

# Water Related Funding Programs



*SPC’s Water Resource Center (WRC) is dedicated to promoting regional collaboration on water topics; facilitating coordination and education; and providing technical assistance to its member governments. WRC provides support to federal, state, regional, and local organizations, counties, cities, and municipalities on various water resource management initiatives.*

*The information within this document provides local project sponsors with a guide to available funding resources for water-related projects.*

*This list of funding resources is non-exhaustive. Please check with each funding source for application deadlines, eligibility, priority project types, and further funding details.*

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# Federal Funding Sources

## Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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### **Brownfields Grant Funding**

**Purpose:** Funding for brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loans, environmental job training, technical assistance, training, and research.

**Program Administrator:** US Environmental Protection Agency.

**Eligibility:** Varies by program.

**Match/Funding:** Varies by program.

**Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/types-brownfields-grant-funding>

### **Environmental Education Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding to support environmental education projects that promote environmental awareness and stewardship and help provide people with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment. Applicants must address at least one of the EPA educational priorities (agricultural education, community projects, or career development) and at least one of the environmental priorities, which changes by funding year.

**Program Administrator:** US Environmental Protection Agency.

**Eligibility:** Local education agency; state education or environmental agency; college or university; non profit organization; noncommercial education broadcasting entity; tribal education agency.

**Match/Funding:** 25% non-federal match required.

**Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/education/grants>

### **Greening America's Communities**

**Purpose:** This is a program to help cities and towns develop an implementable vision of environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green infrastructure and other sustainable design strategies. EPA provides design assistance to help support sustainable communities that protect the environment, economy, and public health and to inspire local and state leaders to expand this work elsewhere.

**Program Administrator:** US Environmental Protection Agency.

**Eligibility:** Cities and towns.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greening-americas-communities>

### **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)**

**Purpose:** Federal credit program for eligible water and wastewater infrastructure projects. Program

**Administrator:** US Environmental Protection Agency.

**Eligibility:** Local, state, tribal, and federal government entities; partnerships and joint ventures; corporations and trusts; Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs.

**Match/Funding:** \$5 million minimum for small communities (population 25,000 or less) or \$20 million min for large communities. WIFIA can only fund 49% of project costs. Federal assistance may not exceed 80% of project's costs. Maximum maturity date of 35 years from substantial completion. Interest rate equal to or greater than US Treasury rate of a similar maturity at the date of closing.

**Website:** <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>

### **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities**

**Purpose:** Funding to support states, local communities, tribes, and territories, as they undertake hazard mitigation projects reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. This program replaces the existing Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. BRIC guiding principles are supporting communities through capability- and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation; promoting partnerships; enabling large projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency.

**Program Administrator:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Eligibility:** States, territories, tribal governments as primary applications; local governments, state agencies, and tribal agencies as sub-applicants.

**Match/Funding:** BRIC is funded by a 6% set-aside from federal post-disaster grant funding. Within this, there is an allocation for each state, territory, and DC, as well as tribal governments. The remainder of the funding will be available competitively for mitigation projects for eligible applicants.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/bric>

### **Community Assistance Program - State Support Services Element**

**Purpose:** Funding to states to provide technical assistance to communities in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to evaluate community performance in implementing NFIP floodplain management activities.

**Program Administrator:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Eligibility:** The Commonwealth.

**Match/Funding:** 25% non-federal match.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/community-assistance-program-state-support-services-element>

### **Flood Mitigation Assistance**

**Purpose:** Funding for projects and planning that reduces or eliminates long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the NFIP. FEMA requires that grantees develop and adopt hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for HMA mitigation projects.

**Program Administrator:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Eligibility:** The Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, and state agencies are sub applicants that can sponsor projects for individuals and businesses.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program>

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Funding to states, tribes, and local communities after a disaster declaration to protect public or private property through various mitigation measures. Hazard mitigation includes long-term efforts to reduce the impact of future events.

**Program Administrator:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Eligibility:** The Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, and state agencies are sub applicants that can sponsor projects for individuals and businesses.

**Match/Funding:** 75%/25% cost share between FEMA and other sources, respectively.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program#>

### **Public Assistance Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Funding to support communities' recovery from major disasters by providing them with grant assistance for debris removal, life-saving emergency protective measures, and restoring public infrastructure.

**Program Administrator:** Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**Eligibility:** Local governments; states; tribes; territories; certain private non-profit organizations.

