

FY 2026 Water Management Act 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 to plan for long term water needs, water demand management, and to reduce water withdrawal impacts.

The focus of these grants is: 1) planning projects to identify projects that will improve local water systems; 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.

MassDEP received 20 proposals for this grant year totaling just under \$2,400,000. The Proposal Review Committee recommended that 7 proposals receive \$489,480 out of a \$489,500 budget for funding. The following are the grant recipients and dollar amount of the award.

Grantee	Dollar amount of award	Project Scope
Milford	\$88,880	Stormwater projects – Provide conceptual designs and test pits at 3 potential stormwater project sites; provide public engagement and stormwater maintenance; Design of a rain garden at Fino Field, a location of a stormwater project funded last year thru this grant; develop permit ready designs for 2 of the 3 conceptual designs mentioned above. Stormwater projects like these improve local recharge and decrease pollutants entering our water systems.
Hadley	\$89,000.00	Mt. Warner Wells – Continue developing designs for a new Water Treatment Facility to bring the plans from 50% design to 90% design, to ready the project for construction.
Hopkinton	\$20,000.00	Water Conservation Education Program – Implement a multi-pronged outreach program on water conservation.
Shrewsbury	\$32,400.00	Evaluate an alternative supplemental water supply through interconnections with the City of Worcester at two possible locations, or a raw water connection to utilize a City of Worcester groundwater supply that hasn't been used for years and is located in Shrewsbury. Interconnection options will help reduce vulnerability in the existing water supply and identify options to reduce withdrawals in the highly impacted subbasins of Shrewsbury's current supplies.

Grantee	Dollar amount of award	Project Scope
Attleboro	\$120,000.00	Provide an assessment of current and future water demands, evaluate available water supply sources and regulatory constraints, and identify the strategies and resources needed to address conditions within the City's Water Management Act permit.
Provincetown	\$67,200.00	Design and installation of 6 ultrasonic district meters in locations developed in Provincetown's June 2025 study to create 5 district metering areas (DMAs). The DMAs will be utilized to help isolate areas of Town to identify leaks and unaccounted for water (UAW) in order to reduce stress on the aquifer, decrease withdrawals, and lower run times of equipment.
Webster	\$72,000.00	Webster's goal is to perform an Optimization and Mitigation Planning Study and a Water Rate Study. Optimization and Mitigation Planning will evaluate the applicability, feasibility, and costs to reduce or mitigate water withdrawal increases. The goal of the rate study is to review the rate structure and analyze methods to promote conservation while still meeting future operational and capital funding needs.