-date on the status and requirements of the grant for which it is applying.

DOEE welcomes questions seeking clarification of matters in this RFA. Questions about the RFA should be sent to 2016WatershedProjects@dc.gov with "RE: RFA 2016-1609-WPD" in the subject line.

DOEE will publish updates and Questions and Answers (Q&A) regarding the RFA at <u>doee.dc.gov</u>. DOEE will also create an email list to send updates and information regarding the RFA. A person can be put on the email list by immediately emailing 2016WatershedProjects@dc.gov with the subject line "RE: RFA 2016-1609-WPD – Add me to the email list."

DOEE will provide the information to those on the email list at the same time the information is uploaded to the DOEE website. Paper copy updates will be available for pickup at DOEE's offices by appointment. DOEE will not mail out updates or Q&A materials.

The cut-off date for receipt of any questions is one week prior to the application deadline.

## **2.6 DOEE Contacts**

DOEE can be contacted about this RFA (use the RFA's short name and number whenever possible) by:

- (a) **Emailing** 2016WatershedProjects@dc.gov with "RE: RFA 2016-1609-WPD" in the subject line;
- (b) In person by making an appointment with (call Lauren Linville at (202) 535-2252 and mention this RFA by name); or
- (c) Write DOEE at 1200 First Street NE, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, Attention: Lauren Linville RE: RFA 2016-1609-WPD on the envelope.

## SECTION 3. APPLICATION CONTENT

## 3.1 Format

Proposals should be formatted as follows:

- (a) Use plain, white,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  x 11" recycled paper with one-inch margins.
- (b) Applications should be double-sided to the extent possible;
- (c) Limit each project description to 15 double-spaced pages. Budget tables, flowcharts, photographs, the work plan, and other supporting documentation may be attached in addition to the project description
- (d) Staple the application in the top left-hand corner. Do not use a plastic cover or other form of binding.

## **3.2 Proposal Content**

DOEE intends to fund a project that will benefit the environment, and, in particular, the environment of the District. The proposal should use the following format and explain, in increasing levels of detail, how the Applicant will accomplish this.

(Note: Before drafting the proposal, please read the project description very carefully to see if there are restrictions for the DOEE grant. For instance, certain activities might be required to take place in the District or the scoring might give extra points to labor sourced in the District.)

## (a) Cover Sheet

Include a cover sheet in the format specified in Appendix 3.

# (b) **Project Summary**

Provide a brief introduction (one or two paragraphs) that summarizes the proposal.

## (c) **Project Description**

Present the quantifiable outputs and how to measure the project's success. This will require identifying the target audience, explaining how the chosen methods will produce the outputs, and what resources must be expended to achieve the outputs identified. In presenting the project team and the budget, ensure that expenditures identified are those that the grant can reimburse.

(1) Purpose and Objectives

State how the project will benefit the environment and identify its targets or objectives.

(2) Target Audience

Identify the target audience and address how the project will engage the target audience. For instance, if the project has an educational component, describe who the target audience is (e.g., high school students, low-income residents, etc.), how the project will educate the target audience, and how educating this audience will benefit the environment.

(3) Project Outcomes, Outputs, and Activities

# Explain the expected project outcomes, the project outputs that will produce the outcomes, and the activities that make the outputs possible.

A *project outcome* is a medium- to long-term result that occurs and/or continues after the project ends. Outcomes tend not to be quantified, because they are typically statements of relative conditions. For example, outcomes – not necessarily associated with this project – might include improved health of residents, an adequately sized riparian buffer, or increased public awareness of the effects of human activities on the health of the Chesapeake Bay.

An output is a short-term result achieved at the end of the project period. Outputs can and should be quantified. For example, an output might be described as providing watershed education to 100 students, installing 200 square feet of green roof and an informational sign, or cleaning two acres of land of invasive plants.

*Activities* are undertaken to achieve the outputs and outcomes. For example, if the project involves teachers, the proposal would explain how the Applicant will recruit the teachers, what the teachers will do, and if any experience or research supports the proposed use of teachers.

The proposal should connect the projected outcomes with the outputs, and the outputs, in turn, to the funded activities. This enables reviewers to evaluate what the proposed project will achieve if funded.

# (4) Methods

Describe how the Applicant will use people and resources to accomplish the proposed activities.

(5) Measurement of Project Success

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Provide quantifiable measurements. For example, a trash removal project might measure the pounds of trash removed, while a stormwater project might measure the amount of stormwater captured. Also, if there are key tasks in the project, the proposal should identify the milestones necessary to produce the stated outputs.

(6) Project Budget.

Present a project budget and budget narrative.

An example of a project budget table, with categories that DOEE examines, appears in Appendix 4. The narrative should explain each budget line item. The explanation should be thorough enough to allow a reviewer to understand why expenditure levels were chosen and how the line item amounts were derived. The narrative should list its principal assumptions - for example, "senior staff are paid \$xx per hour times xx hours."

The proposal may use the budget format in Appendix 4. If the Applicant's own internal budget format is more detailed and covers each of the indicated line items, the Applicant may use its budget format. The budget must state the total cost of the project, even if the total exceeds the amount of the grant.

If the Applicant seeks an advance payment, it must request advance payment in its proposal and explain why an advance payment is requested. See Section 6.2.

Resources other than those being funded under the grant should appear in the column titled "Non-DOEE Match," meaning the Applicant intends to provide the indicated resources (i.e., the "match," and that the resources do not come from DOEE). Entries in this column would include both dollars and the value of the in-kind contributions. For example, in-kind contributions can include staff time, volunteer services, already-paid licensing fees, materials, supplies, and the use of equipment or real estate.

Volunteer hours provided to a grantee or sub-grantee must be valued at rates consistent with those the Applicant's organization ordinarily pays for similar work, including salary and fringes. If the grantee or a sub-grantee does not have employees performing similar work, the rates must be valued the same as rates ordinarily paid by employers in the same labor market for similar work.

The Applicant must verify that all costs in the budget are allowable and verifiable (see the examples of allowable costs and non-allowable costs listed below). DOEE will require documentation for grant payments, and the entire grant will be subject to audit.

Typical allowable costs are:

- 1. Rental of office space, some vehicles, and some equipment;
- 2. Employee salaries and benefits;
- 3. Contractor labor, including professional services;
- 4. Accounting and bookkeeping services;
- 5. Communications, including telephone and data services;
- 6. Printing, reproduction, including signage;
- 7. Materials and supplies;
- 8. Computers and printers;
- 9. Small tools;
- 10. Some field equipment, typically below \$5,000 in value;
- 11. Postage and shipping;
- 12. Necessary travel, meals and lodging; and
- 13. Insurance.

If the category or size of the expenditure is not obviously connected to the proposed project, the proposal should justify it. For example, a project to install a \$100,000 trash trap should discuss how the particular equipment was identified and why the price is the best for the project.

Non-Allowable Costs include:

- 1. Most major equipment, like vehicles;
- 2. Lobbying, including salaries and overheads and out-of-pocket expenses;
- 3. Entertainment;
- 4. Interest payments on loans;
- 5. Most food; and
- 6. Land purchases.

#### (a) Applicant.

(1) Organization.

Describe the organization's history, mission, and current or past projects that demonstrate the organization's capacity to achieve the project's goals. This section should be limited to one page. To provide further information, the Applicant can reference its website or attach organizational brochure or resume.

(2) Key personnel.

Identify the key team members for the project and provide brief biographies or their resumes. The team members can be staff, volunteers or contractors. (3) Past performance on District Grants/Contracts.

Identify District agencies from which the Applicant has received funding as a contractor, grantee, or partner in the past five years and provide specific information including:

- The grant(s) or contract(s) title;
- The District agency/agencies;
- The grant number(s), contract number(s), or other identifier(s);
- The amount(s) paid; and
- What was accomplished as a result of the funding(s).

Briefly describe any disputes, investigations, or audits related to any of these District grants or contracts, grants, or partnerships in the past five years.

(4) Partners.

Sometimes partnerships can improve the success of a project. These partnerships might be with government agencies, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), companies, or individuals. If a partner is to be involved in the project, the Applicant must describe the partner's involvement and resource commitments. The proposal must identify and attach a letter of support on the partner's letterhead, signed by an authorized official if the partner is a government agency, NGO, or business entity.

In lieu of a letter, an Applicant may attach an email from the partner (or an authorized official if the partner is a government agency, NGO, or business entity) that states support of the project and identifies the partner's name, address, website, and a contact name, telephone number, and email address.

For the following types of partners, provide the documentation indicated.

i. District of Columbia Public Schools

If the Applicant will work with the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), it must include a letter of support from the principal of each school with which it will work, and, if available, from each participating teacher. Teachers and principals may send a joint letter.

ii. Property Owner

If the Applicant will work on public land, it must submit a letter of support from the managing agency. Similarly, if the Applicant is to work on private land, it must submit a letter of support

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from each property owner. If the project includes construction or installation, the letter must acknowledge that the property owner will be responsible (either directly or through an agreement with another entity) for project maintenance.

iii. Partnering Organization

If the Applicant has identified a project partner, it must include a letter of intent from the collaborating organization/s, agreeing to participate in the proposed project. The letter should demonstrate that the partnering organization understands the project presented for funding and the activities and/or services that the partner will provide.

iv. National Park Service

Projects that would be carried out on National Park Service (NPS) property will require NPS permission. Sometimes the paperwork supporting such permission takes extra time to complete. DOEE will accept more informal statements generated by responsible NPS officials, including emails.

## 3.3 Work Plan

The proposal package must include a work plan that describes the timeline for project implementation.

## **3.4 Required Documents**

Each of the following documents must be filed as part of the proposal package. If the document is not in this filing, DOEE may classify the grant application as "received" but not "filed," as specified in Section 2.3. However, if a government agency must issue a required document, and the Applicant has requested the document but not received it, DOEE may accept a copy of the Applicant's request to the agency for the purpose of deeming the Application "filed."

## (a) Certificate of Good Standing

Each Applicant must submit a current Certificate of Good Standing from the District Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs.

## (b) **Promises, Certifications, and Assurances**

Each Applicant must sign and submit the "Promises, Certifications and Assurances" ("PCA") in Appendix 2.

Signing the PCA is a condition of eligibility for this grant. If the Applicant is not prepared to sign the PCA, it should not apply for a grant. Compliance with the promises, certifications, and assurances in the PAC is a continuing condition of eligibility for this grant.

The PCA must be signed by the Applicant or, if the Applicant is an organization, by a duly authorized officer of the organization.

The PCA also includes a sworn statement verifying that the Applicant is not in arrears (i.e. is "current") on all obligations outstanding to the District, including all District agencies. The Applicant must be "current" as of the date of the application and the date of a grant award. DOEE requires, as a condition of continuing eligibility, that a grantee stay current on such obligations during the period of the grant.

# (c) IRS W-9 Tax Form

The Applicant must submit a current completed W-9 form prepared for the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS). DOEE defines "current" to mean that the document was completed within the same calendar year as that of the application date.

# (d) Tax Exemption Affirmation Letter

The tax exemption affirmation letter is the IRS's determination letter of non-profit status. If this letter is not available, then the Applicant should provide its most recent IRS Form 990 tax return, if one was submitted. If no return has yet been filed, the organization can submit its application for tax-exempt status. If the group has a supporting organization with an IRS tax-exempt status determination, then that organization's tax exemption affirmation letter should also be submitted.

If there is no IRS tax exemption affirmation letter because the organization is a religious organization, then the Applicant may submit the best evidence it can of its status. Examples of potential best evidence for this purpose include, but are not limited to (i) a letter from the leader of the organization verifying that the organization is a religious group; (ii) a letter from the group's board chair or similar official, verifying that the organization is a religious group; (iii) the Applicant's most recently submitted state sales or other tax exemption form, if it exists (Form 164 in the District of Columbia); or (iv) the state's issued tax exemption certificate or card, if it exists. (*See* IRS publication no. 1828, *Tax Guide for Churches and Religious Organizations*.)

# (e) Applicant's Current Fiscal Year Budget

The Applicant must submit its full budget, including projected income, for the current fiscal year, using a format at least as detailed as that presented in Appendix 4. Also, the Applicant should submit a comparison of budgeted versus actual income and expenses of the fiscal year to date.

# (f) Applicant's Financial Statements

If the Applicant has undergone an audit or financial review, it must provide the most recent

audited financial statements or reviews. If audited financial statements or reviews are not available, the Applicant must provide its most recent complete year's unaudited financial statements.

## (g) Separation of Duties Policy

The Applicant must state how the organization separates financial transactions and duties among people within the organization in order to prevent fraud or waste. This may be a statement that already exists as a formal policy of the organization, or the Applicant may create the statement for purposes of the application. The applicant should state which of these situations apply.

This statement should:

- Describe how financial transactions are handled and recorded;
- Provide the names and titles of personnel involved in handling money;
- Identify how many signatures the financial institution(s) require on the organization's checks and withdrawal slips; and,
- Address other limits on staff and board members' handling of the organization's money.

## **SECTION 4. Review Panel and Application Scoring**

## 4.1 Review Panel

This is a competitive grant. The review panel for the RFA will be composed of individuals with knowledge in the areas directly related to the RFA. The review panel will review, score and rank each Applicant's proposal.

The panel will recommend the top scorer for award of the grant.

Review panels vary in size, but typically are made up of three to five people. At least two members of the review panel will be from DOEE staff. Whenever practicable, each panel will include at least one person from outside of DOEE.

## 4.2 Scoring Criteria

The reviewers score each proposal according to a list of criteria and their available points. The criteria and the points appear in project description section of this RFA. The scoring of each application is based on a 100-point scale. The Applicant should read the scoring criteria carefully, ensuring that the proposal addresses each of the criteria.

Preference points may be awarded independent of the 100-point scale. An Applicant with an address in the District at the time of the application may be awarded a residency preference of 10 (ten) points. If an Applicant does not have an address in the District, but the application includes

a District-based partner, five (5) points may be awarded. The Applicant should read the scoring rubric section carefully to determine if preference points will be awarded.

Some grants require matching funds or other matching resources. Matches can be provided with resources of value to the proposed project, as discussed above in the section on budget. The Applicant should read the project description section carefully to determine if a match is required.

## See section 7 for detailed scoring criteria for this solicitation

## SECTION 5. GRANTEE DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS

#### 5.1 Submissions If Applicant Will Receive the Grant

Upon acceptance of a grant award, the Grantee must provide the following documents.

#### (a) Certificate of Insurance

The Grantee shall submit a certificate of insurance giving evidence of the required coverage outlined in Appendix 1, General Terms and Conditions. DOEE will presume that the budget covers the cost of this required insurance and will not later adjust the grant award for this amount.

#### (b) Assurance of Continued Truth and Accuracy

The Grantee shall reaffirm upon acceptance of the grant award that the statements it signed in support of its application are still true and correct, or, if not, what has changed. See also Section 1.6.

## SECTION 6. FILING REQUIREMENTS GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### **6.1 Reporting Requirements**

The grantee must submit the following reports as a condition of continuing eligibility for funding.

#### (a) Quarterly Status Reports

DOEE will provide a quarterly status report template with the grant award. These reports, which discuss grant activities for the preceding quarter, will be due on each of the following dates.

1 <sup>st</sup> Q (Jan-Mar):	April 15
$2^{nd}$ Q (Apr-Jun):	July 15

3<sup>rd</sup> Q (Jul-Sep): October 15 4<sup>th</sup> Q (Oct-Dec): January 15

If a report's due date falls on a weekend or District holiday, the report will be due the next business day.

The report must detail actions taken in the quarter preceding the report date, highlight outputs achieved, provide a financial update, and report unforeseen changes to project timetable, staffing, or partnerships, as well as any other changes that may affect project outcomes.

## (b) Final Report

DOEE will provide a final report template with the grant award. This report includes quantification by the grantee of the project's outputs and describes the extent to which project outcomes met or will meet the objectives of the funded proposal. The template requires submission of data and analysis of the data.

#### 6.2 Reimbursement of Project Expenditures and Disbursement of Funds

DOEE will not reimburse the Grantee for any work undertaken before DOEE notifies the recipient of the final award of the grant.

DOEE will reimburse the Grantee only for expenditures incurred to perform work under the grant. In limited cases, DOEE may advance funds at the beginning of the grant period for good cause approved by DOEE at its sole discretion. If the Applicant seeks an advance payment, it must request such payment in its proposal and explain why an advance payment is being requested.

DOEE operates on the District's fiscal year, which starts October 1 of a calendar year and ends September 30 of the next calendar year. The grantee may submit a reimbursement request or an invoice at any time during the fiscal year for work performed within that same fiscal year. Each request/invoice must include supporting documentation.

Reimbursements will be mailed to the address on file for the grantee. DOEE may make electronic payments in lieu of mailing checks. DOEE generally pays grant invoices 30 days after DOEE receives them.

DOEE will withhold the final 10% invoiced under a grant until all required activities have been completed, including receipt of the final report.

#### SECTION 7. PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR GRANT FUNDING

#### 7.1. Summary: Project Titles and Available Funds

Sub-section	Project Number	Project Title	Available Funds
7.2.1	1	Implement Schoolyard Conservation Site Education Program	\$65,000
7.2.2	2	Innovative Low Impact Development-Green Infrastructure Demonstration Program	\$750,000
7.2.3	3	Green Infrastructure Job Training Program	\$400,000
7.2.4	4	Kingman and Heritage Islands Planning and Feasibility Study	\$200,000
7.2.5	5	Overnight Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for Fifth Grade Students in the District of Columbia	\$300,000
7.2.6	6	Pervious Paver Rebate Program	\$300,000
7.2.7	7	RiverSmart Communities Demonstration Program	\$250,000
7.2.8	8	Stream Restoration Monitoring	\$100,000
7.2.9	9	Trash-Focused Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for Third through Eighth Grade Students in the District of Columbia	\$50,000
7.2.10	10	Watershed Training and Information Dissemination for District Residents	\$25,000

## 7.2 Project Descriptions

## 7.2.1 Project 1: Implement Schoolyard Conservation Site Education Program

Schoolyards provide opportunities to incorporate innovative landscape designs that create habitat for wildlife, promote use of native plants, highlight water conservation techniques, and retain and filter stormwater runoff. In addition to the environmental benefits these techniques can achieve, these projects also beautify school grounds and provide an outdoor opportunity that supports effective teaching practices and promotes student learning.

In the District of Columbia, informing students about green landscaping is especially pertinent due to the poor health of the local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay and the lack of wildlife habitat and green space in our urban environment. With this in mind, the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division has developed the RiverSmart

Schools Schoolyard Conservation Site (SCS) program. The SCS education program provides teachers with the training and financial resources to utilize their school grounds for outdoor environmental education, with an emphasis on District science, math, and reading standards. Through separate contracts, DOEE designs and builds outdoor classrooms at the same school sites provided with teacher training so that teachers may use the school grounds for environmental education. The SCS education program has been implemented in District schools since 2005.