**Match/Funding:** No less than 75% of eligible costs are federal; 25% non-federal can be split among sub recipients.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>

### **Acres for America**

**Purpose:** Funding to conserve lands of national significance, protect critical fish and wildlife habitat, and benefit people and local economies.

**Program Administrator:** National Fish and Wildlife Service; Walmart.

**Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations; state government agencies; local governments; municipal governments; Native American tribes; educational institutions.

**Match/Funding:** 1:1 minimum match, 5:1 match is encouraged. This may include other federal funds.

**Website:** <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/acres-america>

### **Bring Back the Natives**

**Purpose:** Funding for conservation activities that restore, protect and enhance native populations of sensitive or listed fish species across the United States, especially in areas on or adjacent to federal agency lands.

**Program Administrator:** National Fish and Wildlife Service; US Forest Service.

**Eligibility:** Local government; state government and agencies; federal government and agencies; conservation districts; planning districts; utility districts; non-profit organizations; schools and universities.

**Match/Funding:** 50% match required; grants generally range from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

**Website:** <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/bring-back-natives>

### **Central Appalachia Habitat Stewardship Program**

**Purpose:** Funding to restore and sustain healthy forests, rivers, and streams that provide habitat for diverse native bird and aquatic populations in seven focus areas of the Appalachian region including French Creek, the Upper-Middle Allegheny, the Pennsylvania Wilds, the Laurel Highlands, the Monongahela Forest, the Blue Ridge, and Southwestern Virginia.

**Program Administrator:** Richard King Mellon Foundation; US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service; US Forest Service; US Fish and Wildlife Service; American Forest Foundation; and Shell Oil Company.

**Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations; local governments; state government agencies; educational institutions.

**Match/Funding:** 50% non-federal match; funding amount changes by grant year.

**Website:** <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/central-appalachia-habitat-stewardship-program>

### **Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for on-the-ground wetland, riparian, in-stream, and/or coastal habitat restoration; meaningful education and training activities; measurable ecological, educational, and community benefits; and community partnerships.

**Program Administrator:** National Fish and Wildlife Service; US Forest Service; US Environmental Protection Agency; Shell Oil Company; FedEx; Southern Company.

**Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations; state government agencies; local governments; educational institutions; geographic focus for project funding changes by year.

**Match/Funding:** Match requirement changes by funding availability; awards range from \$20,000 to \$50,000, with an average size of \$30,000 and 40-50 grants awarded per year.

**Website:** <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/five-star-and-urban-waters-restoration-grant-program>

### **Resilient Communities Program**

**Purpose:** Funding priorities include high-impact resiliency adaptations to help communities prepare for fire in the US West, floods and droughts in the Mid-West, and sea-level rise on the Eastern seaboard; community demonstration and capacity-building projects that help communities understand environmental risks and opportunities and organize and take actions to improve local resiliency by enhancing natural buffers and system functions; scalable, nature-based resilience solutions benefiting affordable housing and/or small businesses in communities vulnerable to impacts from natural disasters.

**Program Administrator:** National Fish and Wildlife Service; Wells Fargo.

**Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations; local governments; state government agencies.

**Match/Funding:** Must meet or exceed a 1:1 match ratio; approximately 9-12 grants of all types are awarded each year; grants range from \$200,000 to \$500,000 in each region for adaptation projects; grants range \$100,000 to \$250,000 per project for community capacity projects; grants range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 per projects for affordable housing/small businesses adaptation.

**Website:** <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/resilient-communities-program>

## Small Business Administration (SBA)

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### Disaster Loan Assistance

**Purpose:** Low-interest disaster loans to help businesses and homeowners recover from declared disasters.

**Program Administrator:** Small Business Administration. Eligibility: Varies based on declared disaster.

**Match/Funding:** Loan.

**Website:** <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>

## USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS)

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### Agricultural Management Assistance

**Purpose:** Funding to help agricultural producers manage financial risk through diversification, marketing, or natural resource conservation practices.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service.

**Eligibility:** Agricultural producers.

**Match/Funding:** Up to 75% of costs to install conservation practices, total payments to not exceed \$50,000 per participant for any fiscal year.

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/ama/?cid=stelprdb1042016>

### Conservation Stewardship Program

**Purpose:** Funding to help agricultural producers maintain and improve existing conservation systems.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service

**Eligibility:** agricultural producers for working lands.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>

### Emergency Watershed Protection - Floodplain Easement

**Purpose:** Purchase of permanent easements in the floodplains to restore land to its natural condition.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service.

