



March, 2019 – Funding Opportunities

March 29: Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Program: Two grant options are being offered: watershed-scale projects and site-specific projects. Grants provided under this year's program will focus on effective efforts to reduce phosphorus contributions to waters within the Great Lakes basin. The maximum request for each application will be capped at no more than \$200,000. Applicants must be nonfederal units of government, tribes, or incorporated nonprofit organizations. A 25 percent match will be required of each project. There have been 6 projects in Eastern Wisconsin since 2010, stretching from near Racine as far north as Green Bay that have received funding. <https://www.glc.org/news/GLSNRP-021419>

April 15: WI DNR Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Grants: Funds planning or construction projects controlling urban nonpoint source and storm water runoff pollution. Planning grant eligible projects: (1) Storm water management planning for urban areas; (2) Preparation of local ordinances affecting storm water discharge (construction site or post construction erosion control, pet waste, or illicit discharge management); (3) Local financing options for evaluation of storm water utilities/programs; (4) Administrative costs for initial establishment of local storm water management funding programs; (5) Illicit discharge detection and elimination; and (6) Public information and education activities. Construction grant eligible projects: (1) Construction of structural urban best management practices including detention, wet, infiltration, or wetland basins, or infiltration trenches; (2) Engineering design and construction services for BMPs installation; (3) Land acquisition and easement purchase, including appraisal cost; (4) Storm sewer rerouting and removal of structures; (5) Streambank and shoreline stabilization. 50% match, up to \$150,000, \$50,000 may be requested for property acquisition. Has in past funded the Sweetwater and Root Pike WIN Respect our Waters campaigns. <https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/UrbanNonpoint.html>

April 15: WI DNR Targeted Runoff Management Program: Grants for local governments for controlling nonpoint source pollution, to reimburse up to 70% of costs for agriculture or urban runoff management practices in targeted, critical geographic areas with surface water or groundwater quality concerns. Cities, villages, towns, counties, regional planning commissions, tribal governments, and special purpose lake, sewerage and sanitary districts may apply. Mostly for agricultural projects but will fund small-scale urban nonpoint source control projects designed to meet EPA-approved TMDL goal. Eligible costs are limited to construction of structural best management practices and acquisition of land or land rights if needed to support the practices. Small projects run 2-3 years in duration, large run 3-4 years. Grants are limited to \$150,000 for small projects and \$1,000,000 for large-scale. (note: the date listed says "2018" that is incorrect, I did a broader search in their database and this grant is every year) <https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/TargetedRunoff.html>

April 30: Lawrence Foundation: Private family foundation focused on making grants primarily for environmental, human services and other causes. Assets are currently about \$4 million. As

of our June 2016 cycle, we have received over 10,000 grant applications since the inception of our foundation and approved 525 of those applications for a total of \$4,578,593. Grants are awarded in June (April 30 application deadline) and December (November 1 application deadline). No geographic restriction, annual 990 federal tax shows grants went to more than 20 environmental groups. <https://thelawrencefoundation.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

May 1: DNR Knowles Nelson Stewardship Program Urban Rivers Grants: This program is a family of funds supporting natural resource protection and nature-based outdoor recreation in Wisconsin. Among the funds is the Urban Rivers Program: Eligible projects include those that provide new or expanded diverse recreational opportunities to all segments of urban populations; Provide new or expanded access to urban waterways; Encourage comprehensive riverway planning within and between municipalities and agencies; and Provide shoreline enhancement associated with river corridor restoration after dam removal. Each fiscal year, \$1.6 million is available for Urban River grants. Grants are awarded for up to 50 percent of eligible project costs. https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stewardship/documents/2019_FY20_StewLUGRTALWCFApplBook_DIST.pdf

May 1: Fund for Wild Nature: Provides small grants for North American campaigns to save native species and wild ecosystems, with emphasis on actions designed to defend threatened wilderness and biological diversity. Funds advocacy, litigation, public policy work, development of citizen science, and similar endeavors. Doesn't fund habitat restoration. Only funds groups with budgets of less than \$250,000 with grants of \$1,000 or smaller to \$3,000. Deadlines are May 1 and November 1. Electronic submissions only. <http://fundwildnature.org/proposal-dates-guidelines/>

July 3: North American Wetlands Conservation Act Standard Grants: Overseen by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Supports organizations and partnerships carrying out wetlands conservation projects in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife, to provide long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. Seeks proposals with a 2-year plan of action to conserve wetlands and wetlands-dependent fish and wildlife through acquisition (including easements and land title donations), restoration and/or enhancement. Grants of \$75,000 to \$1 million are awarded twice a year. Partners must match their grants request at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. Since 1990, some 4,000 partners in 1,136 projects have received \$971.1 million in grants. They have contributed another \$2.4 billion in matching funds to affect 10.4 million acres of habitat. <http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/standard-grants/united-states.php>

OTHERS/NO DEADLINE:

Fund for Lake Michigan: In 2019 the Fund will accept pre-proposals on a rolling basis throughout the year, with quarterly board meetings to decide which projects to choose March, June, September, and December. Submit pre-proposals to the Fund on a time-frame that works best for you. They estimate a grant request will take two to five months to process from pre-proposal to when they would issue a grant contract. There is still a two-step grant making process. All grant materials, including pre-proposals, submitted electronically through Foundant. Awards between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 in grants each quarter. Applicants may submit more than one pre-proposal during the year. Priority to on-the-ground projects that have near-term,

direct and quantifiable impacts on water quality in the Lake Michigan watershed. These projects include protecting critical natural habitats, reducing polluted runoff and generally making water resources more swimmable, fishable and drinkable. Also supports water quality monitoring and planning that informs and leads to on-the-ground restoration and water-quality improvement projects. Priority also given to Projects in Southeastern Wisconsin.

<https://fundforlakemichigan.org/online-application/>

Freshwater Futures “Healing Our Waters” grants: Freshwater Future implements the Great Lakes-Healing Our Water Coalition (HOW) grant making program to provide support to groups working toward aquatic restoration efforts in the Great Lakes region. The goal of the program is to provide capacity to groups for their efforts to secure larger-scale federal funding for their overall restoration projects such as the clean-up of sewage and toxic sediments, restoration of damaged habitat, protection of high quality habitat, and control and prevention of invasive species. You must become a member, must have less than \$200,000 budget or be working on smaller advocacy projects. In 2018 offers grants (with no deadline, but grants given on first come, first served basis) for restoring health of Great Lakes ecosystem: **Federal Project Support Grants Program** provides financial support that will aid in the development and implementation of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other federal proposals or projects with awards up to \$15,000. The period for awards granted is typically, 6 months. <http://freshwaterfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/2017-RFP-HealingOurWaters-1-1.pdf>

RBC Blue Water Project Grants: Launched in 2007, the Royal Bank of Canada’s Blue Water Project is a 10-year global charitable commitment of \$50 million to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water. Community action grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and are awarded to local or community-based organizations. The project focuses on supporting initiatives that help protect and preserve water in towns, cities and urbanized areas with populations of more than 10,000 people that focus on: (1) Improved control and management of urban storm or rain water; (2) Efficient and innovative use (or capture and reuse) of water; (3) Protection and restoration of urban waterways; (4) Improved urban water quality. The application period for 2018 Community Action Grants is now open and no deadline is specified. <http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/environment/rbc-blue-water/index.html>

Great Lakes Protection Fund: Created in 1989 by the governors of the Great Lakes states to help them protect and restore their shared natural resource. The Fund is the first private, permanent endowment created to benefit a specific ecosystem. Since inception, the fund has awarded more than \$75 million to support 265 projects to improve the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. More than 1000 institutions and thousands of innovative individuals have participated in projects that test new ideas, take risks, and share what is learned. We do not have specific funding programs or formal deadlines. We are always open to discussing ideas and we can be nimble (e.g., funding vehicles, timeframes) when an opportunity presents itself. Think of us as an investor more than a charity. Many of the investments we make are called grants, but more closely resemble seed capital or angel investments. We will work with you to align your innovation with the funding instrument that will help your idea make a big difference. We will dedicate considerable time up front with you, prior to and during proposal development, to help hone your strategy and expand your collaborative team. <http://glpf.org/get-funding/>

Brico Fund: “The importance of protecting the environment, with a focus on water quality and conservation, is a cornerstone of Brico Fund’s grant making. Our environment funding focuses on conservation of the natural environment of Wisconsin, and the safety and welfare for all

citizens.” Organizations working on these issues will be considered for support: Improvement and protection of water quality and quantity; Reduction of disproportional impacts of pollution in disadvantaged communities; and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The application process is all online and there are no submission deadlines. Typically, an organization can request funding once in a 12-month period. <http://www.bricofund.org/index.php/overview/>

Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation Grants: Founded in 1992, the mission of the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas is to promote environmental causes throughout the Americas in the broadest sense, which encompasses both the physical and social environments in which we live. Supports a wide range of projects in the following four categories: Biodiversity Conservation; Sustainable Development; Environmental Justice; Environmental Education. Has committed \$275,000 in support of bird habitat conservation since 1998. Proposals are accepted year-round; ideal timing for proposals is during the first quarter of the calendar year. <http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/us/en/csr/foundation.html>

Cornell Douglas Foundation Grants: Provides grants to organizations that advocate for environmental health and justice, encourage stewardship of the environment, and further respect for sustainability of resources. The average grant amount is \$10,000. Areas of Interest: Environmental Health & Justice; Land Conservation; Sustainability of Resources; Mountaintop Mining Removal; Visionary Design; Watershed Protection. Its environmental focus includes Animals/Wildlife, Biodiversity, Conservation, Environmental Health, Environmental Justice, Habitats/Ecosystems, Plants, Pollution, Storm-water, Sustainability, Trees/Forests, Water, Watershed. <http://www.cornelldouglas.org/apply/>

Wells Fargo Clean Technology and Innovation Grants Program: Five categories eligible for funding include Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Greener Buildings, Alternative Transportation, Sustainable Agriculture and also, Water Quality and Resources, which includes support for “environmental improvements taking place in urban areas such as waterway restoration, storm water management...cleaning up waterways and beach fronts, educational programs that help us understand where our water comes from...Engaging the public and communities about the health of their environment.” Now funds through an invitation-only process where Wells Fargo engages specific institutions whose work aligns with their giving criteria. To submit a topic for consideration, email a brief description (150 words or less) to: environmental.affairs@wellsfargo.com Funding is typically \$50k to \$200k per project. Only one-time grants to non-profits. <https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr/ea/environmental-giving>

Surdna Foundation: Focuses on urban areas and “sustainable environments” is one focus area. “Supports innovative storm-water run-off practices that capture and slowly release water into existing drains, pipes and sewers, or reuse rain water where it falls... instead of building expensive pipes and sewer tunnels.” Has given grants of \$50,000 to \$1 million. No deadline for letters of intent; will be reviewed in 90 days. <http://www.surdna.org/grants/grants-overview.html>

Antonia Foundation: Wisconsin Foundation, c/o Arnow & Associates, 7402 N. Seneca Road Fox Point, WI 53217, 964-4000. The Antonia Foundation was founded in 1991 by Annette Marra in Fox Point, Wisconsin, and is dedicated to wildlife conservation and the restoration of natural habitats. Board members include Annette Marra, John M. Marra, Frederic G. Friedman, F. Michael Arnow. Preference is given to innovative projects that offer solutions to problems or special opportunities. Gave \$231,475 in grants in 2015 (most recent 990), ranging from \$1,000 to \$47,000, and has given to Riveredge Nature Center, International Crane Foundation, Urban Ecology Center, Mequon Nature Preserve, Friends of Schlitz Audubon.

James E Dutton Foundation: Based in Merrill, WI. Since its inception in 2005, has awarded dozens of grants to conservation organizations, including support for wetland restoration, rain gardens, invasive species removal, various environmental education projects, etc. Federal 990 form shows it gave out \$116,000 in 2015, grants of up to \$25,000 that year.
<http://www.jameseduttonfoundation.org/grants/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program: A voluntary, incentive-based program that provides technical and financial assistance to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. Not a conventional grants program, does not solicit projects through a request for proposals. Instead, projects are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement from Service field biologists. A “cooperator” (private or public landowner) works one-on-one with a local service biologist to develop a plan, and cooperative agreement for minimum of ten years is signed. <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/faq.html>

Graham-Martin Foundation: Based in Evansville, WI. Website offers little info including deadline), but foundation does provide matching grants for rain gardens and native plants. Federal 990 shows its annual budget about 27, 000. Has given grants to MMSD, Pheasants Forever, Madison Audubon Society. 608.226.2553 <http://www.grahammartin.org/index.html>

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