



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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The Water Management Act Grant Program is designed to assist eligible public water suppliers and municipalities with Water Management Act permits by providing funds for planning assistance, demand management, and withdrawal impact mitigation projects in local communities. The focus of these grants is: 1) planning projects for specific watersheds or subwatersheds to identify implementation projects to improve ecological conditions; 2) demand management projects aimed to improve the efficiency of water use within a municipality or a watershed; and 3) mitigation projects in the following categories: improve or increase instream flow, wastewater projects that keep water local including reductions in inflow and infiltration, stormwater management projects that improve recharge, reduce impervious cover and/or improve water quality, water supply operational improvements, habitat improvement, and other projects that could mitigate the impacts of water withdrawals.

Eligible grant applicants are Massachusetts public water suppliers or municipalities with a valid Water Management Act permit. A 20 percent funding match is required. Cooperative proposals are encouraged. Particular consideration is given to proposed projects in highly impacted basins or subbasins.

The funds allocated for grants are distributed under a competitive procurement process. Approximately \$1.0 million dollars was available to distribute. The Department will also release a second RFR that would secure a contractor to conduct water audits on behalf of public water suppliers. More details will be available in future weeks.

MassDEP received 9 proposals for this grant year totaling just under \$600,000 dollars. The proposal review committee recommends funding 5 proposals this year. This total grant dollar amount of the recommended projects is \$315,901 which will also leverage an additional \$79,319 in project work, for a total of \$395,220. Brief summaries for these projects are attached.

**FY 2019 WMA GRANT PROGRAM
FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS**

NUMBER	TITLE	PROJECT TOTAL	MATCH
	APPLICANT		
01	Design and Permitting - Interconnection with Worcester Auburn Water District	\$105,760	\$21,360
	<p>This proposed project would continue the implementation of the proposed interconnection(s) between the Auburn Water District (District) and the City of Worcester, which supports the District's ongoing efforts to improve the system's supply resiliency (accounting for existing stressed and vulnerable water supplies) while minimizing environmental impacts through regional cooperation. The purchase of water from the City of Worcester has been identified as a potential alternative to the District's local groundwater withdrawal sources;. In prior WMA grant projects, three potential interconnection locations were determined to only require the installation of a facility with pressure reducing valve (PRV) and water meter. Preliminary designs were identified and biddable contract documents and permits were developed. This year's proposal continues this work thru required design modifications, and continued permitting efforts, most notably Interbasin Transfer Act requirements, MassDOT requirements, and railroad crossing issues identified in earlier projects.</p>		
04	Drought Management and Minimization Planning Danvers	\$93,610	\$18,722
	<p>This proposed project would help Danvers move forward with its drought resilience planning by updating its 2000 Drought Management Plan, and creating a Minimization Plan that would evaluate and rank alternative measures for minimizing impacts in it subbasins. Option to be evaluated include: optimization methods, alternative sources, surface water impoundment releases, and conservation measures. Each evaluation will included planning level cost estimates and a feasibility level for each action.</p>		
06	Stony Brook Flow Restoration Project Towns of Westford and Littleton	\$97,620	\$19,551
	<p>The primary goal of this proposed project is to improve streamflow in Stony Brook through operation of the existing impoundments in a coordinated manner based on actual streamflow data and model results to inform operational decisions. The study area source basins are controlled by a series of six control structures located in Littleton and Westford including the Spectacle Pond Outlet, the Mill Pond Dam, the Forge Pond Dam (or Abbot Mill Dam), and the Stony Brook Dam. This project will expand on a previous project by taking the next steps developed in the Streamflow Restoration Plan; this involves finalizing the low flow release strategies from the previous project; prepare and submit and permit application an regulatory notification; field validate the water level/discharge rating curves that were previously developed; and empirical testing of the low-flow releases; and conducting a simplified desktop optimization of the of Littleton and Westford's 12 wells.</p>		
07	Integrating Water Smart Planning and Practices Norfolk Water Department	\$31,300	\$6,300
	<p>This proposed project involves two different activities: the first activity will assist in the development and implementation of a campaign for water smart landscaping practices, including a free in-person training on water smart landscaping with accompanying outreach and materials to be distributed across the community. The second activity involves the identification of recommendations and the development of conceptual designs for infiltration practices in the Town Center area. Conceptual designs will focus on treatment systems that incorporate pre-treatment, and</p>		

use soil/vegetation to improve water quality. Annual recharge estimates and a groundwater recharge plan will be developed.

08 Supply Evaluation and Water Conservation

Plymouth Water Department

\$66,930 \$13,386

This proposed project would fund a complete leak detection of the town, including gate and valve boxes and hydrants; the development of a Minimization Plan with control strategies for demand management and emergency preparedness.