Through this grant the selected grantee will carry out the teacher training and outreach elements of the SCS education program. The selected grantee will develop curricula for teachers to use in the outdoor green spaces provided by DOEE as learning environments for math, science, and reading subjects as well as other subjects that can utilize SCS locations. It is expected that students, teachers, and associated communities will learn to utilize and maintain these outdoor greening sites.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is two (2) years with an option of up to two (2) additional years (for a maximum of four (4) years).

Sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000) total is available for one award or multiple awards. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Thirty-thousand dollars (\$30,000) of the total award will be allocated for the first year.

The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

DOEE is seeking proposals to manage the training and outreach components of the SCS education program. Through this grant, the selected grantee will expand the SCS education program to ten (10) District schools that have not previously been funded through this program. These schools will be selected by DOEE through a competitive application process. The selected grantee will also provide maintenance support for five existing SCS sites. DOEE will assist the grantee to select the five sites that will receive maintenance support.

SCS is a well-established, publicly known DOEE program. Through years of trial and error, SCS has developed the following features leading to the program's success, and expects each application to include them. DOEE expects the grantee to adhere to those terms and standards to help ensure the program's success and continuity. These include:

- Recruit at least two (2) to three (3) teachers to lead each school's SCS efforts;
- Ensure SCS teachers receive sixteen (16) hours of training and a hand-on curriculum;
- Conduct pre-and-post testing for participating students;
- Collect feedback from teachers to evaluate program success; and
- Provide \$1,000 for plants, tools and materials for maintenance to each of the five SCS site receiving maintenance support through a competitive application process.

If DOEE should change one or more of these features, the agency will negotiate with the grantee to avoid any financial penalty or impediment to achieving milestones.

Program activities to manage the training and outreach components of the SCS education program should include:

- <u>Teacher training, curriculum connection, and follow-up</u>:
  - o Identify teachers to lead their school's SCS efforts
  - Conduct training for all SCS teachers to strengthen their outdoor environmental education skills and ensure they understand how to use their schoolyard conservation site to teach District math, science, and reading standards.
  - Provide a hands-on curriculum that includes the following topics:
    - Nonpoint source water pollution and low impact development (LID) methods to reduce stormwater runoff;
    - Impacts of nonpoint source water pollution on the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay;
    - Lessons on native plants, trees, habitat, conservation landscaping practices, and soil;
    - Guidance for using the site to teach District math, science, and reading standards appropriate for the age group of students at the site; and
    - Guidance for team building and teaching in the outdoors.

- <u>Integrating SCS into educational curriculum</u>:
  - Provide indoor/outdoor classroom teaching assistance to the teachers covering the above topics; and
  - Coordinate watershed field trip experiences for each school to learn about the watershed.
- <u>Community connections (outreach):</u>
  - Coordinate with DOEE to recruit and develop a SCS team for each school to involve the surrounding community with site preparation, plantings and maintenance of the garden (past SCS teams were comprised of three teachers, one administrator, one maintenance staff, and one parent and/or community member);
  - Develop strategies to involve the community and facilitate team building;
  - Attend the SCS design charrette, cleanup days, and planting days; and
  - Work closely with DOEE, the DC Environmental Education Consortium schoolyard greening committee, and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education School Garden Program to integrate sites/schools into the city-wide schoolyard greening efforts such as School Garden Week, garden tours, training workshops, etc.
- <u>Maintenance support for existing SCS sites</u>:
  - Work with DOEE to identify five existing SCS sites to receive plants, tools and materials for maintenance of five existing SCS sites;
  - Coordinate with teachers and community connections to determine SCS needs and procure all items; and
  - Account for all expenditures through the reporting and invoicing process.
- <u>Schoolyard conservation site education evaluation</u>:
  - Conduct a pre- and post-testing for participating student; and
  - Have the teachers complete a form evaluating the success of the program.
- <u>Culminating event</u>:
  - Prepare teachers, parents and community stakeholders from all SCSs to present on their projects, exchange lesson plans and talk about how they have integrated the projects into their curriculum at a to-be-determine event in the District

The Application must include a sample lesson plan.

**Note:** Applicants may partner with other organizations to fulfill any components of the SCS program.

#### **Project Outcomes**

The outcomes of this project will include the following:

- Awareness by teachers, students, and the surrounding community of the use of schoolyard green space to promote LID methods, wildlife habitat, native plants, water conservation, and the reduction of nonpoint source water pollution;
- Involvement by the school body and surrounding community in caring for their school grounds;
- The connection of green spaces in the District to the local environment, waterways, and Chesapeake Bay; and
- A working conservation site team for each school.

## **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

The outputs and deliverables of this project will include the following:

- Thirty (30) teachers trained to teach students in an outdoor environment to understand LID methods and improve wildlife habitat and local water quality;
- Number of team and classroom visits;
- Number of students educated;
- Ten (10) SCS teams established and working on SCS sites;
- Five (5) SCS maintained;
- Evaluation results from student pre- and post-tests and teacher evaluations; and
- One culminating event for all schools to present and exchange the methods used to successfully integrate the projects into their curricula.

Scoring Criteria	Points
The application is well written with clear goals and objectives.	10
The project budget has high investment of resources and time in working with the school teams, teachers and students.	15
The method for providing technical assistance in outdoor teaching is excellent.	15
The outreach strategy engages local community, parents, and any other potential partners in building and maintaining conservation site teams.	15
The application provides drafts of: a schedule for teacher trainings, associated curricula and topics, a student pre- and post-test, and teacher evaluation instrument.	15
The application demonstrates the applicant's excellent past experience with and knowledge of teaching environmental education and gardening that emphasizes wildlife habitat, native plants, LID, and conservation landscaping.	10
The teachers will be able to utilize the SCS site for educational purposes.	10
The application presents an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested.	10

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.2 Project 2: Innovative Low Impact Development-Green Infrastructure Demonstration Program

#### **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division, encourages the installation of innovative stormwater control retrofits within the District of Columbia (District). The purpose of this program is to fund part of cost-share retrofits, which are also known as low-impact development (LID) or green infrastructure (GI).

Many unintended consequences have resulted from the ever-increasing amount of impervious surfaces that have displaced balanced natural systems as the District has developed. The purpose of LID-GI is to retain the first flush of stormwater from these impervious surfaces, decrease total runoff, and filter stormwater to reduce the load of nonpoint source pollution entering District waterways. The District is using the terms LID and GI to describe the design, engineering, and construction of built environments that incorporate vegetated systems or technologies that make the constructed world respond to rain events more like the natural world.

LID-GI includes a growing collection of technologies and approaches that manage stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces, such as parking lots, rooftops, sidewalks, driveways, alleys, and roadways. This could involve the installation of green roofs, curbside bioretention or rain gardens, permeable paving, or rainwater harvesting and reuse systems. Specific examples include directing roadway runoff to street tree boxes or roof runoff to storage tanks (or cisterns) that will provide a building with some or all of its non-potable water needs.

LID-GI treats or retains stormwater at the lot level (where the rain falls), often making use of existing landscaped features. LID-GI technologies provide extra benefits for the landowner and the local environment, including increased aesthetic appeal, habitat creation, air pollution abatement, urban heat-island effect mitigation, reduced building heating and cooling costs, and reduced potable water demands.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The maximum project period is three (3) years. The applicant's proposal must indicate the approximate amount of time needed to complete the project.

Seven-hundred-fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) total is available for multiple awards. Maximum award per project is two-hundred-fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The award amount is contingent upon the cost effectiveness of the project; i.e., projects with a higher benefit/cost ratio will receive larger awards. Matching funds are highly encouraged, but not required. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

 $\square$ -Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

⊠-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

Funding is available for the design, permitting, and construction of certain kinds of projects demonstrating LID-GI stormwater control technologies. The primary goals of this demonstration grant program include the following:

- Controlling stormwater runoff by connecting impervious surfaces with on-site water demands, like irrigation, infiltration, or non-potable building needs;
- Installing on sites located within the District's most impaired/highest priority watersheds (<u>http://arcg.is/2a6WAHG</u>);
- Achieving the greatest nonpoint source pollution control for the dollars requested (cost/benefit); and
- Expanding upon the current knowledge and understanding of stormwater treatment/capture/reuse strategies by providing design and construction information that will add to the District's database of concept designs, construction contracts, and schedules for LID-GI.

All projects must demonstrate stormwater runoff reduction and/or show how increases in water quality through reduced pollutant loads will be achieved. Funds are not restricted by the type of construction and may be used for new construction or redevelopment, or to retrofit existing properties and structures; except that a project is not eligible if it is being constructed specifically to comply with the District's stormwater management regulations. Funds are not restricted by the type of the type of property owner and may be used on private properties located within the District. A letter of support from the property owner or owners is required as a part of the application.

All projects must educate the public about the multi-faceted benefits of LID-GI (e.g., stormwater treatment, wildlife habitat, or aesthetic value). Similar projects have used educational signage to achieve this. If the grantee uses signage to meet this requirement, it must be reviewed and approved by DOEE prior to being installed.

