

Tompkins County Water Resource Council Grants Committee – Grant Opportunity Guide

**Adapted from NYSDEC publication “VISION APPROACH to implement the Clean Water Act 303(d) Program and Clean Water Planning” December 2015 (Appendix G & H)*

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Wastewater Funding Opportunities

Updated September 2014

Introduction

This document summarizes the funding opportunities that may be available to communities to fund sewerage projects and/or build a wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

Sewerage is expensive, but is a critical part of improving water quality as outlined in many clean water implementation plans. The success of moving forward with a sewerage project depends on the level of local support. By sharing funding and assistance information with these communities early in the process, they may be more willing to consider sewerage.

Having a rough schedule for a sewerage project may help with local understanding of a project. Below is a typical schedule:

- Developing interest and coordination between impacted municipalities (1 yr)
- Conducting an initial feasibility study (1 yr)
- Executing an inter-municipal agreement and forming a sewer district (2 yrs)
- Securing funding (3 yrs)
- Developing the project design and implementing the project (3 yrs)

Funding or technical assistance may be available for any of the above steps. The funding opportunities described in this document are competitive and open/available to all eligible applicants. Please note that none of the funding sources described below are certain.

Key Terms

Grants – do not need to be repaid, but a match from the applicant may be required

Loans – need to be repaid over a given time period. Interest rates from 0% and up.

Engineering Planning Grant (EPG)

Administered by: New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Program Description: Funding for municipalities to complete preliminary engineering reports. Most community's first step for building a WWTP is to complete a preliminary engineering report. The report provides a municipality with information about the feasibility and cost of a project. An engineering report is also necessary for projects to be listed on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan. Eligibility for other funding sources may also require a preliminary engineering report. EPG funds are available for municipalities that need to construct or improve their municipal wastewater system. Grant funds can be used to pay for engineering and/or consultant fees for engineering and planning services for the production of an engineering report. Eligible applicants are municipalities with Median Household Income statistics (per 2010 Census data) equal to or less than \$65,000.

Funding available: Grants up to \$50,000. Municipalities with a total population of 50,000 persons or greater are eligible to receive up to \$50,000. Municipalities with a population of less than 50,000 are eligible to receive a maximum grant award of \$30,000. Grant recipients are required to provide a local match equal to 20% of the total cost of the engineering planning activity.

Applying: Applications are through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA). Information on the CFA process can be found on the Regional Economic Development Council website at: <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

Contacts: DEC Regional Water Engineers (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/558.html>)

Website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/81196.html>
<http://www.efc.ny.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=48>

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Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

Administered by: New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Program Description: This program provides low-interest rate financing (loans) to municipalities for the construction of sewers and wastewater treatment facilities.

Funding available: Various categories of loans: subsidized interest rate financing, market rate financing, hardship financing and additional subsidization/principal forgiveness. Short term financing for project development and construction, as well as long term financing, may be available to eligible applicants. For communities with demonstrated financial hardship, interest rates can be as low as 0%.

Applying: Applicants must submit project information to EFC prior to May 1st to be considered for financing in the following federal fiscal year, which begins in October. All eligible projects are scored and listed in EFC'S Intended Use Plan Annual List or Multi-Year List. Applications for financing may be submitted for projects on that year's annual list for subsidized or unsubsidized funding. EFC should be contacted for details on the information needed for project listing and funding applications.

