FY 2022-23 Wastewater Program Grant Proposal Questions

Call for Project Proposals

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is seeking project proposals for the Wastewater Grant Program, as established under section 403.0673, Florida Statutes. These proposals will be reviewed by DEP to identify viable grant projects as part of the selection process. You may be asked for additional information as necessary so your project proposal for applicable funding opportunities can be fully evaluated.

Submit eligible project proposals at ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov/ FY22-23WastewaterGrants.

Eligible projects include:

- Projects to retrofit onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to upgrade such systems to enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems.
- Projects to construct, upgrade or expand facilities to provide advanced waste treatment, as defined in section 403.086(4), F.S.
- Projects to connect onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to central sewer facilities.

To be eligible for funding, a project must be located within:

- a basin management action plan;
- an alternative restoration plan adopted by final order; or
- a rural area of opportunity.

Eligible project proposals must be submitted by nonstate entities. Typically, this means local governments, universities or nonprofit organizations. This funding will not be provided by DEP directly to a vendor or private, for-profit entity.

Any information submitted to DEP will become a public record, subject to disclosure in accordance with Chapter 119, F.S., and Article 1, §24 of the Florida Constitution. Please note that submittal of a proposal does not create an agreement, nor does it guarantee funding.

PROTECTING TOGETHER

Proposal Questions

Project Details

1. Entity or Sponsor Name:
2. Project Title:
3. Project Description (In 500 characters or less, a concise project description will be able to answer three questions: what, where and why. What type of project is being implemented; where is the nearest neighborhood or waterbody this project is benefiting; and why the project is being implemented (intended purpose or benefit)?):

Project Benefits

1. In 250 characters or less, provide a short description of what the project will accomplish and how it will benefit the environment:
2. Enter the project benefits in numeric form. If there is no benefit, the benefit is not known or the benefit is not calculable, enter "0." If benefits are other than those listed below, be sure to describe them in the short description, above.
    a. Water Quality
        i. Total Nitrogen Reductions (lbs/year):
        ii. Total Phosphorus Reductions (lbs/year):
    b. Water Quantity
        i. Water made available (MGD):
        ii. Storage created (MG):
3. Is this project located within an alternative restoration plan adopted by final order? If yes, what is the plan name?
4. Is this project located within a basin management action plan (BMAP)? If yes, what is the BMAP name?
5. Is this project listed in the Statewide Annual Report? If yes, what is the project name?

Contact Information

1. Contact Name:
2. Address:
3. Phone:
4. Email:

Funding Requests

1. Is this a new project or a new phase of an existing project?
2. Is this project located within a Rural Area of Opportunity?
3. Anticipated grant funds needed:
4. Local funds and/or match commitment:
5. Total project cost:
6. Describe how this project accomplishes its goals in an affordable, efficient and effective manner:

Proposed Project Readiness to Proceed

1. Proposed start date:
2. Estimated end date:
3. Is this project already permitted?
4. Is this project already designed?
5. Does this project have approval from a city council, county board or other governing board to move forward?
6. Identify the parties responsible for operating and maintaining the proposed project and affirmatively state that there is a legal or other commitment to do so.

Additional Information

7. Is there a public outreach component to the project? If yes, describe. Include key messages and target audience.
8. Enter the county and/or counties in which the project is located:
9. Project location (coordinates or address):
10. Is this an upgrade or expansion to an existing permitted wastewater treatment facility? If yes, which facility?
11. Is this a septic to sewer project (if no, continue to question 12):
    a. What is the current level of buy-in or approval from neighborhood for sewer connections?
    b. What incentives are offered for hooking up to sewer?
    c. Will connections be required?
    d. Will this project subsidize the connection of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to existing infrastructure?
    e. How many properties with an onsite treatment and disposal system (OSTDS) will this project directly connect to central sewer (provide the number of connections, where lateral sewer lines directly connecting properties formerly serviced by OSTDS to centralized sewer are within scope. If this proposal does not include lateral connections, enter 0)?
    f. Where direct lateral connections are not currently proposed, how many new connections are expected to be made at a future date or at the property owner's expense (provide the number OSTDS to be taken offline, pending lateral connection at a future date or at the owner's expense)?
    g. How many of those onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems are within 200 meters of a waterbody?
    h. Will any septic to sewer conversion occur in a wet, potentially flooded area or an area with a high seasonal water table? If yes, which of the following were considered or performed?
        i. Considered alternatives to conventional gravity sewer, such as low-pressure or vacuum sewer systems.
        ii. Considered potential inflow and infiltration.
        iii. Performed life cycle cost analysis.
    i. Does the utility also provide potable water (with meters) to the locations with OSTDS? If not, how will sewer rates be established?

   j. If the project involves an alternative collection system, how is the requirement for a central management entity being met
   k. How will the abandonment of septic tank be handled?
12. Is this an advanced waste treatment upgrade (if no, continue to question 13)?
   a. What are this facility's annual average results for Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus and flow?
   b. Following the proposed treatment upgrades, what are the estimated average effluent concentrations of Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus for this facility?
   c. Does the project accommodate and consider growth? How many years into the future was growth evaluated?
   d. Are rates or revenue stream established to cover the annual operating budget, including asset management?
13. Will this project expand a collection or transmission system with construction concurrent with other construction projects occurring within or along a transportation facility right-of-way?
14. Are wastewater service charges used solely for wastewater system operation, maintenance and system upgrades?
15. Does this project include upgrading conventional onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to advanced nutrient-reducing system? If yes, how many OSTDS systems will be upgraded?
16. Will other types of infrastructure, such as potable lines, be part of the construction? If so, will all minimum setback requirements be met?
17. How will biosolids and septage be handled from this project?