Specifically, proposals will be accepted only for:

- Retrofitting existing properties that do not currently have appropriate stormwater controls in place with LID-GI practices; and/or
- Adding LID-GI practices for stormwater retention capacity to new construction or redevelopment projects that go beyond the regulatory stormwater control requirement of 1.2 inches of retention.

DOEE has identified locations in the Anacostia River, Oxon Run, and Rock Creek watersheds within the District for potential GI installation. The locations are detailed in DOEE's watershed implementation plans (WIPs), which are posted on DOEE's website at <a href="http://doee.dc.gov/publication/watershed-implementation-plans">http://doee.dc.gov/publication/watershed-implementation-plans</a>. While a WIP does not currently exist for the Potomac River watershed, projects are equally encouraged in this area.

In addition to the requirements listed above, the following conditions apply to LID-GI project proposals:

- These grant funds cannot be used for construction that is specifically in response to regulatory stormwater management requirements for new construction or redevelopment projects;
- Proposals must specify a project location, including either a property address or boundaries (for a linear public right-of-way installation);
- Proposals are expected to involve construction and to have secured additional outside implementation funding; and
- Proposals will not be considered for projects at single-family dwellings to install rain barrels, permeable paving, rain gardens, native perennial planting (BayScaping), or shade-tree planting. These projects are implemented through DOEE's RiverSmart Homes program.
- Proposals will not be considered for projects at primary or secondary schools, which include public, charter, and private schools. These projects are implemented through DOEE's RiverSmart Schools program.
- Green roof proposals will only be considered if they address some larger question about the use of the technology, like integration of green roofs into a zero-discharge reuse system, demonstration of integrated photovoltaic and green roof systems, or another innovation that may enhance the technology's market penetration. Standard green roof projects are implemented through DOEE's RiverSmart Rooftops program.
- Proposals will not be considered for projects managing fewer than 500 gallons of stormwater runoff.

- To be considered, proposals must provide sufficient evidence that the project(s) will be completed within the time frame proposed. Examples of items to consider when evaluating a project's ability to be completed within the required time:
  - Whether the property borders National Park Service land;
  - Whether the project would be complicated by extreme traffic challenges or security challenges;
  - Difficulty getting permission from neighbors; and
  - A permitting process that would cause unreasonable project delays or be costly.

Proposals targeting the public right-of-way (PROW) must consider the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) permitting review and approval timelines. PROW includes DDOT-controlled streets, highways, sidewalks, traffic islands, alleys, and utility easements. Other PROW issues:

- Stormwater treated in the PROW must originate as rainfall onto the PROW;
- Early coordination for concept, site location, and design with DDOT is required. Show that you have contacted the Project Management Support Division in the DDOT Infrastructure Project Management Administration (202-671-2800);
- A letter of support from DDOT is required for the application;
- DDOT may require additional components as part of the project, like quantification of pollution reduction; and
- The applicant or other appropriate team member, not DDOT, will likely accept responsibility for maintenance of proposed LID-GI, and secure DDOT approval.

## **Project Outcomes**

- Increased inventory of LID-GI practices in the District;
- Stormwater retention and treatment to protect District waterways; and
- Public education about the multi-faceted benefits of LID-GI (e.g., stormwater treatment, wildlife habitat, or aesthetic value).

## **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- Installation of LID-GI stormwater management practice(s);
- Scanned final civil engineering plans with permit stamps and associated design reports;
- Receipt of required permits for all installations;
- Registration of all completed projects in the DOEE Stormwater Database (<u>http://doee.dc.gov/swdb</u>);
- DOEE-filed maintenance covenants for all complete projects
- Completed as-built certification pursuant to DOEE's "<u>As-built Storm Water Management</u> <u>Plan Guidelines</u>", found at DOEE's website, <u>http://doee.dc.gov/swguidebook;</u>
- Number of individuals reached through education and outreach;
- Copies of education and outreach materials;
- Project signage;

- Written agreement establishing the long-term maintenance plan;
- Project budget detailing construction costs and projected operation and maintenance costs;
- Project contracts, construction and, if proposed, long-term maintenance contracts;
- Quarterly status reports showing accomplishments and progress to date and detailing the completion of project objectives; and
- A final report.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Presents a highly-qualified team that is capable of managing the	20
proposed project; has strong experience completing similar projects; and	
has experience with District permit plan review and permit acquisition.	
Excellent site: A highly publicly visible site; a site that presents unique	15
opportunities for innovation, public education, or significant water	
quality benefits; associated with a site identified in a DOEE-posted WIP.	
Project appears feasible to treat or retain at least 1.2 inches of stormwater	10
Includes buy-in from all relevant stakeholders;	10
Will provide a deliverable that is transferable to other District sites;	5
Indicates a high level of innovation;	10
Addresses immediate and long-term maintenance plans;	10
Presents an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested;	5
Presents outreach strategies that are not merely feasible, but are	5
innovative, and identifies a broad audience	
Cost-share provided by the applicant.	10

Preference points are not available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.3 Project 3: Green Infrastructure Job Training Program

## **Introduction**

Green infrastructure (GI), ranging from roadway stormwater management practices to stream restoration work, is a growing field and plays a key role in improving the health of waterbodies in the District. The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) seeks a qualified party to develop and operate a 9-to-12-month GI job program that trains 15-to-20 young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 years who are District residents. Training will focus on the maintenance and inspection of recently completed stream restoration and GI projects. Trainees will learn entry-level skills in the growing green economy and be educated in GI.

#### **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one year with an option of up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years.

Four-hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) total is planned for one award; it could be divided among multiple awards. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

The purpose of this grant is to fund a program that provides young adults, ages 18 to 24 years, with the technical skills to install, inspect, and maintain GI and the soft skills to seek, find, secure, and keep jobs in the green economy.

The application should address how the trainees will learn at least the following green infrastructure activities:

- Invasive species control
  - Manual and chemical removal of invasive plant species, with a focus on English ivy, kudzu, Japanese knotweed, bamboo, and porcelain berry found on DC parkland; and
  - Certification by DOEE as a Pesticide Applicator.
- Litter removal
- Photo monitoring (see Appendix 5)
  - Develop photo monitoring reports; and
  - Document and report areas of stream that need immediate repair

- Rain garden/bioretention maintenance, include weeding, mulching, and replanting
- Safe workplace skills
  - Provide OSHA ten-hour (10-hour) Construction Training (<u>http://www.osha.com/courses/10-hour-construction.html</u>) and CPR training for program participants; and
- Planting
  - Plant native herbaceous plants and shrubs along streams in the District to augment existing restoration projects or to enhance habitat conditions along unrestored streams.

Successful grant applications will include detailed plans to achieve the project outcomes and outputs. Applicants should provide a comprehensive schedule and sequential plan that illustrates how the GI job training program will be implemented and how participants' knowledge, understanding, and hands-on experience will grow during the course of the program. DOEE, in coordination with District agencies, has identified the District's needs for the bulleted training areas. The amount of work, or locations, can be considered suggestive of the amount of hands-on training activities immediately available to the grantee:

- Invasive species control: Manual and chemical control of 10 acres;
- Litter removal: Monthly litter removal along 10 streams
- Photo monitoring 2 times per year per stream at the following locations and lengths per stream:
  - $\circ$  Nash Run (1,400 feet);
  - Watts Branch (9,000 feet);
  - Pope Branch (4,000 feet);
  - Alger Park (1,500 feet);
  - Fort Dupont (10,000 feet);
  - Springhouse Run (1,800 feet);
  - Broad Branch (1,600 feet);
  - Linnean Park (900 feet);
  - Milkhouse Ford (1,800 feet);
  - Bingham Run (700 feet);
  - Spring Valley (900 feet); and
  - Stickfoot Branch (1,800 feet).
- Rain garden/bioretention maintenance: 25 rain garden/bioretention sites that require inlet clean-out, weeding, and plant replacement
  - RiverSmart Homes rain garden inspections: Approximately 70-80 homes with rain gardens that need inspections; approximately twelve rain gardens of those inspected will require maintenance, including weeding, mulching, and replanting

• Planting: 1 acre of native herbaceous plants and shrubs along streams in the District

Note: the grantee will work with DOEE to select training/work sites.

Applicants should also illustrate how they will prepare cohort participants' "soft skills" for securing and keeping jobs in the field of GI. This can include resume-building, interviewing skills, opportunities to meet local businesses seeking employees, coordination with DOEE for summer opportunities through DOEE's Green Zone Environmental Program, and conduct/coordinate small-scale job fairs for program participants.

See Appendix 5 for supplemental reference documents related to this project, including: Sample DOEE Stream Photo Monitoring Report; LID Maintenance Schedule; and RiverSmart Homes Inspection Report.

## **Project Outcomes**

- Development of an entry-level GI job training program;
- GI inspection and maintenance skills training;
- Performed maintenance activities;
- Preparation of young adults with the education and experience necessary for a career in GI maintenance;
- Young adults educated about how and why GI is used to protect and improve water quality in the District, as well as its relevance to climate change adaptation; and
- Placement of program participants in educational and/or career paths.

