



Board of Water and Soil Resources

Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants Application Review and Selection Process

FY2012

Grant applications that will be reviewed and scored according to the process identified in this document include:

- BWSR Clean Water Assistance Grants
- BWSR Clean Water Accelerated Implementation Grants
- BWSR Community Partners Conservation Program Grants
- MDH Well Sealing Grants

1. Initial Review.

Board Conservationists (BCs), with assistance from Clean Water Specialists (CWS), will review applications for completeness and eligibility. BCs will also assess the applications using the criteria included in the FY 2012 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants request for proposal (RFP). This assessment will result in the separation of applications into regional high – medium – low groupings. The CWS will take these assessments, and generate statewide high – low groups. Additional review will be conducted by the Assistant Director for Policy and Programs and/or Land and Water Section Manager to screen applications for compliance with the FY12 CWF Competitive Grants Policy, appropriation language and statute.

The Livestock Waste Management Grants and SSTS Abatement Grants will be scored only by BWSR staff. The Conservation Drainage Grants will be scored by the Interagency Drainage Management Team.

Timeline: September 20-October 3, 2011.

2. Technical Review and Agency Scoring.

The technical review will be conducted by representatives of state agencies to generate a funding recommendation that will be forwarded to the BWSR Senior Management Team (SMT). The purpose of the Agency Review Team review is to ensure that CWF implementation grants are coordinated among the implementing state agencies.

The Agency Review Team will consist of staff from BWSR (3 CWS and Grants Coordinator) and 2 each from the MPCA, DNR, MDA, and MDH. The agency scoring will be conducted on applications equal to all of the high ranking applications or twice the available funds, whichever results in the greatest number of applications. However, after these applications have been scored Agency Review Team members may request adding additional applications to the scoring list. Agency scoring will be conducted using a 1-9 scoring system using a touch pad electronic system to record composite scores.

Timeline: November 1-2, 2011.

3. BWSR SMT Review.

The BWSR SMT will consider the recommendations forwarded by the Agency Review Team, BWSR staff for the Livestock Waste Management and SSTS Abatement Grants and the Interagency Drainage Management Team. In making a funding recommendation the SMT will consider these recommendations and the:

- CWF Ranking Criteria included in the FY 2012 Clean Water Fund Competitive Grants RFP;
- FY12 CWF Competitive Grants Policy;
- Appropriation language and statute; and
- Other factors necessary to ensure that funds are used consistent with the State Constitution.

Timeline: November 8, 2011.

4. Board Grants Program and Policy Committee.

The Board Grants Program and Policy Committee will review the SMT recommendations and make a recommendation to the Board. This review will be based on consistency of the proposed grants to the Board resolution adopted on June 22, 2011, including the FY12 CWF Competitive Grants Policy.

Timeline: TBD – November 16-17, 2011.

5. Board.

The Board will consider the recommendation of the Grants Program and Policy Committee.

Timeline: December 14, 2011.

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