



## Department of Energy and Environment

### RiverSmart Communities: Demonstration Program



#### Overview

The District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division's 2018 RiverSmart Communities Grant Program is now accepting applications. Eligible applicants will include 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations and houses of worship. Qualifying projects include the installation of practices that will reduce pollution to local waterways, reduce their stormwater fees, and educate the public about water pollution. The RiverSmart Communities program focuses on effective stormwater treatment and emphasizes community engagement and outreach which enriches the installation of stormwater projects.

**Note: this grant program will not fund projects that are required to meet stormwater regulations.**

RiverSmart Communities is a true partnership effort. In the 2018 grant cycle, The District will fund three to five projects with a total budget of \$180,000.00. This is to reduce stormwater pollution from selected non-profit organizations or houses of worship, beautifying their property and reducing their stormwater fees. In return, the selected organizations will reach out to the communities that they serve – educating them about water pollution, ways that they can help address it, and District programs that help finance stormwater retrofits.

Applicants wishing to install stormwater practices on their property through this exciting program must 1) provide a plan for reaching their audience through outreach and engagement opportunities, and 2) demonstrate their ability and long-term commitment to maintain the installed stormwater best management practices (BMP). Eligible BMPs include, but are not limited to, shade trees, rain gardens/bioretention cells, impervious surface removal and replacement with pervious/vegetated surfaces, cisterns that drain to other BMPs, stormwater planters, and swales. To find out more information about stormwater management practices please visit <http://www.cwp.org/stormwater-management/>.

The RiverSmart Communities: Demonstration Program is administered by the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS). Applicants will be selected based on the environmental benefits of the project, their plan for community engagement, and project cost effectiveness and feasibility.



### Anticipated Timeline:

| 2018 RiverSmart Communities Demonstration Program Anticipated Calendar |                             |       |           |             |                                                          |      |        |                       |         |          |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| January                                                                | February                    | March | April     | May         | June                                                     | July | August | September             | October | November | December |
|                                                                        | Application Period & Review |       | Kick Offs | Design Work | Construction Document Preparation, Permitting, & Bidding |      |        | Project Installations |         |          |          |

- Application period begins: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Application due date: March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- RFA Question and Answer meeting: 6:30-8:00pm on March 8th, 2018 at DOEE (1200 First St. NE, Washington DC 20002)
- Review applications and provide any responses: 10 days
- Anticipated awards announced: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Kickoff Meetings with awarded applicants: April 16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Concept Design Review Meetings with awardees: Early to Mid-May
- Final Concept Review Meetings with awardees: Mid to Late May
- Construction Document Work/Permitting/Project Bidding: June – August, 2018
- Project installations: September through November 2018.
- Maintenance Program Review: December 2018

#### Send completed applications and questions to:

Josh Clark, Anacostia Watershed Society [jclark@anacostiaws.org](mailto:jclark@anacostiaws.org)

4302 Baltimore Avenue Bladensburg, MD. 20710 fax: 301.699.3317

\*\*\*Feel free to contact Josh Clark with any questions. Example, completed applications are available upon request.

For general questions about DOEE's RiverSmart Programs, contact Andrew Oetman at [Andrew.oetman@dc.gov](mailto:Andrew.oetman@dc.gov)



# 2018 RiverSmart Communities Program



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## Application

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(Please type or hand write information in application.)

**Name of Organization:**

**Address of Proposed Site:**

**City, State, Zip:**

**Phone:**

**Watershed (circle one):**    Anacostia        Rock Creek        Potomac

If unsure, find out at <http://geospatial.dcgis.dc.gov/WatershedFinder/>

**Participating Team-** Please complete the table below. Teams **must** include at least the site owner and three other concerned individuals (total minimum of 4 individuals) such as the building manager, maintenance /grounds representative, community member, or board member. If the site owner is also the project lead, please make that clear in the table. Otherwise, designate one person as the overall project lead in the table.

| Full Name | Project Role(s) | Email address | Phone number |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
|           | Site Owner      |               |              |
|           |                 |               |              |
|           |                 |               |              |
|           |                 |               |              |
|           |                 |               |              |

\*Note: Please contact DOEE or AWS if a new person has been added or removed from the team.

## **Current Site Conditions & Context**

1. Are there any expected plans for new construction within your proposed project site(s) or on the grounds in the next 5 years that could impact your project area? (Depending on the construction location, this could disqualify your project site.)
2. Project area details. If available, please provide the following information:
  - A rough estimate of the size of the total property. Your total property area can be found at [https://www.taxpayerservicecenter.com/RP\\_Search.jsp?search\\_type=Sales](https://www.taxpayerservicecenter.com/RP_Search.jsp?search_type=Sales).
  - A rough estimate of the impervious surface area of your property (asphalt, rooftops, concrete, compacted soil). This can be found near the top of your DC Water bill after “Impervious Surface Square Footage.”
  - Is the site in a historic district?
  - Is the project in the public right-of-way (i.e. near a public sidewalk or roadway)?
3. Please attach photos of the property to this application, specifically areas where you propose to install the stormwater project. Please be mindful of context, in that the photos should give a clear indication of what they are trying to show. Feel free to label the photos as needed. These photos could include downspouts, problem areas where rain water doesn’t soak in or where dirt washes away, etc. (min. 4 color photos).

## **Stormwater Management Design**

*Eligible stormwater practices include, but are not limited to, shade trees, rain gardens/bioretenention cells, impervious surface removal and replacement with pervious/vegetated surfaces, cisterns that drain to other BMPs, stormwater planters, and swales.*

4. What type of stormwater best management practices (BMPs) do you propose to install reduce stormwater pollution on your property? Please reference the appendix in this application for possible types.
5. If possible, please attach a Google aerial photo image of your site with potential locations of BMPs.

### **Outreach and Education through Demonstration activities**

6. Please explain who will be your target audience(s) for education and outreach during the demonstration project?
7. Please list any organizations, volunteers, or businesses from the surrounding community that could be involved in your project. Have they already agreed to participate? (Please attach any letters of support.
8. Provide a brief community engagement plan that ensures educational activities will accompany the stormwater project installation. Include an expected timeline. Who on the project team is responsible for ensuring the community engagement plan is followed?
9. Do you have matching funds to contribute or volunteer hours (Additional funds are **not** required to participate in the RiverSmart Communities: Demonstration program)?

### **Maintenance of Best Management Practices**

10. The most successful applicants will be able to clearly demonstrate that the installed BMP will be maintained indefinitely by a dedicated group of project participants. As you fill out this application and anticipate what types of BMPs may be installed, please research what kind of maintenance each system may require and if it aligns with your organization's means and greater mission. AWS and DOEE are not responsible for the maintenance of any installed BMPs. Please provide details for how the BMP(s) installed on your property will be maintained. Include a timeline for your maintenance plan.

### **Goals**

11. How will this project enhance and benefit your organization's mission or goals?

**Application Scoring:** All applications will be scored according to the criteria below.

| Scoring Criteria                                                                                                          | Points |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Demonstrates the project's ability to treat and/or retain stormwater runoff.                                              | 25     |
| Presents a dedicated group of individuals that are committed to supporting all aspects of the project.                    | 15     |
| Provides an outreach and education strategy is comprehensive, inclusive of relevant communities, and achievable.          | 30     |
| Demonstrates a commitment to long-term maintenance to ensure the project will continue to treat and/or retain stormwater. | 25     |
| Demonstrates how the project will complement your organization's mission or goals.                                        | 5      |

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## EXAMPLES OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- Rain gardens/bioretention cells
- Impervious surface removal and replacement with pervious/vegetated surfaces
- Cisterns that drain to other BMPs
- Stormwater planters
- Swales
- Pervious Pavement



*Example of a rain garden off the parking lot (St. Paul's Episcopal Church)*



*Example of a rain garden being planted with native plants by volunteers (First Rock Baptist Church)*



*Example of a large cistern to capture roof runoff and supply water to the garden (Mayfair Mansions)*



*Example of impervious surface (asphalt) removal from the parking lot of Morningstar Baptist Church.*



*Example of conservation landscaping after impervious surface was removed at Morningstar Baptist Church.*



*Example of community youth removing invasive plants at Morningstar Baptist Church for maintenance engagement activities.*



*Example of stormwater planter installation (Galen Terrace).*



*Example of a bio-swale at (First Rock Baptist Church).*



*Example of community youth installing storm drain markers in the Brookland neighborhood of Ward 5.*