**Eligibility:** Available on agricultural, open lands, or lands primary used for residential housing.

**Match/Funding:** No match - NRCS will pay up to the entire cost of the easement value and up to the entire cost for easement restoration, plus the cost of structures' value if demolished or cost of relocating structure(s) outside of floodplain.

**Website:** [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/?cid=nrcsl43\\_008216](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/?cid=nrcsl43_008216)

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program

**Purpose:** Financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, increased soil health and reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, improved or created wildlife habitat, and mitigation against increasing weather volatility.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service.

**Eligibility:** Agricultural producers.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=stelprdb1044009>

### Regional Conservation Partnership Program

**Purpose:** Funding for on-the-ground conservation activities including land management, land improvement, restoration practices, land rentals, entity-held easements, US-held easements, public works/watersheds.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service.

**Eligibility:** Agricultural or silvicultural producer; state government; local government; farmer cooperative; water district; municipal water or wastewater treatment entity; organizations that have an established history of working cooperatively with producers on agricultural land.

**Match/Funding:** Varies by funding year.

**Website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp/>

### **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for eligible communities to prepare or recover from an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

**Eligibility:** State government entities; local governments; nonprofits in eligible areas (populations with 10,000 or less with a median household income less than the state's median household income).

**Match/Funding:** Partnerships are encouraged but not required; water transmission line grants up to \$150,000, water source grants up to \$500,000.

**Website:** <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants>

### **Pre-Development Planning Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding to assist low-income communities with initial planning and development of applications for USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal direct loan/grant and loan guarantee programs.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

**Eligibility:** State governmental entities; local governments; private nonprofits in eligible areas (populations with 10,000 or less with a median household income less than the state's median household income).

**Match/Funding:** 25% match required (not in-kind); maximum of \$30,000 or 75% of the pre-development planning costs.

**Website:** <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-predevelopment-planninggrants>

### **Revolving Funds for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects**

**Purpose:** Funding for qualified nonprofits to create revolving loan funds that can provide financing to extend and improve water and waste disposal systems in rural areas.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

**Eligibility:** Non-profits that have legal authority to operate a revolving loan fund and the capacity to comply with state/federal laws and regulations. Must be in eligible areas (populations with 10,000 or less).

**Match/Funding:** 20% match required (not in-kind); maximum loan per borrower is \$100,000 over a 10-year term.

**Website:** <https://rd.usda.gov/programs-services/revolving-funds-for-financing-water-and-wastewaterprojects>

### **Technical Assistance and Training Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for qualified private nonprofits to provide technical assistance and training to identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste problems, help applicants prepare applications for water and waste disposal loans/grants, and help associations improve the operation and maintenance of water and waste facilities in eligible rural areas.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

**Eligibility:** State governmental entities; local governments; private nonprofits in eligible areas (populations with 10,000 or less).

**Match/Funding:** No match; project period is one year; this is a reimbursement grant.

**Website:** <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-technical-assistance-training-grants>

### **Water & Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Low-interest loans for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and stormwater drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.

**Program Administrator:** US Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

**Eligibility:** State governmental entities; local governments; private nonprofits who are not able to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms. Must be in eligible areas (populations with 10,000 or less).

**Match/Funding:** Loans with up to 40-year term and fixed interest rate.

**Website:** <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program>

### **Section 14: Emergency Streambank Protection**

**Purpose:** Allows for construction of emergency streambank and shoreline protection to prevent erosion from damaging nonprofit public facilities.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility :** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding :** 65% federal, 35% non-federal cost share for design and implementation; maximum federal share is \$5,000,000.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20Section%2014.pdf>

### **Section 22: Planning Assistance to States**

**Purpose:** Allows for assistance to states, local governments, and other non-federal entities with broad comprehensive water resource planning, including flood damage reduction, water supply, water conservation, environmental restoration, erosion, etc. Program is for planning studies only.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility :** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.). **Match/Funding:** 50% cost-share between USACE and study partner. In-kind services accepted.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20PAS.pdf>

### **Section 205: Flood Damage Reduction**

**Purpose:** Allows for construction of projects (structural or nonstructural) to reduce damages caused by flooding and focuses on solving local flood problems in urban areas, towns and villages.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility:** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding:** 65% federal, 35% non-federal for design and implementation costs. Maximum federal share for planning, design and construction is \$10,000,000.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20Section%20205.pdf>

### **Section 206: Floodplain Management Services**

**Purpose:** Provides technical services and planning guidance to state, regional, and local governments to support effective floodplain management.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility :** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding:** None, 100% federal.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20FPMS.pdf>

### **Section 206: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration**

**Purpose:** Allows for USACE to partner with a non-federal sponsor to develop aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects to improve the quality of the environment, provided that the project is not used to meet mitigation or remediation requirements.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility:** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding:** Maximum of \$10 million per project including feasibility, design, and construction costs. Feasibility study up to \$100,000, costs exceeding this are cost-shared 50/50 with non-federal sponsor; design and construction costs are cost-shared 65% federal, 35% non-federal.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20Section%20206.pdf>

### **Section 208: Snagging and Clearing for Flood Control**

**Purpose:** Allows for USACE to partner with a non-federal sponsor to plan for and provide removal of accumulated snags and other debris from waterways and to clear stream channels in the interest of flood control.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility:** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding:** Maximum federal expenditure per project of \$500,000 including feasibility, design, and construction costs. Sponsor's cost-share is limited to a maximum of 50% of total project costs, unless the project exceeds the maximum expenditure.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Portals/72/Updated%20Fact%20Sheet%20-%20Section%20208.pdf>



**Section 219: Environmental Infrastructure**

**Purpose:** Provides assistance to non-federal interests in carrying out water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility:** Non-federal sponsor in one of the authorized locations within the Pittsburgh USACE District: Beaver Creek Reservoir, Clarion County in Beaver and Salem Township, PA; Allegheny County, PA; and various counties in West Virginia.

**Match/Funding:** 25% non-federal sponsor match required.

**Website:** <https://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning-Programs-Project-Management/Project%C2%AD%20Authorities/>

**Silver Jackets Program**

**Purpose:** Allows USACE involvement in state-led interagency teams that work to reduce flood risk at the state level. Facilitates strategic flood risk reduction through collaborative solutions.

**Program Administrator:** US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Eligibility:** Non-federal sponsor (i.e. the Commonwealth; local governments, private nonprofits, etc.).

**Match/Funding:** Varies by project.

**Website:** <https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/State-Teams/Pennsylvania>

# State Funding Sources

## PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD)

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### **Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Maintenance Program**

*Purpose:* Funding to eliminate stream pollution caused by runoff and sediment from the state's comprehensive network of unpaved and low volume public roads.

*Program Administrator:* County conservation districts (as granted by the State Conservation Commission).

*Eligibility:* Public road-owning entities (municipalities). Match/ Funding: None.

*Website:* <https://www.dirtandgravel.psu.edu/pa-program-resources>

### **PACO Grants for Conservation Districts**

*Purpose:* Various funding options for PA county conservation districts including the CREP mini-grant program, multi-functional riparian buffer sub-grant, nonpoint source pollution educational mini-grant, manure management and Chapter 102 Compliance workshop mini-grant.

*Program Administrator:* Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts.

*Eligibility:* County conservation districts.

*Match/Funding:* Dependent on program.

*Website:* [https://pacd.org/?page\\_id=69](https://pacd.org/?page_id=69)

## PA Department of Agriculture (PDA)

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### **Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program**

*Purpose:* Funding for state and county governments to purchase conservation easements from farmers.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Agriculture.

*Eligibility:* Farm owners apply to the county for funds. Criteria vary by county. Match/Funding: Payment to farmer.

*Website:* [https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants\\_Land\\_Water/farmland/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/farmland/Pages/default.aspx)

## PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

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### **Abandoned Mine Drainage Abatement and Treatment Program**

*Purpose:* Funding for abandoned mine drainage, abatement, and treatment.

*Program Administrator:* Commonwealth Financing Authority.

*Eligibility:* Municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations; for-profit businesses.

*Match/Funding:* 15% match; maximum project cost of \$1,000,000.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/abandoned-mine-drainage-abatement-treatment-program-amdatp/>

### **Baseline Water Quality Data Program**

*Purpose:* Funding for projects that involve practices for water sample collection and analysis to document existing groundwater quality conditions on private water supplies.

*Program Administrator:* Commonwealth Financing Authority.

*Eligibility:* For-profit businesses; municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations.

*Match/Funding:* 15% match required; grants shall not exceed \$250,000 for any project.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/baseline-water-quality-data-program/>

### **Community Development Block Grant**

*Purpose:* Funding to expand economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and to improve infrastructure critical to community health and welfare.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

*Eligibility:* Eligible municipalities.

