



## GREEN RESILIENCY GRANT (GRG) PROGRAM SUMMARY

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### FUNDING AVAILABLE: \$60 MILLION

The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) will offer grants for eligible projects that improve water quality and mitigate the effects of extreme weather through the Green Resiliency Grant (GRG) program. This grant funding is made available through the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022 (Bond Act).

### FUNDING OVERVIEW

Green Resiliency Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to transformative stormwater management projects that protect homes, businesses, and public infrastructure throughout New York State (NYS) while advancing long-term community resilience. Eligible projects combine green and gray infrastructure for holistic stormwater solutions that effectively and sustainably (1) manage runoff from extreme weather events to reduce flood risk and improve water quality; and (2) prioritize community resilience and equitable access to ensure infrastructure investments provide reliable benefits to all residents, particularly vulnerable populations.

The GRG program may fund up to 90 percent of eligible project costs with grants ranging from a minimum of \$1 million to a maximum of \$10 million per project. Funding will be provided to projects to the extent that funds are available based on the evaluation criteria, including the specific proposed practices, water quality impacts of the project, and financial need of the municipality. EFC, in its sole discretion, may fund all or a portion of an eligible project and will determine the percentage amount available for any project. A local match for the balance of the estimated project cost is required.

Applicants who previously received a Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) or GRG award are not eligible to receive funding for the same project.

EFC reserves the right to limit applicants to no more than two active GRG awards at the same time. A GRG award is considered active from when a project has been awarded funding through the completion of construction and retainage has been released.

If submitting more than one application, applicants must prioritize projects. EFC reserves the right to prioritize projects more protective of water quality and limit GRG funding to one grant award per applicant per cycle.

Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) will receive no less than 35 percent of the benefit from this funding.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of this funding, benefit to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) shall be determined based on whether the proposed project is located within or directly adjacent to a mapped DAC, as identified through the New York State [DECinfo Locator](#) web-based GIS tool.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All applicants must be a municipality as defined by NYS Environmental Conservation Law Article 58 including:

- Local public authorities or public benefit corporations established pursuant to the laws of New York;
- Local government entities (counties, cities, towns, villages);
- School districts, supervisory districts, district corporations, and improvement districts within a county, city, town or village;
- Indian nations or tribes recognized by the state or the United States with a reservation wholly or partly within the boundaries of New York state;
- State agencies or entities that are empowered to construct and operate a water quality infrastructure project; or
- Any combination thereof.

Applicants must have an ownership interest (e.g., fee simple ownership, easement) in the project site and have the right to access, operate, and maintain the project for its useful life.

## ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

All projects must:

- Address a specific existing water quality or quantity concern and demonstrate a concentrated impact on a clearly defined drainage area.<sup>2</sup> Proposals combining multiple, unconnected drainage areas should be submitted as separate applications.
- Result in the implementation of a capital improvement.
- Reduce at least 2,500 cubic feet of the Water Quality Volume (WQv) through infiltration, evapotranspiration and/or harvest and reuse.
- Provide at a minimum on-site stormwater storage capacity sufficient to contain the runoff volume from the 10-year, 6-hour storm event with safe overflow routing for larger events.
- Not be under construction prior to notification of award.
- Commence construction no later than two years after notification of award.

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<sup>2</sup> A clearly defined drainage area may include, for example, the catchment area of a single outfall or CSO, a neighborhood that drains to a common low point, or an area tributary to a localized flooding or water quality hotspot.

## ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

**Regional Green Infrastructure** projects utilize nature-based solutions to establish or restore natural landscape features that improve water quality and support healthy watersheds, while also protecting wildlife and their habitats. Eligible Regional GI practices include the establishment and/or restoration of nature-based features such as:

- Floodplains;
- Riparian buffers;
- Streams;
- Streambanks;
- Wetlands; and
- Stormwater ponds that provide an extended detention function.

**Local Green Infrastructure** projects are typically urban redevelopment or retrofit applications that incorporate site and neighborhood specific SMPs emphasizing stormwater retention and/or slow release strategies. These projects provide co-benefits such as reduced CSO and SSO events, flood protection, habitat restoration, improved air and water quality, reduction in urban heat island effect, and street and neighborhood beautification that can spur economic development and community revitalization. Eligible Local GI SMPs include:

- Bioretention and bioswales;
- Stormwater harvest and reuse systems;
- Green roofs, blue roofs, and green walls;
- Porous pavements or other porous surfaces; and
- Stormwater street trees and tree trenches.

All Local GI SMPs, along with stormwater wetlands and ponds, must be designed in accordance with the latest version of the [New York State Stormwater Management Design Manual](#).