# **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- A training schedule
- A list of training program participants
- The curriculum
- Litter removed on District property along ten (10) streams ;
- Invasive plant species removed or treated on ten (10) acres of parkland near District streams or rivers;
- One acre planted with native shrubs and perennials;
- Two rounds of photo monitoring (winter and summer) of at least 12 District streams;
- 25 rain garden/bioretention projects maintained in the District (but not those installed through RiverSmart Homes);
- Inspections of and reports on RiverSmart Homes practices at a minimum of at least 70 homes;
- Maintenance on at least 12 rain gardens upon inspection of RiverSmart Homes practices;
- Education and training of 15-to-20 trainee in GI maintenance and associated safety, construction, and other skills;

- Trainee certifications with regional or national certification for work completed (e.g., OSHA 10-hour Construction Training); and
- Conduct a small-scale job fair for trainees with employers in the field of GI installation and maintenance.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Demonstrates excellent knowledge and experience maintaining green	10
infrastructure.	
Demonstrates excellent knowledge and experience working with, training,	20
and educating young adults about green infrastructure.	
Demonstrates substantial knowledge of the challenges facing unemployed	15
or underemployed young adults in the District.	
Offers a clear and feasible plan to generate the outcomes	20
Provides realistic options for post-training job and internship	10
opportunities in related fields of work.	
Provides measurable objectives and milestones to develop the project	10
outputs.	
Presents a budget that is cost-effective and justifies for the funds	15
requested.	

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.4 Project 4: Kingman and Heritage Islands Planning and Feasibility Study

#### **Introduction**

This is a grant for environmental development recommendations for Kingman and Heritage Islands in the Anacostia River. DOEE is looking for creative, feasible ideas, visuals and thorough, updated analysis.

The District of Columbia Council has provided the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) with fiscal year 2017 funding to issue a grant to develop "a proposal for the use of Kingman Island and Heritage Island for recreational, environmental, and educational purposes and a report supporting the proposal." (Budget Support Act of 2016's Kingman Island and Heritage Island Planning and Feasibility Study Act of 2016). This grant provides for DOEE's meeting the requirements of this Act.

The project should review the historical documents. Over the years, the District has performed several studies and concept plans for a nature center and recreational use of Kingman Island: (1) the 2002 US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) "Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment;" (2) the 2005 USACE "Kingman Island Habitat Restoration Assessment;" (3) the

2007 Anacostia Waterfront Corporation "Fill Mound Environmental Assessment Report for Kingman Island;" (4) a 2009 geotechnical report; (5) a conceptual plan for the nature center; and (6) the 2016 DOEE Kingman Island Soil Pile Investigation (see Appendix 6).

The selected grantee will assess the feasibility and cost for, and make recommendations to develop, maintain, and manage, a state-of-the-art nature center and uses for the islands. (See also the National Children's Island Act of 1995 and its requirements https://www.congress.gov/104/plaws/publ163/PLAW-104publ163.pdf.)

#### **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one year, with an option of up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years.

Two-hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) total is planned for one award, but can be divided into multiple awards.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

⊠-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

The grant will fund plans for completing the Kingman Island educational center and associated recreational facilities, including construction and maintenance cost estimates, a timeline for the work, and management options. DOEE will look favorably upon a strong team that combines knowledge of the resource, creative ideas, ability to deliver a feasible plan, and a concern for the District and its residents.

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In the course of developing the plan, the applicant should expect to work with a broad group of stakeholders to assess the feasibility and cost to develop, maintain, and manage a state-of-the-art nature center on Kingman and Heritage Islands. Stakeholders include:

- DOEE;
- Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED);
- Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR);
- District Department of Transportation (DDOT);
- Office of Planning (OP);
- National Park Service (NPS);
- Nearby residents;
- Non-profit organizations that focus on Anacostia River restoration and provide environmental and educational programs and activities; and
- Other public and private partners for recreational, environmental, and educational activities.

The application will detail the grantee's strategies for working with stakeholders to develop a plan, the planned review and update, if any, of existing documents, and how the plan will cause the District to meet or exceed District green construction codes and stormwater regulations.

#### **Project Outcomes**

- A feasibility review for a nature center on Kingman Island, that includes the abovereferenced materials, to ensure the site meets or exceeds current stormwater regulations and green construction codes;
- Further analysis for the objective of full or partial certification under the International Living Future Institute's Living Building Challenge: <u>http://living-future.org/lbc;</u>
- Cost estimates for building any proposed infrastructure or amenities necessary to conduct recreational, environmental, and educational events on Kingman Island and Heritage Island;
- Maintenance costs for the nature center, other potential structures, like a covered pavilion for performances and events, and infrastructure;
- Potential partnerships for recreational, environmental, and educational activities on Kingman Island and Heritage Island; and
- Management options for the nature center and related infrastructure.

## **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- A meeting each month, coordinated with DOEE, to include stakeholders;
- A review of and written report on previously created plans, architectural drawings, specifications, and studies to identify conflicts, out-of-date information, and gaps in the identified existing studies, and recommendations on their adequacy and desirability for proceeding with development;

- A determination of the feasibility and cost of infrastructure and amenities necessary to conduct recreational, environmental, and educational events on Kingman Island and Heritage Island;
  - Green analysis: Specific recommendations to ensure that the project meets or exceeds current stormwater regulations and green construction codes, with an objective of full or partial certification under the International Living Future Institute's Living Building Challenge;
- A draft project plan: Include scope, conceptual drawings or plans, costs of construction and operation, long term operation and maintenance costs, potential programming partnerships, creative funding options, including public/private partnerships; management models; milestones;
- Develop a final project plan by September 30, 2017, and/or a recommendation for an alternative, achievable timeline in producing and approving a final plan;
- Quarterly progress reports and final project report;
  - Before May 1, 2017, a proposal and draft report for DOEE's submission that date to the District Council; and
  - By September 30, 2017, a final strategic plan.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Demonstrated knowledge of and experience with planning and	20
developing recreational, natural and educational facilities and sites	
with resources similar to Kingman Island	
Demonstrated experience in development- or construction-related	10
technical documents and reports including construction and ongoing	
maintenance costs.	
A good command of the District of Columbia stormwater regulations	15
and Green Building Codes.	
Demonstrated knowledge of and experience in working with the	15
Anacostia Waterfront Initiative, with a particular emphasis on its parks	
and environmental goals.	
Experience in planning and facilitating public meetings, and receiving	15
and documenting feedback as a part of a visioning process.	
A clear and feasible plan for accomplishing grant deliverables within	15
the grant timeframe.	
An adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested.	10

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.5 Project 5: Overnight Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for Fifth Grade Students in the District of Columbia

# **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division has the responsibility of providing a "meaningful stream or Chesapeake Bay experience" for every student enrolled in the District of Columbia public schools. DOEE led the District's effort to develop a state environmental literacy plan (ELP), which was adopted by the Council of the District of Columbia as part of the Sustainable DC Omnibus Act of 2014. One of the ELP goals is to engage every student in at least one Meaningful Outdoor Educational Experience at each grade level.

This project will help realize the vision of graduating well-informed District students who are prepared to be competitive in the green economy. This project will connect students to nature and advance the integration of environmental literacy into curriculum in District schools. This project incorporates an overnight component to allow District students to spend a significant amount of time learning about their watersheds while immersed in a non-urban environment.

This project aims to serve District fifth (5th) grade students enrolled in DC Public Schools (DCPS) and DC Public Charter Schools. The objective is to provide a hands-on, outdoor experience that will connect students to their watershed and to the Chesapeake Bay and will help create an ethic of responsible citizenship while meeting DC Educational Standards approved by the DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE). Projects that provide a three-day (3-day)/two-night (2-night) experience for at least one thousand five hundred (1,500) youth over one (1) year and include environmental education programming (teaching watershed and sustainability lessons) and team building activities (such as climbing wall, ropes course, and canoeing) will be given greater consideration; however, all project submissions are encouraged and will be seriously considered.

Due to the large scope of the project, preference will be given to applicants that partner with other eligible entities. Project submissions also must include budgets with a "per-student" cost per trip, in addition to other detailed expenses. The majority of expenses are expected to be incurred in the overnight portion of the trip, and the proposed budget should reflect this.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one (1) year, with the option of up to two (2) additional years, for a maximum of three (3) years.

Three-hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) total is planned for one award or divided among multiple awards. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Matching funds are highly encouraged, but not required.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

## **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

This project continues the District's Overnight Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) for one (1) grade level in the District. Fifth grade students are the focus of this project because the Science Content Standards for (5th) grade include a life science unit that includes environmental and ecological concepts that are specific to the Washington, DC area. By using our local environment to learn about the food web and the interactions of the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere, fifth (5th) grade students will learn content that aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards and advances the goals of the DC Environmental Literacy Plan. To ensure that projects meet the Next Generation Science Standards, proposals should reference specific standards to be met through the project, and a completed DCPS Lesson Plan Template should accompany each proposal. The Next Generation Science Standards can be found on the

OSSE web site: http://osse.dc.gov/service/next-generation-science-standards-ngss.

Following the Chesapeake Bay Agreement's definition, a meaningful Bay or stream experience should, in addition to teaching students about their watersheds and the Chesapeake Bay, include the following components:

- Experiences are investigative or project-oriented where questions, problems, and issues are investigated by the collection and analysis of data, both quantitative and qualitative. Project-orientated experiences include restoration, monitoring, and natural resource protection. The use of technology is encouraged;
- Each project has a preparation phase, an outdoor action phase and a reflection, analysis, and reporting phase; and
- The experiences are an integral and ongoing part of the instructional program, not

enrichment or ancillary. The experiences should be integrated into the curriculum, occur over time and be aligned with the District's educational standards. For a definition of a "meaningful watershed educational experience," see

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/publications/title/stewardship\_and\_meaningful\_watershed\_educational\_experiences.

# **Project Outcomes**

- At least one thousand five hundred (1,500) fifth grade students enrolled in District public schools will have a hands-on meaningful watershed educational experience connecting them to the Chesapeake Bay;
- These District fifth (5th) grade students will be knowledgeable about some of the nonpoint source pollution issues of local rivers and the Chesapeake Bay;
- Students will have completed an outdoor environmental stewardship project or a field study; and
- Students will have spent at least three (3) days and two (2) nights in a non-urban setting.

# **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- An outdoor land, forestry, water, etc. experience for fifth (5th) grade students linking them to the Anacostia or Potomac Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay;
- Classroom visits in the schools before and after the overnight experience;
- Transportation schedules providing date and attendance information to DOEE/OSSE;
- Trips providing meals for students and their teachers;
- Report documenting the fact of each MWEE participant's experience, including the number of students;
- Copy of the curriculum used;
- Quarterly status reports showing accomplishments, progress to date, and the completion of project objectives; and
- A final report including pictures of the events.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Meets or exceeds the criteria for a meaningful Chesapeake Bay watershed	25
experience	
Includes confirmed collaboration partners and a description of how they will work with the lead applicant to ensure at least 1,500 fifth grade students per year participate in this program	15
Offers an overnight, hands-on experience that gets students outdoors in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, within 30 miles of the District	15
Helps students and teachers meet at least two Next Generation Science Standards	15
Presents an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested that includes the cost per pupil	10

Identifies matches in dollars or in-kind	10
Includes commitment letters from schools located in the District	10

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.6 Project 6: Pervious Paver Rebate Program

#### **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division implements projects that control, prevent, and provide remediation for nonpoint sources of pollution to District of Columbia (District) waters and the Chesapeake Bay. A major contributor of pollution to the District's waterways is stormwater runoff. An innovative approach to managing stormwater runoff from impermeable surfaces such as roofs, sidewalks, and roadways is the low impact development (LID) technology called pervious pavement (visit <a href="http://doee.dc.gov/service/riversmart-homes-pervious-pavers">http://doee.dc.gov/service/riversmart-homes-pervious-pavers</a> to learn more about this type of stormwater management practice).

DOEE has provided financial and technical assistance for pervious paver installations since 2009. DOEE is accepting applications from interested parties to administer the Pervious Paver Rebate Program. The grantee will work with existing programmatic tools within the current framework; however, the grantee is encouraged to revise or develop new approaches to management of the program. The grantee will ensure that rebate funds are disbursed in their entirety within the grant's period of performance.

#### **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one year, with the option of up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years.

Three-hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) total is planned for one award or multiple awards. Matching funds are highly encouraged, but not required.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

## **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

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 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

The grantee will manage the pervious paver rebate program that will identify private property owners willing to install pervious pavers and provide rebates to the owners. The pervious paver rebate program for this project combines incentives for pervious pavers and impervious surface removal currently offered for single-family homeowners through the Landscaping Rebate Program (<u>http://doee.dc.gov/landscapingrebates</u>) and the rebate option available through RiverSmart Communities (http://doee.dc.gov/service/riversmart-communities).

The grantee will work with District property owners with expressed interest in the rebate program. The grantee will ensure rebate funds are disbursed in their entirety within the grant award period. The grantee will work with pervious pavement installers, materials suppliers, and maintenance providers to identify opportunities to facilitate the installation of pervious pavement. In addition, the grantee will provide outreach to District property owners to educate them about pervious pavement, the rebate program, and how the rebate program may complement other incentive programs available from DOEE.

DOEE has determined the terms for rebates and eligibility. These terms include eligible installation types, rebate amounts (ten dollars (\$10) per square foot for replacing impervious surfaces with pervious paving materials and five dollars (\$5) per square foot for replacing impervious surfaces with vegetation), and installation criteria. DOEE reserves the right to increase rebate amounts for installations in areas targeted with a greater need for stormwater retention. All private properties within the District of Columbia are eligible for this rebate program.

Proposals should detail a plan to provide education and outreach services to inform District property owners about pervious paver technology and to advertise and market the rebate program available to them.

Program activities will include the following:

- Updating and maintaining a pervious paver rebate website;
- Developing and executing a public education, outreach, and marketing program using various media (e.g., social media, print, community meetings, events);
- Updating and maintaining guidance documents for property owners;

- Updating and maintaining registration, application, and contract documents;
- Updating and maintaining a program participant registration list;
- Submitting monthly financial status reports and projections to DOEE on rebate funding availability and needs;
- Assisting program participants through the rebate application program;
- Reviewing and evaluating all rebate applications, including conducting site visits with prospective rebate recipients and their agents to measure and photograph installation sites before and after pervious pavers installations;
- Preparing and executing a standard agreement with each recipient of a rebate and disbursing funds;
- Working with property owners and their agents to ensure all conditions of the rebate program are met, including a building permit and DOEE plan review and inspection;
- Working with property owners to customize and install signage at larger project sites with high levels of public visibility;
- Verifying that each project meets the terms and conditions of the agreement;
- Verifying that each installer has been certified under the Interlocking Concrete Paving Institute or other DOEE-approved installation certification requirement recommended by the pervious paving material manufacturer; and
- Updating and maintaining application files, photo logs, and pervious paver inventory records to the DOEE Stormwater Database (<u>http://doee.dc.gov/swdb</u>).

The grantee's primary responsibilities include administration, verification, tracking, and reporting. While pervious paver installers and maintenance providers are not precluded from applying for this grant, the organization administering this program shall not receive payments for materials or services from the rebate recipients for work related to the design, construction, or installation of the pervious pavers that is the subject of the rebate.

Applicants must provide details on the how staff time would be allocated to implement program goals and perform reporting requirements. This shows how the applicant's organization would balance administrative costs against the program goals to maximize rebate awards to program participants. The application should identify overhead and administrative resources that the applicant would need to manage this program. The applicant's budget table should display line items. Applications that maximize the ratio of rebate award to administrative overhead/program management are preferred.

Administrative costs will be paid as a proportion of the reimbursement request for rebates awarded, using the ratio provided by the approved budget (i.e., the grantee will not submit payment applications reflecting costs solely for administrative activities).

#### **Project Outcomes**

• Replacement of at least twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet of impervious surface with vegetation and/or pervious pavement materials;

- Involving the rebate recipients in caring for and maintaining their pervious pavement installations; and
- Improvement of the understanding of pervious paver installations and their positive impact on the local environment, waterways, and the Chesapeake Bay among rebate recipients.

# **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- An education, outreach, and program marketing plan;
- Updated pervious paver guidance document for property owners;
- Updated program registration, application, and contract documents;
- Current program participant registration list;
- A standard rebate agreement executed with each recipient;
- Before-and-after photographs of each rebate award site;
- Signage designed and installed at non-residential rebate sites;
- A list of completed pervious paver projects, with square footage installed, and any reports generated by the engineers or project managers;
- Monthly financial status reports and projections on funding availability and needs;
- Quarterly status reports; and
- A final report.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Provides a concise, feasible, transferable, and innovative framework for	15
managing the rebate program.	
Budget maximizes rebates over administrative costs – better ratio	15
Demonstrates that personnel working in the program have excellent	25
experience with pervious paver technology, industry standards,	
maintenance, management of a rebate program, outreach and marketing,	
and the District's permitting process and regulations.	
Offers an education and outreach plan that is excellent, considers the	25
needs of a varied audience, and employs innovation in outreach tactics.	
Provides some non-federal match	10
Provides an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds	10
requested	

Preference points are not available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.7 Project 7: RiverSmart Communities Demonstration Program

#### **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division works to control, prevent and provide remediation for non-point source pollution to District of Columbia (District) waters and the Chesapeake Bay through voluntary activities. A major contributor of pollution to the District's waterways is stormwater runoff. Stormwater is generated during a wet weather event as precipitation runs off impermeable surfaces, such as roofs, sidewalks, and roadways. The high volumes and velocities of urban stormwater runoff erode local waterways, polluting and clogging rivers downstream. Roof surfaces, parking lots, and turf grass are significant sources of stormwater pollution. DOEE seeks to lessen the impact of stormwater runoff on the District's waterways by promoting the installation of stormwater best management practice (BMP) retrofits through its RiverSmart programs.

Since 2013 the RiverSmart Communities program has worked to install stormwater retrofits on large properties such as condominiums, co-ops, apartments, locally-owned businesses and houses of worship. To date, RiverSmart Communities has primarily been a rebate program.

Through this project, DOEE seeks to reboot the RiverSmart Communities program to emphasize the "community" aspect of the program by focusing on retrofitting properties owned by non-profit organizations that serve communities in the District of Columbia, including 501(c)3 organizations and houses of worship. The grantee will identify and recruit these types of organizations and help them by designing and installing BMPs on their properties. In exchange for the installation of fully-funded design/build projects, the community service organizations will help DOEE perform outreach and education to their target communities about stormwater pollution and the District's programs that address it.

#### Project Period and Available Funding

The project period is one (1) year with the option of up to two (2) additional years, for a maximum of three (3) years.

Two-hundred-fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) total for one award or multiple awards. Matching funds are highly encouraged but not required.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

## **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

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 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

⊠-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

# **Project Description**

DOEE seeks proposals to install RiverSmart Communities practices on properties owned by non-profit organizations and houses of worship. The selected grantee will work with non-profit organizations and houses of worship to install the following BMPs, as appropriate for each site:

- Cisterns for rain water capture and reuse;
- Rain gardens;
- Impervious surface removal or conversion of impermeable to pervious pavement; and/or
- Other landscape enhancements with stormwater retention capability.

