

Natural Resource Nitrogen Sensitive Area **2023-2024 Grant Program Application**

Overview: The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP or the Department) seeks proposals from Massachusetts municipalities or other government entities that meet the definition of “Local Government Unit,” as defined in 314 CMR 21.02, and have a watershed that has been designated as a Natural Resource Nitrogen Sensitive Area under 310 CMR 15.000, Title 5. The purpose of this grant program is to assist municipalities in a variety of activities which facilitate completion of a Watershed Management Plan (WMP) for the purpose of completing a Watershed Permit application or De Minimis Load application, each of which address solutions to cultural eutrophication caused by nitrogen pollution from wastewater and other sources. Only planning activities that contribute to or come from a Watershed Management Plan, Watershed Permit application, or De Minimis Load application (as defined in 314 CMR 21.00) will be considered for funding. For more information, please see the Notice of Grant Opportunity.

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Phone: _____ Email: _____

By checking this box ☐ the Applicant acknowledges and agrees that its entity is able to enter into the contract and perform the project and meet all requirements of this state grant.

Section 3: Application Structure

Please include the following sections in your application:

Project Description: Describe the Eligible Project and the proposed work to be covered by this funding. Include proposed project tasks, desired outcome(s) for the project, and how the Eligible Entity will be helped to meet the goals of the grant program and Title 5 requirements by the project. If all or some of the Eligible Project includes a request for reimbursement for eligible costs incurred after July 1, 2023, and before submission of the Application, please include a description of the project partially or fully completed.

Meet Regulatory Requirements: Describe how the proposed project intends to contribute to the development of a Wastewater Management Plan and/or application for a Watershed Permit or De Minimis Load under 314 CMR 21.00?

Financial Need: Describe the need for financial assistance to implement the proposed project, including other anticipated or secured funding sources that will support portions of the project (if applicable).

Project Budget and Timeline: Describe the anticipated cost associated with the Eligible Project. Demonstrate a realistic understanding of project costs by providing a budget with detailed and credible cost estimates. For any in-kind or monetary match, explain how extensive it is and how it will be made available to the project. If all or some of the Eligible Project includes a request for reimbursement for eligible costs incurred after July 1, 2023, and before submission of the Application, please attach documentation supporting these project costs. Include a timeline for the proposed work (and/or work that is in the process of completion). Please explain in detail how the proposed work can be feasibly completed by June 30, 2024, or earlier.

Qualifications of Organization and Project Manager: Describe the qualifications of the Eligible Entity and its project manager relevant to carrying out the proposed project.

Project Benefit: Describe how the proposed project contributes to a Watershed Management Plan and/or pursuit of a Watershed Permit application or De Minimis Load application. Include information specific to how the Proposed Project furthers the goal of the Local Government Unit in comprehensively addressing nitrogen impacts in the watershed.

Environmental Justice: If applicable, describe in detail how environmental justice populations will benefit directly from the proposed project, and whether EJ populations, EJ communities, or EJ organizations will be involved in the proposed project.