## ELIGIBLE COSTS

All costs must be directly related to project implementation and incurred after notification of award. Eligible costs include the following categories:

- Non-construction costs including, but not limited to, administrative force account (in-kind services), grant administration, planning, design, engineering, construction administration, and construction observation/inspection costs. The total non-construction costs shall not exceed 30% of the total project costs.
- Construction costs including the costs of labor, materials, and equipment.
- Administrative and/or technical force account work completed by the applicant's workforce including labor (salary and fringe), materials, and equipment rental costs.
- Acquisition of real property strictly limited to the portion of land necessary for construction and implementation of the capital improvement, including related acquisition costs. The total acquisition costs shall not exceed 10% of the total project costs.

## INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND COSTS

Ineligible activities and costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Costs incurred prior to notification of award.
- Projects limited to planning and/or design costs (e.g. watershed study, urban forestry plan).
- Implementation of studies prepared through the Resilient NY program or otherwise eligible under the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Resilient Watersheds Grant (RWG) Program.
- Hardening, channelizing, or straightening streams and/or streambanks.
- Coastal rehabilitation or restoration such as projects that establish or restore living shorelines, artificial reefs, dunes, and shellfish beds. These projects may be eligible under the NYS Department of State (NYS DOS) Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects grant program.
- Dam removal, which may be eligible under the RWG or Coastal Rehabilitation and Resilience Projects programs.
- Dredging required as a result of deferred maintenance.
- SMPs implemented to comply with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity.
- Wetland construction or restoration required as compensatory mitigation for adverse impacts to wetlands or other environmental damage caused through construction activities.
- Purchase of capital equipment such as street sweepers, sewer cleaners, and vector trucks.
- Project costs not directly related to water quality, including asbestos abatement and site amenities (e.g., bus shelters, benches, traffic devices, decorative lighting, etc.).
- Costs associated with the operation, maintenance, and ongoing monitoring of the project.

## MATCHING SHARE

All grants require a minimum local matching share equal to a minimum of 10 percent of the total eligible project costs. The match may be provided as cash, administrative and/or technical force account, materials and equipment, or volunteer labor by qualified individuals.

Other State funds may not be used for local match. The applicant must identify the source of the match in the application submittal.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications, including all required and supporting documents, will be evaluated based on the clarity and completeness of information provided to define the scope and articulate the benefits of the project. If there are discrepancies between any of the application materials, or required information is not provided, credit will not be assigned for the respective evaluation criteria.

Applications will be evaluated and ranked based on:

- The **environmental and water-quality outcomes** of the project, including reduction of CSOs and/or SSOs, consistency with any applicable enforcement requirements, and direct benefits to the receiving waterbody.
- **Documentation of existing flood risk** included in the application using credible information, and clear explanation of how the project will reduce or mitigate those risks.
- The volume of **stormwater runoff reduced, treated, and/or managed**, supported by complete, clear, and well-documented calculations.
- The **green infrastructure co-benefits** provided by the project.
- Demonstrated **site ownership and/or secured access** necessary to construct, operate, and maintain the project for its useful life.
- The **applicant's experience and capacity** (technical, managerial, and financial) to successfully deliver the project.
- The direct benefits the project provides to **Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)**, including clear identification of who benefits and how.
- Documentation of **community and intergovernmental support** included in the application, such as public engagement materials and letters of support.
- The extent to which the project **leverages additional resources**, including outside funding, partnerships, and alignment with recommendations from an adopted local or regional plan.
- The feasibility and clarity of the **long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) approach**, including defined roles, responsibilities, and funding for ongoing upkeep.
- The **readiness of the project** to proceed, demonstrated through progress on environmental review, procurement of required engineering services, and design development.
- The extent to which the project achieves intended outcomes at a **competitive cost**, reflecting efficient use of public funds.

## AWARDEE REQUIREMENTS (AFTER GRANT AWARD)

Awardees must fulfill certain requirements to enter into a Grant Agreement with EFC, including, but not limited to:

- State Environmental Quality Review Act (**SEQRA**) compliance documentation;
- State Historic Preservation Office (**SHPO**) consultation documentation;
- Detailed **final budget** and **plan of finance** to show that sufficient funding has been secured for the full project cost;
- Proof of **legal right to access, operate, and maintain** project throughout construction and for the duration of its useful life; and
- Compliance with Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise (**MWBE**), Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Enterprises (**SDVOB**), and Equal Employment Opportunity (**EEO**) requirements.

Projects receiving co-funding from other sources must comply with the applicable requirements of each respective funding program. If any portion of a project is funded through the CWSRF, the project must meet all relevant CWSRF requirements, which include, but are not limited to, Federal Architectural and Engineering (A/E) procurement standards, Davis-Bacon wage requirements, and American Iron and Steel and/or Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions.

## APPLICATION DUE DATE

Applications may be submitted through EFC's Customer Portal at <https://portal.efc.ny.gov> starting Wednesday, April 22, 2026 and must be submitted by Friday, June 12, 2026 at 4:00 P.M.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must complete the online application and submit a feasibility study that aligns with the [EFC Feasibility Study Outline](#) as part of their application. For more information on required and optional documents to support an application, refer to the [Application Documentation Guidance](#).

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional information on the GRG program can be found on EFC's website at: <https://efc.ny.gov/grg>