

Janet T. Mills
Governor

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Acting Commissioner



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Drinking Water Program

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LAND ACQUISITION LOANS

The funds allocated for land acquisition loans will be used to give the highest priority community and non-profit, non-community water systems' loans for the purchase of land and/or conservation easements needed for source water protection. The Drinking Water Program (DWP) believes that a water system's ownership or legal control of the land around its source(s) is the most effective means of protecting its source(s). Water systems may apply at anytime, however it is strongly recommended requests be submitted so the DWP can determine the amount of funds to this set-aside. If more requests for money are received than we have allocated for the land acquisition set-aside the priority ranking in the most current Intended Use Plan will be implemented.

LAND ACQUISITION LOANS – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What drinking water systems are eligible for a land acquisition loan? *Community water systems, both privately and publicly owned, and non-profit non-community water systems are eligible for a land acquisition loan. Federally owned systems are not eligible to receive assistance. The system must demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capability. Also, we may not provide assistance to any system that is in significant non-compliance with any national drinking water regulation or variance unless the State conducts a review and determines that the project will enable the system to return to compliance and the system will maintain an adequate level of technical, managerial and financial capability to maintain compliance.*

What land and/or conservation easement is eligible? *The land and/or conservation easement to be purchased with DWSRF assistance must be integral to the source water protection needs of the system as determined by the DWP. A determination can be based on the land being identified in a DWP approved source water protection plan or other documentation that supports its role in protecting the system's source water.*

How much money will be lent? *Money for the land acquisition set-aside has not been determined at this time. For this application an estimate of the land cost will be sufficient, however an appraisal will be needed later and the DWSRF will not loan more than the appraised value.*

What is the deadline? *There is no deadline for land acquisition loans. Whenever there are land and/or conservation easements that can be purchased, the water system can apply for the loan. If there are multiple requests for money the priority ranking system will be implemented.*

How to get more information? *Call Sophia Scott at (207) 287-5681 or e-mail sophia.scott@maine.gov.*

LAND ACQUISITION LOAN APPLICATION

Submit a completed land acquisition loan application, map of watershed showing the proposed land to be purchased, and estimated project cost form to Sophia Scott at the **Drinking Water Program, 11 State House Station, 286 Water Street, Augusta, ME 04333-0011** or sophia.scott@maine.gov. If you have any questions please contact Sophia Scott at the Drinking Water Program, (207) 485-4058.

Water System: _____ PWSID#: _____

Person Completing Form: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Town/City: _____ Zip code: _____ # of persons served: _____

- 1. Submit map showing ownership status of property in the District's source water protection area, with the land proposed to be purchased clearly identified. Furthermore, show its relationship to the other land in watershed that is owned or not owned.**
- 2. Description of Land** *[Square miles of watershed/contributing area, how many acres are owned or controlled by water system, any special zones, etc.]*
- 3. Explain need for land.** *[How will the ownership or control of this land protect your source? Submit copies of supporting documentation such as studies completed for the system, etc.]*

4. **What is the time schedule to close the purchase of the land acquisition and/or conservation easement?**

5. **What is the estimated land cost?** *[Complete and submit the attached "Estimated Land Cost" form using all available information.]* **Is the water system public or private? If private, is it for profit?**

The following items need to be sent to the DWP after the **land acquisition loan application, map identifying the land,** and **estimated land cost form** has been approved:

- (1) Purchase and sales agreement entered into with the seller.
- (2) Appraisal of the land to be purchased. (The loan amount cannot be more than appraised value.)
- (3) DWSRF Maine Municipal Bond Bank loan application (available at www.mmbb.com)

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Recipient Organization		PWSID #
Name:		
Address:		
Total Land Loan Requested:	Cost	
\$	Breakdown	
A. Project Administrative/Legal Expenses		
B. Preliminary Expenses		
C. Refinance/Interest Expenses		
D. Land/Property Purchase		
E. Other Professional Fees		
F. Miscellaneous Costs (describe)		
G. Project Contingency		
Subtotal		
H. DWP Project Management Fee (1% of subtotal)		
Total Estimated Land Cost		
Known commitments of funds available from other agencies:		
Agency	Loan or Grant	Amount
Disclaimer:		
This is only a summary estimate of the proposed land costs, and will be used to determine the total DWSRF assistance needed for placement in the Intended Use Plan or loan application. The recipient organization will not be held to this estimate and may revise or update the estimate as needed. The amount borrowed will be set in the long-term loan agreement.		
Estimate Prepared By:		Title:
Date:		Phone: