

Clean Water Planning and Implementation Projects

Request for Proposals

Informational Webinar

August 19, 2026

LCBP Technical Team



Program Overview

Funding is targeted at the planning and implementation of water quality projects that will improve water quality and reduce water pollution in the Lake Champlain Basin.



Credit: Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District

RFP Details

Grant Categories: \$865,000 total available

- **Small grants for implementation:** projects up to \$50,000 that will improve water quality and reduce pollution
- **Large grants for implementation:** projects from \$50,001 – \$200,000 that will improve water quality and reduce pollution
- **Grants for planning:** projects up to \$100,000 that will provide planning, design, or prioritization for future water quality improvement projects

One proposal may be submitted per eligible organization or entity per grant category. Proposals are evaluated through a confidential peer review process



Credit: Lake George Association

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must work within the Lake Champlain Basin.

Eligible applicants include:

- Colleges and universities
- Nonprofit organizations
- For-profit companies*
- NY Soil and Water and VT Natural Resource Conservation Districts
- Non-federal/non-state government agencies, including municipalities

* May only apply to CW large grants for implementation and CW grants for planning.



Credit: PMNRCD

Other Contract Requirements

- Workplan
- Procurement for $\geq \$15,000$
- Budget: task-based reimbursement
- Receipts $\geq \$1,000$ for supplies or professional services
- Must have an active UEI and be registered in SAM.gov
- Hold insurance throughout the grant period with coverage of not less than \$2M combined & \$3M aggregate

lcbp.org/about-us/grants-rfps/grant-toolkit/

Clean Water Project Examples

Small and Large grants for Implementation:

- Reducing non-point source inputs of phosphorus
- Stormwater management projects
- Shoreline or streambank stabilization
- Green infrastructure project implementation
- Combined sewer overflow (CSO) reduction
- The purchase of water quality improvement equipment to be shared among organizations.

Grants for Planning:

- Engineering plans for future water quality improvement projects
- Planning and prioritization work that will assist eligible organizations in development of plans to prioritize or install BMPs in their watersheds of interest to optimize pollution reductions for future implementation opportunities.



Credit: Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District

Tips for a Successful Application

- Make clear connections to ***Opportunities for Action and how support will enable you to advance OFA goals***
- Non-federal match viewed favorably
- Letters of Support, from identified partners, landowners (if working on private property) and/or others
- Tasks and deliverables clearly identified
- Accurate budget table



Credit: LCBP and VRC

Key Dates – Clean Water RFP

Proposals due to LCBP	September 29, 2026 at 5pm via Foundant
Award decisions	December 2026
Detailed project workplan due	January 2027
Project start	May 2027
Project completion/final report	On or before June 30, 2030

Questions?



Evaluation and selection criteria

Proposals received will go through a confidential external peer review, judged according to the following criteria:

1. Impact (40 points) Extent to which project outputs will advance the Clean Water goals of *Opportunities for Action*, and contribute to the goals of the applicable grant category;

2. Likelihood of success (20 points) The extent to which the project team demonstrates that project outputs can and will be accomplished with high quality, on time with the proposed schedule, and within the proposed budget.

3. Long-term plan (20 points) Strength of a long-term plan for project success beyond the life of the grant (e.g., a long-term maintenance plan for an implementation project, identified funding sources to implement planned projects, aquatic invasive species spread prevention plan).

4. Prior performance of project team (20 points) Extent to which the project team has successfully completed LCBP projects in the past with high quality outputs delivered on time with planned schedules and within planned budgets. New applicants and those with a record of success with delivering high quality outputs on time and within budgets for LCBP projects will receive a full score (20 points) in this category.

5. Budget (10 points) Appropriateness, efficiency, and accuracy of proposed funding request, project budget, and non-federal match for the scope and outputs of the project.

6. Outreach (5 points) Extent to which the need for and benefits of the project will be communicated with local communities and stakeholders.

Reporting and Metrics

Reporting

- Quarterly Reports
- Final Report
- Invoicing only by completed tasks
- LCBP templates
- Tangible deliverables

Metrics

- Reporting metrics track deliverables and assess project reach/success
- Based on strategies identified in OFA
- Developed/ refined during the contracting process