



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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Department of Environmental Protection

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FY 2025 Water Management Act Program Grant Summary

The Water Management Act Grant Program assists eligible public water suppliers and municipalities that hold Water Management Act permits and registrations 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 sub-watersheds 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. In 2020, planning projects for public water suppliers and municipalities due to restrictions that have been placed on their system from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination was added to the list of acceptable grant proposals.

Eligible grant applicants are Massachusetts public water suppliers or municipalities with a valid Water Management Act Permit or Registration. A 20 percent funding match is required. Cooperative proposals are encouraged. Particular consideration is given to proposed projects in highly impacted basins or sub-basins and those undergoing permit renewals. The funds allocated for grants are distributed under a competitive procurement process. Approximately \$1.0 million was available to distribute. For the past three years, up to 5 extra points were given to projects in Environmental Justice (EJ) communities.

MassDEP received three proposals for this grant year totaling just under \$561,000 (\$703,454 when match is included). A summary of the review and ranking process for the proposals is provided below. The proposal review committee recommends funding all of the proposals this year.

The proposals recommended for funding by the review committee are outlined below. Brief summaries for these projects are attached.

Table 1: 2025 WMA Recommended Grant Proposals

Title	Applicant	Project Total	Grant Money From the State	Match
Mt. Warner Wells	Hadley	\$199,320.00	\$159,440.00	\$39,880.00
Stormwater Project - Fino Field	Milford	\$424,947.00	\$338,388.00	\$86,559.00
Continuation of the Stony Brook Flow Restoration Project	Westford and Littleton	\$79,187.00	\$62,700.00	\$16,487.00

FY 2025 WMA GRANT PROGRAM PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Town of Hadley - Develop 50% design drawings and specifications to treat Mt. Warner Wells No. 1 and No. 2 for manganese; evaluate potential interconnection locations to Amherst; and perform additional manganese sampling necessary to complete permitting for the proposed Water Treatment Plant.

Town of Milford - Construction of the permitted Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) at Fino Field. Infiltrating this runoff will reduce stormwater pollution to the Charles River and increase groundwater recharge.

Towns of Littleton and Westford - Evaluate monitoring and data collection methods, install a new field station at Beaver Brook outlet to Forge Pond, and develop alternative release points at the Forge Pond dam to improve streamflow in the 38-square-mile Stony Brook Watershed through the coordinated operation of existing impoundments using a decision support system informed by actual streamflow data and model results.