



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

GERALD D. REID
COMMISSIONER

May 19, 2020

To: Maine Publicly Owned Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Satellite Collection Systems and Storm Water Districts/Utilities

Subject: Potential National Infrastructure Stimulus Funding
Clean Watersheds Needs Survey (CWNS) 2020 Information Request

As we are all aware, Congress continues to work on the Stimulus Package in response to the Corona virus pandemic. The upcoming Phase 5 of the Package may contain a National Infrastructure Stimulus Funding. At this time, we do not know what the package might look like, however we would like to start collecting information on potential stimulus funded wastewater and stormwater projects.

To facilitate this process the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is reaching out to all Maine municipal and quasi-municipal wastewater entities and stormwater groups to gather information on the state's wastewater and stormwater infrastructure via our 2020 Clean Watersheds "Needs Survey" (CWNS).

Please note that if federal funding becomes available for wastewater and/or stormwater projects through National Infrastructure Stimulus funding, the Department will only be accepting applications for stimulus funded projects that have been reported to us in response to the 2020 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey.

What we need from you now is to provide us with wastewater and stormwater needs information that reflects the current situation in your system by completing the attached forms. We have provided you with facility, financial, and needs information forms, along with instructions on how to fill them out. We encourage you to use any Asset Management Programs (if you have generated them previously) to assist you while evaluating your needs, and we stress that any needs you list in this survey should be consistent with such programs.

Completion of this survey is crucial because it allows the Department to provide the gathered wastewater needs information to both the Executive and Legislative branches of state government, thus justifying funds for both the state match in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program and State bonds or sustainable funding mechanisms for grants. **In addition, it will also be the list of projects that the Department will use to accept potential stimulus projects from.**

To secure the needed funding for wastewater infrastructure in Maine, our goal is to have 100% participation from all publicly owned treatment works and satellite collection systems. To lend credibility to the survey, costs must be supported by acceptable documentation. A list of the acceptable documentation types is included in the attached Needs Information Instructions. **Even if your system has no documented needs, we are requesting that you complete the Facility Information and User Rate Information portions of the survey.** So please complete this survey and help us help you get future money for your system!

Please submit your completed survey sheets electronically to Brandy.M.Piers@maine.gov by **5pm on July 31, 2020. Electronic submission is preferred**, but if it is not possible, please mail to the physical address specified in the General Survey Instructions. Should you have any questions as you fill out the survey please contact Brandy Piers at 287-6093.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandy Piers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brandy Piers, P.E., CWNS Coordinator
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Water Quality

Cc: Michael Guethle, President - Maine Water Environment Association
Kirsten Hebert, Executive Director, Maine Rural Water Association