



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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NOTICE OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY FFY2020 604b Water Quality Management Planning Grant Pre-RFR Release Informational Conference Call

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) plans to hold one pre-Request for Responses (RFR) informational conference call to discuss ideas for potential projects before the FFY2020 604b RFR is issued. We recommend that all potential grant applicants participate in the call to discuss ideas for new projects.

The call will be held on **April 8, 2020 at 10 am**. To participate you must register in advance of the meeting. To register click [here](#) or copy and paste the following address into your web browser: <https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting?z=604bRFR> After you register, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the conference call.

For FFY2020, MassDEP will focus 604b grant funds on nonpoint source assessment and planning projects that result in the following:

1. Development of Watershed-based Plans (WBPs) for local watershed planning and to support future 319 grant projects. An online tool to support development of WBPs can be found at: <http://prj.geosyntec.com/MassDEPWBP>;
2. Determination of the nature, extent and causes of water quality problems and determination of pollutant load reductions necessary to meet water quality standards;
3. Development of green infrastructure projects that manage wet weather to maintain or restore natural hydrology; or
4. Development of preliminary designs and implementation plans that will address water quality impairments in impaired watersheds.

MassDEP expects to have approximately \$200,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to put towards new projects in FFY2020. Match is not required for 604b projects, however, either cash or in-kind services, may increase the competitiveness of a proposal by demonstrating local commitment to the project. Projects are expected to utilize firms that qualify as Disadvantaged Minority Owned Businesses (4.2% budget) and Disadvantaged Women Owned Businesses (4.5% budget). Typically, successful proposals are in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 range and MassDEP makes 4 to 5 awards each year. Eligible entities include: regional planning agencies, councils of governments, counties, conservation districts, cities and towns.

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact MassDEP before the RFR issue date to refine project ideas and obtain feedback. For additional information and to find the FFY2020 604b RFR once it is posted please visit the MassDEP Grants & Financial Assistance: Watersheds & Water Quality website located at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/grants-financial-assistance-watersheds-water-quality>.

Important dates for applicants:

Pre-RFR Informational Conference Call: **April 8, 2020 at 10:00 am**

RFR Posted to MassDEP and COMMBUYS websites: **April 24, 2020** (planned)

Grant Application Deadline: **June 26, 2020**

Please contact Meghan Selby, the 604b Grant Program Coordinator, at 508-767-2893 or meghan.selby@mass.gov with any questions or to discuss ideas and program objectives.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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