The grantee will also help DOEE and the selected non-profit organizations and houses of worship perform outreach to their target communities to educate them about stormwater pollution and District programs available that help property owners address it. Interested non-profits and houses of worship will apply to the grantee to receive one more of the stormwater management features listed above. DOEE and the grantee will select sites based on ranking criteria:

- The site's potential for stormwater retrofits (potential amount of impervious area treated);
- The project's potential for community outreach and education;
- The location of the site (for example: separated or combined sewer system, or targeted watershed);
- The ability of the non-profit or house of worship to maintain installed BMPs; and
- The projected cost and benefit of the project.

The grantee will work with the selected non-profit organizations and houses of worship, and design and construction contractors registered in the District to implement the agreed upon proposed plan. Non-profits and houses of worship whose proposals are selected for BMP installation will also help implement an agreed-upon outreach plan to educate their target communities about stormwater pollution and solutions.

Funding is available for the design, permitting, and installation/construction of projects that use landscaping features to control stormwater runoff, harvest and reuse rain water, or remove impervious surface. In addition to the installation of the stormwater management feature(s), the grantee will work with the selected non-profits and houses of worship to implement an outreach

plan for engaging their target community though methods such as workshops, tours and volunteer days.

The selected grantee is expected to fund multiple projects, with award size dependent on the scale and unique opportunities offered at each site. Applications that maximize the ratio of rebate award to administrative overhead and program management will be preferred.

# **Project Outcomes**

- Decreased amount of stormwater pollution entering local streams and rivers;
- Increased awareness on the effects of stormwater pollution on our environment and how BMPs alleviate stormwater pollution;
- An increase in the public's interest in DOEE's stormwater pollution reduction programs due to action of the non-profits and houses of worship selected to have BMPs installed; and
- Building of partnerships among property owners or designated agents, non-profit organizations, and DOEE that will foster collaboration for other environmental initiatives in the future.

# **<u>Project Outputs and Deliverables</u>**

- Installation of one or more stormwater BMPs, such as rain cisterns, rain gardens, or pervious pavement on at least three (3) properties per year;
- Installation of educational signage at larger project sites with high public visibility;
- Copies of required permits for all installations;
- Registration of all completed projects in the DOEE Stormwater Database (<u>http://doee.dc.gov/swdb</u>);
- Copies of maintenance covenants for all complete projects that exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000);
- Tracking of the number of individuals reached through education/outreach;
- Tracking of the number of gallons of stormwater water treated annually for each project;
- Tracking of the total treatment area for each project;
- Delivery of a maintenance plan for ongoing maintenance by property owner or designated agent at each installation;
- Completion of quarterly status reports showing accomplishments, progress to date, and detailing the completion of project objectives; and
- Completion of a final programmatic and financial report.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Proof of the applicant's/applicant team's understanding of the environmental impacts of impervious surfaces and stormwater runoff,	15
and of the benefits and drawbacks of the stormwater technologies to be	
installed	

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Excellent experience in the design of stormwater BMPs or in oversight of contractors who design stormwater BMPs	15
Excellent experience in managing subcontractors for construction of stormwater BMP or similar projects, including oversight of installation activities	20
Articulated education/outreach component, including demonstrated ability to work with stakeholders to institute outreach and education plans	15
Staff and capacity to manage stormwater BMP design and installation contractors, including timely pay for work completed	15
Applicant or property owner provides some non-federal match	10
Provides an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested	10

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.8 Project 8: Stream Restoration Monitoring

#### **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division has restored or will be restoring a suite of streams and is seeking a qualified party to implement stream monitoring to assess the health of streams pre- or post-restoration (or both). DOEE is requesting proposals to conduct three years of stream monitoring for Nash Run, Pope Branch, Watts Branch, Fort Dupont, Stickfoot Branch, Springhouse Run, Broad Branch, Linnean Park, Milkhouse Ford/Bingham Run, and Spring Valley. DOEE will work with the applicant to identify the proper protocol and monitoring locations; the type of information needed is listed in the following Project Description section. Because the science requires rigorous, scientificallyrecognized methodologies and metrics, the competition among applicants for this grant focuses on the quality and experience of the applicant team.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one (1) year with the option of up to two (2) additional years for a maximum of three (3) years.

One-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) total is planned for one award or multiple awards. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of

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funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies;

-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

#### **Project Description**

Funding is available to conduct water quality monitoring in eleven (11) streams in the District. The grantee would monitor water quality (flow, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and pH), macroinvertebrates, fish, geomorphology, and vegetation at Nash Run, Pope Branch, Watts Branch, Fort Dupont, Stickfoot Branch, Springhouse Run, Broad Branch, Linnean Park, Milkhouse Ford/Bingham Run, and Spring Valley. For macroinvertebrate characterization, the grantee would be asked to follow a semiannual monitoring interval, sampling once in the spring and once in the summer. The applicant should include a draft quality assurance project plan (QAPP) with this application, which defines the protocols for collecting information and assurances that all samples are handled in the proper manner.

DOEE will provide the grantee with any beneficial background information that DOEE obtained through or during the design of the stream restoration, including geographical information system (GIS) data, detailed survey information, planting plans, and geomorphic studies. DOEE will also provide the grantee with information and data from previous monitoring efforts undertaken by DOEE on specified streams.

#### Goal 1 – Stream Assessment and Preliminary Source Identification

The grantee will analyze the stream assessment data provided by DOEE for all stream restoration projects, including wetted perimeter width, riffle depth, streambed substrate composition and quality, riffle embeddedness levels, pool depth and quality, stream gradient, channel width, streambank stability, and canopy coverage. If it is determined that additional information will be required to complete this monitoring project, the grantee will coordinate with DOEE to as to how this information will be collected.

#### Goal 2 - Biological Community Assessment

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# 20-Jab Macroinvertebrate Best Habitat Collection Survey, Identification and Community Metric Calculations

The grantee will perform a spring and summer 20-jab benthic macroinvertebrate collection prior to restoration at all eleven (11) streams. Maryland Biological Stream Survey (MBSS) metrics for streams in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont physiographic region will be calculated, including total taxa, number of EPT (Ephemeroptera/Plecoptera/Tricoptera) taxa, number of Ephemeroptera, percent intolerant urban, percent Ephemeroptera, number of scraper taxa, and percent climbers. The grantee will use these individual metric results to calculate each stream's index of biotic integrity (IBI) scores. The IBI scores will be used in both inter- and intra-stream specific macroinvertebrate community health comparisons. In addition to the above metrics, the grantee will determine the number of individuals, densities, etc. to help further characterize the urban stream macroinvertebrate community for pre- and/or post-construction conditions.

#### Resident Fish Surveys

The grantee will coordinate with DOEE staff (Fisheries and Wildlife and Water Quality Divisions) to perform two (2) two-pass (2-pass) electrofishing surveys per year for a representative seventy-five meter (75-meter) stream reach at sites that DOEE determines. The core MBSS metrics to be calculated for streams in the Coastal Plain and Piedmont physiographic region will include the following:

- 1. Number of native species;
- 2. Number of benthic fish species;
- 3. Number of intolerant species;
- 4. Percent of tolerant fish;
- 5. Percent abundance of dominant species;
- 6. Percent of generalists, omnivores, and insectivores;
- 7. Number of individuals per square meter; and
- 8. Biomass per square meter.

The grantee will use these individual metric results to calculate IBI scores. This task will be performed once during the pre-construction condition and twice per year for the post-construction condition.

#### Goal 3 - Water Quality/Stream Monitoring

The grantee will measure water quality parameters, including pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and flow. Water quality instantaneous measurements will be measured and recorded three (3) times per year.

#### Goal 4 – Geomorphic Monitoring

The grantee will perform geomorphic monitoring on eleven (11) streams to determine each stream's vertical and horizontal stability. Geomorphic monitoring for each stream will include the following:

- Longitudinal Profile: The grantee will perform longitudinal profile surveys of each stream. For streams already restored, the grantee will compare and contrast the asbuilt/final construction longitudinal profiles with the existing condition profile. The longitudinal profile survey will include thalweg, toe of left bank, toe of right bank, top of right bank (or bankfull) and top of left bank (or bankfull). DOEE and the grantee can negotiate key features surveyed based on existing stream conditions and/or stream design; and
- Regimented Cross Sections: The grantee will perform regimented cross section profiles for each stream project as determined by DOEE. The grantee will coordinate with DOEE to select fifteen to twenty (15-20) regimented cross section locations at each of the following streams: Nash Run, Stickfoot Branch, Springhouse Run, Broad Branch, Linnean Park, Milkhouse Ford/Bingham Run, and Spring Valley. The grantee will coordinate with DOEE to select twenty-five to thirty (25-30) regimented cross sections each for Pope Branch, Watts Branch, and Fort Dupont.

## Goal 5 – Vegetation Monitoring

The grantee will perform an annual survey of vegetation along each stream corridor. Streams in post-restoration conditions will be surveyed to determine if plantings identified on planting plans are surviving and growing. Streams in pre-restoration conditions will be surveyed to determine the existing plant community surrounding the stream corridor for an area the length of the stream reach and fifty (50) feet on each side of the stream. The grantee will work with DOEE to establish an acceptable rapid assessment protocol for vegetation monitoring.

#### Goal 6 - Technical Memorandum

The grantee will prepare brief quarterly reports, as well as a concise technical memorandum summarizing the results from Goals 1 to 5 for each stream. The technical memorandum will include supporting tables, graphs, GIS maps and figures, photographs, and relevant GPS locations. It will also, where appropriate, include recommendations related to stream monitoring and stream restoration conditions.

## Additional Requirements:

- Applicants must include a draft monitoring schedule. The final schedule is dependent upon the completion of the stream project;
- The grantee must create and make a QAPP within four weeks of grant award notification;
- The grantee must obtain a scientific research permit from DOEE Fisheries and Wildlife Division prior to collecting any samples;
- The grantee must obtain permission or a relevant permit from the National Park Service (NPS) to conduct monitoring work on NPS property.

#### **Project Outcomes**

- A comprehensive understanding of the environmental health of eleven (11) District streams;
- An increased understanding of how stream restoration impacts biotic stream health; and
- An understanding of the water quality benefits due to the stream restoration project.

## **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- Three (3) years of monitoring including the above-mentioned elements;
- Monitoring QAPP;
- Brief quarterly status reports listing progress to date; and
- A final report.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Concise and clearly written proposal, including detailed budget	10
Organizational track record in conducting stream monitoring of the type	50
described above	
Personnel with the education and/or professional experience needed to	30
successfully execute monitoring activities	
Applicant and/or property owner provides some kind of non-federal	10
match	

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

## 7.2.9 Project 9: Trash-Focused Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences for Third – Eighth Grade Students in the District of Columbia

#### **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division is responsible for providing a "meaningful stream or Chesapeake Bay experience" for every student in District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS).

The objectives of this project are to provide an outdoor, hands-on experience that connects students to their watershed and to the Chesapeake Bay and to help create an ethic of responsible citizenship while meeting DCPS learning standards for teaching and learning. Projects that provide an experience in nature or on the water will be given preference. DOEE will also give preference to projects that emphasize watershed stewardship activities that focus on a student's responsibility not to litter and to keep litter off city streets and out of the river. Projects that focus on multiple classes within one school will also be given preference. The District is interested in preventing trash from entering the District waterways in order to comply with local legislative initiatives and regulatory requirements.

DOEE led the District's effort to develop a state environmental literacy plan (ELP), which was adopted by the Council of the District of Columbia as part of the Sustainable DC Omnibus Act of 2014. One of the ELP goals is to engage every student in at least one Meaningful Outdoor Educational Experience at each grade level. This project will help realize the vision of graduating well-informed District students prepared to be competitive in the green economy by connecting students to nature and advancing the integration of environmental literacy into the curriculum in District schools.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one (1) year, with the option of up to two (2) additional years, for a maximum of three (3) years.

Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) total is planned for multiple awards. The expected average award is between fifteen thousand to twenty thousand dollars (\$15,000 - \$20,000). Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

## **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c) (3) or 501(c) (4) determinations;

 $\square$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises

## **Project Description**

Third (3rd) through eighth (8th) grade students are the focus of this project, and proposals should meet the Chesapeake Bay Standard (# 4.7.10) for fourth (4th) grade science (see the Chesapeake Bay Agreement 2014 at <u>http://www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakebaywatershedagreement/page</u> for the definition of a "meaningful watershed educational experience"). Focusing on grade appropriate standards encourages the project to become an important part of the class's science curriculum.

Proposals should focus on third (3rd) through eighth (8th) grade classes housed in the same school to help build and strengthen an environmental education presence within individual schools. DOEE anticipates a minimum of 240 students to participate in this project over two years. To ensure that projects meet DCPS standards, proposals should reference specific standards that will be met, and a completed Standards Worksheet should accompany each proposal as an appendix. DCPS learning standards can be found on the DCPS web site: <u>http://www.k12.dc.us/dcps/home.html</u>. Other grade-appropriate science standards may also be used to provide a Chesapeake Bay watershed experience.

Following the Chesapeake Bay Agreement's definition, a meaningful Bay or stream experience should, in addition to teaching students about their watersheds and the Chesapeake Bay, include the following components:

- Experiences that are investigative or project-oriented, in which questions, problems, and issues are investigated by the collection and analysis of data, both quantitative and qualitative. Project-oriented experiences include restoration, monitoring, and natural resource protection. The use of technology is also encouraged;
- Each project should be designed with: a preparation phase: an outdoor action phase, and a reflection, analysis, and reporting phase; and
- The experiences should be an integral and ongoing part of the instructional program, not enrichment or ancillary. The experiences should be integrated into the curriculum, occur over time, and be aligned with the District's standards of teaching and learning.

Projects that involve students from schools in Wards 7 and 8 are encouraged, but not required.

## **Project Outcomes**

- DCPS third (3rd) through eighth (8th) grade students will have a hands-on water or water related experience connecting them to the Bay;
- DCPS third (3rd) through eighth (8th) grade students will be knowledgeable about some of the issues of the local rivers and the Chesapeake Bay; and
- Students will have completed an outdoor environmental stewardship project or a field study.

## **Project Outputs and Deliverables**

- An outdoor forestry, water, trash, etc. experience for 240 students connecting them to the Anacostia River or Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay;
- Documentation of each experience on a reporting form provided by DOEE;
- A copy of the curriculum used;
- Quarterly status reports showing accomplishments, progress to date, and detailing the completion of project objectives; and
- A final report, including pictures of the project.

Scoring Criteria	Points
Offers a hands-on experience and gets students outdoors somewhere in the Chesapeake Bay watershed	10
Maximizes the number of students served and the amount of time students will be involved in the program	15
Meets or exceeds the educational criteria for a meaningful Chesapeake Bay experience	30
Helps students and teachers meet at least two Science Standards	15
Includes students from schools located in Wards 7 and 8	10
Provides a stewardship/implementation component	10
Presents an adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested	10

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

# 7.2.10 Project 10: Watershed Training and Information Dissemination for District Residents

## **Introduction**

The Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division works to control, prevent, and remediate nonpoint sources of polluted runoff to District of Columbia (District) waters and the Chesapeake Bay through voluntary activities. Educating and empowering District residents to become stewards of their watershed is an important facet of DOEE's work.

DOEE is requesting proposals to provide comprehensive training to fifteen (15) District residents in watershed pollution issues, watershed restoration practices, and important policy issues as they pertain to nonpoint or stormwater pollution. DOEE is seeking an entity to develop a semesterlong training program, also referred to as a watershed academy, for residents of the District, and then facilitate the dissemination of this information to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs), neighborhood associations, and other local organizations unique to the District.

DOEE will work with the applicant to help identify residents who may be interested. Members of watershed organizations, community organizations, and/or ANC participants are recommended candidates. Candidates selected will share their information with both their immediate networks, as well as reach out to other related networks. For example, an ANC representative sharing information with other ANC groups would be a good candidate for this program. Trainees must be residents of the District.

## **Project Period and Available Funding**

The project period is one (1) year, with the option of two (2) additional years, for a maximum of three (3) years.

Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) total is planned for one award or to be divided among multiple awards. Matching funds are highly encouraged but not required. Funding for this project may come from a grant to the District from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The project period and available funding are subject to the availability of funding. The grant period and/or the grant amount may be extended and/or increased based on the availability of funds, the grantee's performance, the grantee's capacity to maintain or increase the scope of the project, and the District's need for the scope of the project to be maintained or increased.

#### **Project Eligibility**

The following are eligible to apply if an "x" appears:

 $\square$ -Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations;

 $\boxtimes$ -Faith-based organizations;

Government agencies

-Universities/educational institutions; and

-Private Enterprises.

## **Project Description**

Funding is available for the setup and operation of a watershed academy. DOEE expects the grantee to administer high-quality training on complex watershed and stormwater issues. The grantee will develop manuals, handouts, and presentations to share with participants to explain issues related to stormwater treatment, stormwater regulations, low-impact development design, combined sewer systems, separate sewer systems, in-stream impacts of stormwater, and other urban stormwater issues. With this information, watershed academy participants are expected to disseminate their knowledge to community groups in their neighborhoods and communities. Successful project proposals will detail how watershed academy activities will have an increased effect on empowering District residents to become stewards of their watershed.

## **Project Outcomes**

- Increased awareness of issues facing urban watersheds among District residents, who will be better equipped to take steps to address sources of pollution; and
- Reduced impacts of stormwater pollution on the District's waters through citizen action.

# **<u>Project Outputs and Deliverables</u>**

- Documentation that 15 District residents attended and completed the watershed academy during the grant period
- Description of an information dissemination model
- Copies of manuals, handouts, and presentations developed for the watershed academy
- Quarterly status reports showing accomplishments, progress to date, and detailing the completion of project objectives
- A final report

Scoring Criteria	Points
Excellent, concise and clearly written proposal	10
Excellent, experience in environmental education and environmental training for adults	15
Deep knowledge of technical watershed issues relevant to the District of Columbia	25
Excellent plan for housing training sessions, attracting expert speakers, and developing curricula	25
Applicant provides some kind of non-federal match	10
An adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested	15

Preference points are available for this project. See section 4.2 for more details.

#### APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – General Terms and Conditions

Appendix 2 – Promises, Certifications, and Assurances

Appendix 3 – Cover Sheet

Appendix 4 – Example of Grant Budget

Appendix 5 – Supplemental Reference Documents for Project 4: Green Infrastructure Job Training Program Project

Appendix 6 – Supplemental Reference Documents for Project 5: Kingman and Heritage Islands Planning and Feasibility Study Project