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Governor

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Commissioner



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2023 SOURCE PROTECTION GRANT

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until funds are fully disbursed.

Community and non-profit non-community public water systems (PWS) may apply for grants to be used for planning or implementing projects that protect their groundwater and/or surface water source. Grants will be awarded up to \$10,000, with grants of \$20,000 available depending on the scope of the project. Only those projects that demonstrate a significant commitment to ongoing source water protection will be considered for the higher grant award.

Eligible water systems may only apply for one grant per application year. Any water system that has previously been awarded a Wellhead Protection or Source Water Protection Grant must first complete that grant project before applying for a new grant. Systems out of compliance with Drinking Water Rules & Regulations cannot receive funds, unless the funds will be used for projects that will bring the system back into compliance.

Contact Ashley Hodge at (207) 822-2341 or Ashley.Hodge@maine.gov with any questions about the application or granting process.

What types of projects are eligible? Projects that demonstrate a commitment to the ongoing protection of a system's drinking water source.

Examples of eligible surface water projects:	Examples of eligible ground water projects:
Developing or updating Watershed Management Plans	Preparing or updating a Wellhead Protection Plan
Establishing local protective ordinances or legal agreements in the source protection area	Establishing local protective ordinances or legal agreements in the source protection area
Developing or implementing drinking water education and public outreach programs	Developing or implementing drinking water education programs
Developing and/or implementing lake monitoring programs	Establishing or enabling a source monitoring program
	Identifying and/or removing potential sources of contamination from the source protection area

Which water systems are eligible? All community and non-profit, non-community public water systems are eligible for grant awards. Examples include water utilities, mobile home parks, apartment buildings, nursing homes, and schools.

How much money will be awarded? The DWP has set aside \$400,000 for the 2023 grant program, which also includes Water System Asset Security Grants. Grants are typically \$10,000 or less. However, up to \$20,000 may be awarded for projects that demonstrate a commitment to ongoing source protection, such as developing or implementing an existing watershed management plan, establishing source water protection ordinances or zonings within a source water protection area, collaborative efforts in source protection outreach and education, etc.

What types of projects are NOT eligible? Grants will not be awarded for projects that involve the maintenance of water system infrastructure in the source water protection area, installation, or maintenance of treatment facilities, purchasing land or conservation easements, or costs that are part of normal system operation. Additionally, the water system may not be reimbursed for equipment use or water system employee labor costs, even if the work is in support of an eligible source water protection project. Grants will not be awarded for projects that have already been completed.

Projects that seek to replace single-walled oil storage tanks with double-walled tanks will not be funded under the Source Protection Grant Program. Water systems that wish to replace single-walled home heating oil tanks with double bottom tanks can contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Aboveground Home Heating Oil Storage Tank Replacement Program. Please contact Racheal French at (207) 481-6860 or Racheal.French@maine.gov.

What is the deadline for applications? Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis this year; first come, first served until funding has been fully disbursed. Last date to submit an application for consideration is **December 31, 2023**.

When will the grant awards be announced? Grant award recipients will be notified as soon as possible after the application has been reviewed.

If I am awarded a grant, how do I get reimbursed? Complete your project and submit a *Source Protection Grant Reimbursement Request Form* (available on the Drinking Water Program website) to the DWP within 2 years of your written grant approval letter. You must provide:

1. Documentation that the project was completed. This could be a copy of an ordinance, Watershed Management Plan, pictures of the site, or copies of educational materials;
2. Copies of **paid** invoices for reimbursable costs up to the award amount; and
3. Copies of at least three written quotes for any materials or services.

Please note that only one reimbursement check will be written per system, per project.

MAIL OR EMAIL APPLICATION TO:

Maine CDC Drinking Water Program
ATTN: Ashley Hodge
151 Jetport Blvd.
Portland, ME 04102-1946

or

Ashley.Hodge@maine.gov

2023 SOURCE PROTECTION GRANT APPLICATION

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until funds are fully disbursed.

Please complete this form and return to the DWP no later than **December 31, 2023**. The application criteria can help you design your project to maximize the likelihood of approval. Contact Ashley Hodge at (207) 822-2341 or email Ashley.Hodge@maine.gov with questions.

PWS NAME: _____ PWSID#: _____
CONTACT: _____ TELEPHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____ TOWN/CITY: _____
STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

1. Project information:

- a. What is the total grant amount requested (minus any cost-sharing from the system)?
- b. What is the description of the project (including estimated project cost) and implementation schedule?

2. Demonstrated need for the project. *How will the project help protect your surface water or ground water source?*

3. **Previous source water protection work.** *Has your system demonstrated a commitment to source water protection by dedicating time or financial resources to source protection? What other projects have you completed that evaluate or manage threats to your water supply?*

4. **Community involvement.** *Protecting drinking water sources is a community effort.*

- a. **Does your project have community involvement?** _____ Yes _____ No
- b. **Have you participated in community involvement in the protection of your drinking water program in the past?** _____ Yes _____ No

If you answered yes to 4a or 4b, please describe how your project involves community partners or how you have involved community partners in the past.

5. Does your project address an identified risk or implement recommendations from an existing Watershed, Wellhead or Source Water Protection Plan? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, describe how.

6. Does your project create a Watershed, Wellhead, Source Water Protection Plan, source water/wellhead protection ordinance, or other legal agreement in the source water protection area?

_____ Yes _____ No

7. Describe any Cost Sharing.

8. Have you received a Wellhead Protection or Source Water Protection Grant from the Drinking Water Program before?

_____ Yes _____ No

Additional information supporting your application is welcome but not required.

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

RETURN TO THE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM BY DECEMBER 31, 2023