*Match/Funding:* Minimum request of \$100,000, no ceiling limit.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/housing-and-development/community-development-block-grant/>

### **Flood Mitigation Program**

*Purpose:* Funding for projects authorized by a flood protection authority, the Department of Environmental Protection, the US Army Corps of Engineers, or the US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, or identified by a local government. Min total project cost of \$50,000.

*Program Administrator:* Commonwealth Financing Authority.

*Eligibility:* Municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations; for-profit businesses.

*Match/Funding:* 15% match of the total project cost; grants shall not exceed \$500,000.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/flood-mitigation-program-fmp/>

### **Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program**

*Purpose:* Funding for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects.

*Program Administrator:* Commonwealth Financing Authority.

*Eligibility:* For-profit businesses; municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations.

*Match/Funding:* 15% match required; grants shall not exceed \$250,000 for any project.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/greenways-trails-and-recreation-program-gtrp/>

### **H20 PA - Flood Control Projects**

*Purpose:* Funding for projects that involve construction, improvement, repair, or rehabilitation of all or part of a flood control system.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

*Eligibility:* The Commonwealth; independent agencies; municipalities or municipal authorities.

*Match/Funding:* Minimum of \$500,000 or more, and a maximum amount of \$20 million for any project.

*Website:* <https://deed.pa.gov/programs/h20-pa-flood-control-projects/>

### **H20 PA - High Hazard Unsafe Dam Projects**

*Purpose:* Funding for projects that involve the repair, rehabilitation, or removal of all or a part of a high hazard unsafe dam.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

*Eligibility:* Independent agencies; municipalities; municipal authorities; the Commonwealth.

*Match/Funding:* Minimum of \$500,000 or more, and a maximum amount of \$20 million for any project.

*Website:* <https://deed.pa.gov/programs/h20-pa-high-hazard-unsafe-dam-projects/>

### **H20 PA-Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Stormwater Projects**

*Purpose:* Funding for activities to assist with the construction of drinking water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer projects.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

*Eligibility:* Independent agencies; municipalities; municipal authorities; the Commonwealth.

*Match/Funding:* Minimum of \$500,000 or more, and a maximum amount of \$20 million for any project.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/h20-pa-water-supply-sanitary-sewer-storm-water-projects/>

### **Industrial Sites Reuse Program**

*Purpose:* Grants and low-interest loans to perform environmental site assessment and remediation work at former industrial sites.

*Program Administrator:* PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

*Eligibility:* Public entities; private nonprofit economic development entities; companies involved in reuse of former industrial land; entities that did not cause or contribute to environmental contribution.

*Match/Funding:* 25% match; up to \$200,000 in funding for environmental assessments; up to \$1,000,000 in funding for remediation; interest rates of 2%.

*Website:* <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/industrial-sites-reuse-program-isrp/>

### **Municipal Assistance Program**

**Purpose:** Funding to assist local governments to plan for and efficiently implement a variety of services and improvements. Funding is available for three groups of activities: shared services, community planning, and floodplain management. Related to the floodplain management activities, funding may be used for reimbursement of costs of preparation, enactment, administration, and enforcement of floodplain management regulations pursuant to the Flood Plain Management Act.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

**Eligibility:** Counties; municipalities; some projects open to councils of governments.

**Match/Funding:** Grants of up to 50% of eligible costs.

**Website:** <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/municipal-assistance-program-map/>

### **Watershed Restoration and Protection Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for watershed restoration and protection projects that involve the construction, improvement, expansion, repair, maintenance, or rehabilitation of new or existing watershed protection Best Management Practices (BMPs).

**Program Administrator:** Commonwealth Financing Authority.

**Eligibility:** Municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations; for-profit businesses.

**Match/Funding:** 15% match; maximum of \$300,000 for any project.

**Website:** <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/watershed-restoration-protection-program-wrpp/>

## **PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)**

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### **Community Conservation Partnerships Program Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for projects related to parks, recreation, and conservation. Grants can fund: planning, acquisition, and development of public parks; recreation areas; motorized and non-motorized trails; river conservation and access; and conservation of open space.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Eligibility:** Counties; municipalities; municipal agencies; nonprofit organizations; state heritage areas; prequalified land trusts; for-profit enterprises.

**Match/Funding:** 50% match.

**Website:** <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Wild Resources Conservation Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for survey, research, management, and conservation of wild resources.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**Eligibility:** For-profit businesses; municipalities; councils of governments; authorized organizations; institutions of higher education; watershed organizations; conservation districts; municipal authorities.

**Match/Funding:** 25% match required; average award size is \$30,000 per project.

**Website:** <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/Biodiversity/WildResourceConservationProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

## **PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)**

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### **Environmental Education Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for education projects that foster an understanding of natural world functions and cultivate critical thinking and actions that promote environmental protection and sustainable resource management. Program priorities include education relating to climate change, water, or environmental justice.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Environmental Protection.

**Eligibility:** Public schools and school districts; incorporated private schools; incorporated conservation and education organizations and institutions; universities and colleges; county conservation districts; incorporated non-profit organizations; businesses.

**Match/Funding:** Mini-grants- match not required but encouraged; funding up to \$3000 / General grants- 20% match required; Level I funding up to \$20,000, Level II funding up to \$85,000.

**Website:** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/EnvironmentalEducation/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Flood Protection Program**

**Purpose:** Technical assistance to investigate flood problems within Pennsylvania and determine the feasibility of providing solutions to these flood problems. Flood protection projects include but are not limited to: concrete channels, concrete floodwalls, compacted earthen levees, channel improvements, or a combination of a number of these. The main objective of the program is to minimize property damage and the possibility of loss of life.

**Program Administrator:** Department of Environmental Protection - Office of Waterways, Engineering, and Wetlands.

**Eligibility:** Requests from municipalities; states and federal legislators; county and state government officials; private residents.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Waterways/Flood-Protection/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Growing Greener Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for watershed protection and restoration projects including planning activities; education and outreach; design and/or construction, operation, maintenance, and repair/replacement; technical assistance; evaluation, assessment, and monitoring tools for watershed management; watershed group organization/support; or the Healthy Waters Initiative.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Environmental Protection.

**Eligibility:** Incorporated watershed associations; counties; municipalities; county conservation districts; councils of governments; non-profit organizations; educational institutions; municipal authorities.

**Match/Funding:** 15% match required, which cannot include other DEP funding sources or in-kind services.

**Website:** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Growing-Greener/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for nonpoint source management plans and activities identified in Pennsylvania watersheds with approved Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs).

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Environmental Protection.

**Eligibility:** Incorporated watershed associations; counties; municipalities; county conservation districts; councils of governments; non-profit organizations; educational institutions; municipal authorities.

**Match/Funding:** Match not required but encouraged.

**Website:** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/PlanningConservation/NonpointSource/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Stream Improvement Program**

**Purpose:** Technical assistance to design and construct small projects to restore stream channels damaged by high water or flooding events and to stabilize streambanks affected by erosion at sites where there are imminent threats to the structural integrity of homes, businesses, and industries.

**Program Administrator:** Department of Environmental Protection - Office of Waterways, Engineering, and Wetlands.

**Eligibility:** Requests from municipalities; states and federal legislators; county and state government officials; private residents.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Waterways/FloodProtection/Pages/StreamImprovements.aspx>

## **PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)**

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### **Emergency Management Performance Grant**

**Purpose:** Funding for the development of comprehensive disaster preparedness and assistance plans, programs, capabilities, and organizations by the state and by county government.

**Program Administrator:** PA Emergency Management Agency (granted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency).

**Eligibility:** Counties.

**Match/Funding:** 50% match.

**Website:** <https://www.pema.pa.gov/Grants/EMPG/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for communities to implement hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. The key purpose of this grant program is to enact mitigation measures that reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters.

**Program Administrator:** PA Emergency Management Agency (granted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency).

**Eligibility:** The Commonwealth is the applicant - municipalities which have adopted the county's Hazard Mitigation Plan are sub-applicants.

**Match/Funding:** 75% federal share, 25% non-federal share (usually covered by the Commonwealth).

**Website:** <https://www.pema.pa.gov/Grants/HMGP/Pages/default.aspx>

## PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC)

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### State Wildlife Grant Program

**Purpose:** Funding to keep species from becoming federally listed as threatened or endangered. Priority projects change by year but usually must meet conservation needs identified in the current State Wildlife Action Plan.

**Program Administrator:** PA Fish and Boat Commission (as granted by US Fish and Wildlife Service).

**Eligibility:** Varies by grant year.

**Match/Funding:** Up to 75% federal vs. 25% non-federal for planning projects; up to 65% federal vs. 35% non-federal for implementation of projects.

**Website:** <https://www.fishandboat.com/Resource/StateWildlifeGrantProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

## PA Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)

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### Clean Water State Revolving Fund

**Purpose:** Low-interest loans for wastewater and certain other projects for the construction, improvement, extension, expansion, repair, or rehabilitation of wastewater collection, treatment, or disposal facilities, stormwater management, nonpoint source pollution controls including but not limited to agricultural best management practices and watershed and estuary management.

**Program Administrator:** PENNVEST (as granted by US Environmental Protection Agency).

**Eligibility:** Varies by project type.

**Match/Funding:** Loan.

**Website:** <https://www.pennvest.pa.gov/Information/Funding-Programs/Pages/Clean-Water-State-Revolving-Fund.aspx>

### Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

**Purpose:** Low-interest loans for expansion and maintenance of drinking water facilities (treatment plants, distribution mains, storage facilities), and improvements and upgrades to water quality systems.

**Program Administrator:** PENNVEST (as granted by US Environmental Protection Agency).

**Eligibility:** Varies by project type.

**Match/Funding:** Loan.

**Website:** <https://www.pennvest.pa.gov/Information/Funding-Programs/Pages/Drinking-Water-StateRevolving-Fund.aspx>

### PA Small Water and Sewer

**Purpose:** Low-interest loans for expansion and maintenance of drinking water facilities (treatment plants, distribution mains, storage facilities), and improvements and upgrades to water quality systems.

**Program Administrator:** PENNVEST (as granted by US Environmental Protection Agency).

**Eligibility:** Varies by project type.

**Match/Funding:** Loan.

**Website:** <https://www.pennvest.pa.gov/Information/Funding-Programs/Pages/Drinking-Water-StateRevolving-Fund.aspx>

## PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT)

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### Municipal Liquid Fuels Program

**Purpose:** Funding for construction, reconstruction, maintenance, and repair of public roads or streets.

**Program Administrator:** PA Department of Transportation.

**Eligibility:** Municipalities; must submit annual reports and make payments in compliance with Act 655.

**Match/Funding:** Allocation is based on a municipality's population and miles of roads on their approved Liquid Fuels inventory.

**Website:** <https://www.penndot.gov/Doing-Business/LocalGovernment/LiquidFuels/MunicipalLiquidFuelsProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

# Regional Foundation Funding Sources

## **Captain Planet Foundation Grants**

*Purpose:* Funding for high-quality, solution-based programs that embrace STEM learning and empower youth to become local and global environmental change-makers. Three grant programs: ecoSolution, ecoTech, and ecoSTEM.

*Eligibility:* Educators (K-12 classroom and informal).

*Match/Funding:* Funding range \$500-\$2,500 for ecoSolution grants, \$2,500 for ecoTech, resource kits for ecoSTEM.

*Website:* <https://captainplanetfoundation.org/grants/>

## **Colcom Foundation Grants**

*Purpose:* Grant priority areas include environmental sustainability, natural resource preservation, land and water conservation, and expanding green spaces.

*Eligibility:* No information.

*Match/Funding:* No information.

*Website:* <http://colcomfdn.org>

## **Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds Grants**

*Purpose:* Funding for non-profit citizen groups to support watershed projects.

*Program Administrator:* Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds.

*Eligibility:* Citizen groups with 501c3 nonprofit status. Primary service area is from the Ohio boarder to the Susquehanna River's main stem.

*Match/Funding:* Maximum grant amount of \$2,000.

*Website:* <http://pennsylvaniawatersheds.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

## **Heinz Endowment Grants**

*Purpose:* Funding priority areas include creativity, learning, and sustainability.

*Eligibility:* Non-profit organizations in the Commonwealth.

*Match/Funding:* Varies.

*Website:* <http://www.heinz.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant>

## **Hillman Family Foundation Grants**

*Purpose:* Search through the 18 foundations for various grants, based on focus area and location.

*Eligibility:* Non-profit organizations; other organizations or government entities that are tax-exempt.

*Match/Funding:* Varies.

*Website:* <https://hillmanfamilyfoundations.org>

## **Laurel Foundation Grants**

*Purpose:* Funding priorities include arts and culture, education, environment, and public/society benefit projects in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

*Eligibility:* Non-profit organizations in the Greater Pittsburgh area.

*Match/Funding:* No information.

*Website:* <http://laurefdn.org/grants-program/>

## **Richard King Mellon Foundation**

*Purpose:* Funding priorities include conservation, education, human services, and regional economic development.

