

# Water Infrastructure Fund

## Application – Watershed Protection Projects



### Overview

The Water Infrastructure Fund (WIF) will make necessary investments in innovative projects across the state for the purpose of enhancing the quality of Iowa’s water resources. Projects that receive funding will generally be those that:

- Reduce excess nutrients
- Increase drought resiliency
- Reduce flood risk
- Improve public health
- Promote water and wastewater reuse
- Provide significant economic benefits to the state

Nonpoint source pollution is the largest contributor of water pollution in Iowa, placing many of our streams and lakes on the Impaired Waters List. The Water Infrastructure Fund will invest in nonpoint source watershed projects that improve Iowa’s water quality.

***Applications that are deemed complete and meet a minimum threshold score will be funded on a rolling basis until all allocated funds are fully obligated/committed. Please refer to the Term Sheet in Appendix A for program details.***

### Project Eligibility

The U.S. Department of the Treasury’s [guidance](#) aligns eligible water infrastructure projects under the American Rescue Plan with the Environment Protection Agency’s (EPA) [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#) and [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#).

The Water Infrastructure Fund will invest in nonpoint source watershed projects that improve Iowa’s water quality, focusing on green infrastructure and measures to control nonpoint source pollution from [hydromodification](#). EPA describes green infrastructure and hydromodification projects as follows:

EPA Nonpoint Source Needs Category	Description
Green Infrastructure	<p>This category includes needs for stormwater management program activities associated with the planning, design, and construction of low impact development and green infrastructure.</p> <p>Examples of green infrastructure projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bioretention</li><li>• Stormwater wetlands</li><li>• Permeable pavement</li><li>• Rain gardens</li><li>• Green roofs</li><li>• Vegetated swales</li></ul> <p>Projects in this category can be either publicly or privately owned.</p>
Hydromodification	<p>This category includes needs to address the degradation of water resources as a result of altering the hydrological characteristics of coastal and non-coastal waters. For a stream channel, hydromodification is the</p>

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	<p>process of the stream bank being eroded by flowing water, typically resulting in the suspension of sediments in the watercourse.</p> <p>Examples of hydromodification activities include (not necessarily limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Channelization and channel modification;</li> <li>• Dams; and/or</li> <li>• Stream bank and shoreline erosion.</li> </ul> <p>Common best management practices (BMPs) used to address hydromodification needs include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation easements;</li> <li>• Swales;</li> <li>• Filter strips;</li> <li>• Shore erosion control;</li> <li>• Wetland development or restoration</li> <li>• Bank or channel (grade) stabilization; and/or</li> <li>• Restoration of riparian buffers and flood plains.</li> </ul> <p>Any work involving wetland or riparian area protection or restoration is included under this category.</p>
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### Applicant Information

<b>Applicant Name:</b>			
<b>Contact Person/Title:</b>			
<b>Street Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>Zip Code:</b>	
<b>Email Address:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	

### Estimated Project Costs\*:

Total Project Costs:	\$
<i>Less: Funds from Other Sources:</i>	\$
<b>Amount of WIF Request:</b>	<b>\$</b>

\*A detailed project cost estimate, including source(s) of other funding, must be included as an attachment to this application.

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## Project Information

Please write a brief description of the project (2-5 sentences):

Summarize the project information below. Expand upon and/or add additional documentation as an attachment to this application.

<b>Name of Waterbody:</b>	
<b>HUC Number and Name:</b> <i>(where the waterbody is located)</i>	
<b>County:</b> <i>(where the waterbody is located)</i>	
<b>Primary Water Quality Goal of the Project:</b>	

**“Coffee Shop” Explanation:** Please explain, in a way that you would to a friend over coffee (2-5 sentences; simple, easily understood terminology), how the project will accomplish the water quality goal(s) identified above. Provide additional details as an attachment to this application.

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If applicable, explain how the project implements the recommendations of a watershed management plan or addresses a cause of an [Impaired Water](#). Provide additional details as an attachment to this application, as necessary.

Identify any collaborating partner organizations and their role in the Project, if applicable.

*Remainder of page intentionally left blank.*

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By Signing Below, You Make the Following Representations, Authorizations, and Certifications

I certify that:

- This application and any supporting documentation are accurate and complete.
- I have reviewed and understand the Term Sheet associated with this funding category.
- I have confirmed that the Project is eligible according to the Environmental Protection Agency’s [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#) and [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#) guidelines.
- I have reviewed and understand the [U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Award Terms and Conditions](#).
- Construction of the Project is reasonably expected to commence pursuant to a duly bid and awarded construction contract within six (6) months after being awarded funding.
- Construction of the Project is reasonably expected to be completed within eighteen (18) months after being awarded funding.
- Construction of the Project is reasonably expected to be completed no later than June 30, 2026.
- Any asset built can be maintained in the future without the guarantee of further federal funding.

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Signature of Authorized Representative

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Date

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Printed Name

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Title

## APPENDIX A: TERM SHEET

### Watershed Protection Projects

*Nonpoint source pollution is the largest contributor of water pollution in Iowa, placing many of our streams and lakes on the Impaired Waters List. The Water Infrastructure Fund will invest in nonpoint source watershed projects that improve Iowa’s water quality, focusing on green infrastructure and measures to control nonpoint source pollution from hydromodification.*

<b>Total Allocation:</b>	\$5 million
<b>Max Award per Project:</b>	Up to \$500,000
<b>Award Type:</b>	Awards will be in the form of a non-recourse grant.
<b>Required Match:</b>	5% (may be financial or in-kind)
<b>Award Process</b>	Rolling
<b>Application Procedure:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application materials can be found at <a href="http://IowaFinance.com/WaterInfrastructure">IowaFinance.com/WaterInfrastructure</a>.</li> <li>• Completed applications may be submitted to Iowa Finance Authority by mail or email: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="text-align: center;">Iowa Finance Authority 1963 Bell Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50315 Attn: Water Infrastructure Fund</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><a href="mailto:WaterInfrastructure@IowaFinance.com">WaterInfrastructure@IowaFinance.com</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Applications that are deemed complete and meet a minimum threshold score will be funded on a rolling basis. <i>See Award Criteria and refer to the category’s Scoring Matrix.</i></li> <li>• Applications will continue to be received on a rolling basis and scored until the allocated funds are fully committed.</li> </ul>
<b>Award Criteria:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant funds must cover only the SRF-eligible water or sewer infrastructure costs of a project. For further information, please refer to the Environment Protection Agency’s (EPA) <a href="#">Clean Water State Revolving Fund</a> and <a href="#">Drinking Water State Revolving Fund</a> websites.</li> <li>• Applications will be scored on a variety metrics. Projects that score a minimum of 100 points (out of 150) will be funded on a rolling basis. <i>See Scoring Matrix.</i></li> <li>• Technical assessment, engineering/design, and construction costs are eligible for reimbursement.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects that fund terraces or agricultural drainage tile are <u>not</u> eligible.</li> </ul>
<b>Project Ownership:</b>	Projects may be publicly or privately owned.
<b>Required Documentation:</b>	<p>All applications must include the following attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed project summary/description</li> <li>Supporting documentation such as design plans, environmental impact report, etc.</li> <li>Estimated project costs/budget</li> <li>Other sources of funding, if applicable</li> <li>Acknowledgement that construction will be completed by June 30, 2026</li> </ul> <p>Other documentation may be requested by Iowa Finance Authority, as needed.</p>
<b>Construction Timeline:</b>	Applicants must certify that construction will be completed by June 30, 2026.
<b>Reporting Requirements:</b>	<p><i>Note: U.S. Treasury is expected to provide final guidance and instructions on reporting requirements soon. Until then, please refer to the <a href="#">State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance and Reporting Guidance</a> published on November 15, 2021 by the U.S. Treasury (Version 2.1) and/or the <a href="#">Interim Final Rule</a>.</i></p> <p>Each project receiving an award will be categorized according to the <a href="#">State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance and Reporting Guidance</a> published on November 15, 2021 by the U.S. Treasury (Version 2.1).</p> <p>The projects funded under this section will be categorized as 5.9 Clean Water: Nonpoint Source.</p>

[End of Appendix A]

## **APPENDIX B: ATTACHMENTS**

*(if applicable)*

Attachments may include:

- Preliminary Engineering Report or Plans/Designs
- Maps
- Detailed project cost estimate, including source(s) of other funding
- Estimated project schedule/construction timeline
- Financial statements
- Other items, as needed