



Department of Energy and Environment

RiverSmart Communities

Demonstration Program



Overview

The District Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE), Watershed Protection Division's 2019 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 community appreciation for stormwater practices.

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

RiverSmart Communities is a true partnership effort. In the 2019 grant cycle, The District will fund a limited number of 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 potentially 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 (BMPs). Eligible BMPs include, but are not limited to, shade trees, rain gardens/bioretenion 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.



How does the RiverSmart Communities program relate to the Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC)? All installed green infrastructure projects will count towards eligibility for the mitigation requirements of the CRIAC Nonprofit Relief Program. When financially feasible, projects will be designed to treat a minimum of 10% of the property's impervious surfaces. CRIAC relief applicants would still need to demonstrate they qualify based on financial hardship. For more information about the CRIAC Nonprofit Relief Program and to see if your organization qualifies for a credit of up to 90% of the CRIAC portion of your water bill, visit <https://doee.dc.gov/service/clean-rivers-impervious-area-charge-nonprofit-relief-program>.

Anticipated Timeline:

- Application period begins: February 6th, 2019
- Application due date: March 15th, 2019
- RFA Question and Answer meeting: 6:30-8:00pm on February 27th at DOEE (1200 First St. NE, Washington DC 20002)
- Anticipated awards announced: April 2019
- Kickoff Meetings with awarded applicants: April 2019
- Concept Design Review Meetings: May 2019
- Board Concept Approval Meetings: May 2019
- Construction Document Work/Permitting/Project Bidding: June – August 2019
- Project installations: September – November 2019
- Maintenance Program Review: December 2019

Send completed applications and questions to:

Josh Clark, Anacostia Watershed Society jclark@anacostiaws.org

4302 Baltimore Avenue Bladensburg, MD. 20710 fax: 301.699.3317

***Feel free to contact Josh Clark with any questions. Sample applications from previous years are available upon request.

For general questions about DOEE's other RiverSmart Programs, contact Andrew Oetman at Andrew.oetman@dc.gov



2019 RiverSmart Communities Program



Application

(Please type or hand write information in application.)

Failure to submit a complete application that addresses each question and includes all required documentation is grounds for application rejection.

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, a person that has the authority to approve capital improvement projects on the property, and up to 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		
	Approves capital improvement projects		

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

Letter(s) of Support

A letter of support for the application **must** be provided by the organization's governing body that approves Capital Improvement Projects on the property. For all selected awardees, there will be a formal meeting with this governing body to approve the project concept before final designs are submitted for permitting. Additional letter(s) of support from partner organizations and/or community members are encouraged but not required.

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.
 - A rough estimate of the impervious surface area of your property (asphalt, rooftops, concrete, etc.). 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).
4. Are you aware of any regulated stormwater best management practices that exist on your property? If so, provide a brief description of that practice and whether or not it is in compliance with the District.

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.

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

Outreach and Education through Demonstration activities

7. Please explain who will be your target audience(s) for education and outreach during the demonstration project?
8. 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.
9. 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?
10. 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

11. 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

12. 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.	10
Provides an outreach and education strategy that is comprehensive, inclusive of relevant communities, and achievable.	25
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
All application questions are answered completely and all required documents (letter of support from governing body, site map, photos, etc.) have been provided	10

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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.



Example of pervious pavement parking lot at St. Francis de Sales in Ward 5.