*Eligibility:* Non-profit organization or government entity in Pennsylvania.

*Match/Funding:* Varies.

*Website:* <https://www.rkmf.org/grants>

# Additional Funding Sources

## **ARC Project Grants - Physical Infrastructure**

**Purpose:** Funding for infrastructure including water/sewer facilities to enhance economic development or address health issues.

**Program Administrator:** Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (as granted by the Appalachian Regional Commission).

**Eligibility:** Varies by project.

**Match/Funding:** 50% match required - may be decreased if in a distressed or at-risk county.

**Website:** <https://www.arc.gov/funding/ARCProjectGrants.asp>

## **Coldwater Conservation Planning and Implementation Grants**

**Purpose:** Funding for the creation of a Coldwater Conservation Plan that will ultimately conserve and protect the coldwater streams of Pennsylvania.

**Program Administrator:** Coldwater Heritage Partnerships.

**Eligibility:** Non-profit organizations such as watershed associations, land trusts, Trout Unlimited chapters, conservancies, sportsmen's groups, educational institutions and conservation organizations. Municipalities, municipal authorities, counties, and conservation districts may also apply.

**Match/Funding:** 50% match encouraged; approximately \$5,000 awarded for planning and \$8,000 for implementation projects.

**Website:** <https://www.coldwaterheritage.org/grant-application-and-guidelines>

## **Dominion Energy Watershed Mini Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Funding to provide assistance to the region's grassroots watershed groups and organizations. Grants can be used to cover expenses in three areas: water quality monitoring (\$3,000 limit), restoration projects (\$3,000 limit), or organizational promotion and outreach (\$2,000 limit).

**Program Administrator:** Western Pennsylvania Conservancy.

**Eligibility:** Watershed organizations in the following counties: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Crawford, Elk, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lawrence, Mercer, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Venango, Washington and Westmoreland.

**Match/Funding:** No information.

**Website:** <https://waterlandlife.org/watershed-mini-grant-program/>

## **Pennsylvania American Water Environmental Grant Program**

**Purpose:** Funding for community-based environmental projects that improve, restore, or protect the watersheds, surface water, and groundwater supplies in our local communities. The two grant categories include Watershed Protection and Project Source Water Protection.

**Eligibility:** Projects must be located within an American Water service area and must be carried out by a formal or informal partnership between two or more organizations; typical applications include municipalities, non-profit organizations, or schools.

**Match/Funding:** Match not required but encouraged; maximum grant amount is \$10,000.

**Website:** <https://amwater.com/paaw/news-community/environmental-grant-program>

## **Stormwater Fees**

**Purpose:** Funding for municipal stormwater projects can be leveraged through a fee, which is based on each parcel's amount of impervious surface.

**Eligibility:** Municipal authorities (stormwater or drinking water); home rule communities; second-class townships.

**Match/Funding:** There are several ways to calculate a fee, the most common being the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) where parcels are charged based on their impervious surfaces.

**Website:** [https://www.pennfuture.org/Files/Admin/PennFuture\\_StormwaterManual\\_web\\_3.20.17.pdf](https://www.pennfuture.org/Files/Admin/PennFuture_StormwaterManual_web_3.20.17.pdf)



# Additional Resources

## Grant Tips

- Look for a foundation's 990 forms – these list who they gave money to previously.
- Purchase a foundation search subscription.
- When searching for foundation grants, try searching a business' name + "foundation" + "corporate giving" or "corporate responsibility" (ex. Walmart Foundation corporate giving).
- Use foundation grants to match federal or state grants.

## Funding Search Engines

### Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection

*Description:* Searchable database of financial assistance sources available to fund a variety of watershed protection projects.

*Organization:* US Environmental Protection Agency.

*Website:* <https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/catalog-of-federal-funding-sources-for-watershed-protection-20c57>

### Pennsylvania Water and Wastewater Funding Sources

*Description:* Funding sources for water and wastewater in Pennsylvania.

*Organization:* Environmental Finance Center Network.

*Website:* <https://efcnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PA-Water-Wastewater-Funds-2019.pdf>

### US Federal Catalog of Grants

*Description:* Search all federal agency funding opportunities.

*Organization:* US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Management and Budget.

*Website:* <https://www.grants.gov/>

### Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

*Description:* Financing information to help local decision-makers make informed decisions for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure to protect human health and the environment.

*Organization:* US Environmental Protection Agency.

*Website:* <https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter>



Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

**For more information  
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