Contacts: EFC Community Assistance staff:

Fred Testa
Environmental Project Manager
625 Broadway -7th Floor
Albany, N.Y. 12207-2997
(p) 518-402-7396; (f) 518-402-7456; email: Fred.Testa@efc.ny.gov
Counties covered: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, Albany, Columbia, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Schenectady and Schoharie

J.C. Smith
Environmental Project Manager, Statewide Co-funding Coordinator
7291 Coon Road
Bath, N.Y. 14810
(p) 607-776-4978; (f) 607-776-4392; email: JC.Smith@efc.ny.gov
Counties covered: Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Schuyler, Wayne, Yates, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara, and Wyoming

Terry Deuel
Environmental Project Manager
1285 Fisher Ave.
Cortland, NY 13045
(p)607-753-3095, ext 252; (f) 607-753-8532; email: Terrance.Deuel@efc.ny.gov
Counties covered: Delaware, Otsego, Jefferson, Lewis, Oneida, Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Tioga, and Tompkins

Jason Denno
Environmental Project Manager
PO Box 220, 232 Golf Course Road
Warrensburg, N.Y. 12885
(p) 518-623-1244; (f) 518-623-1311; email: Jason.Denno@efc.ny.gov
Counties covered: Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, Washington, Herkimer, and St. Lawrence

Dwight Brown

SRF Program Services Coordinator
625 Broadway -7th Floor
Albany, N.Y. 12207-2997
(p) 518-402-7396; (f) 518-402-7456; email: Dwight.Brown@efc.ny.gov
Counties covered: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Queens, Richmond, and Suffolk
Website: www.efc.ny.gov

NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Administered by: New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal - Office of Community Renewal (OCR)

Program Description: The CDBG provides financial assistance for water and sewer infrastructure projects to cities, towns, and villages with populations under 50,000 and counties with an area population under 200,000.

Funding available: Grants are available for public infrastructure projects including wastewater infrastructure. Grant awards up to \$600,000 can be made to a single town or village applicant for a water or sewer project. Awards up to \$900,000 can be made to joint town/village applicants. Up to \$750,000 can be awarded to county applicants.

Applying: Applications are through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA). Information on the CFA process can be found at: <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

Contacts: Charles Phillion, Senior Community Developer, 518-474-2057 or cphillion@nyshcr.org

Website: <http://nysdhcr.gov/AboutUs/Offices/CommunityRenewal/>

USDA Rural Development Utilities Service Water and Environment Program

Administered by: USDA Rural Development

Program Description: This program provides loans and grants to public bodies, non-profit organizations and Native American tribes with the design, construction, and improvements of wastewater systems for rural communities. Eligibility of municipal applicants is restricted to jurisdictions in rural areas with a total population less than 10,000.

Funding available: Announced loan rates as of July, 2014 are 2.375% (poverty), 3.25% (intermediate) and 4% (market).

Applying: Applicants submit an application for an initial funding estimate that includes summary information about the applicant, a reviewable project engineering report and an Environmental Report summarizing potential environmental impacts. Applicants receiving an initial funding estimate are directed to make a full application for funding within 90 days of the estimate date. The major components of the application are similar to that for the CWSRF program.

Contacts: State and Regional office information: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/NY_Office_Locations.html

Website: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/NYHome.html>

Local Government Efficiency Program (LGE)

Administered by: New York State Department of State

Program Description: The LGE provides technical assistance and competitive grants to local governments for the development of projects that will achieve savings and improve municipal efficiency through shared services, cooperative agreements, mergers, consolidations and dissolutions. Applicants must include at least two involved municipalities.

Funding available: Grants of up to \$200,000 are available for implementation projects (i.e. construction of shared infrastructure) for each local government involved in the project, up to a maximum of \$1,000,000. Grants of up to \$12,500 are available for planning projects (i.e. development of engineering reports, evaluation of consolidation) for each local government involved in the project, up to a maximum of \$100,000. A local cash match is required, which varies based on project type.

Applying: Applications are through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA). Information on the CFA process can be found on the Regional Economic Development Council website at: <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>

Contacts: Kyle Wilber, 518-473-3355 or LGEprogram@dos.state.ny.us

Website: <http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/lge/index.html>

Appalachian Regional Commission Area Development Grant Program (ARC)

Administered by: Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Program Description: The ARC provides funding and technical assistance for infrastructure, including local water and sewer systems. New York counties within Appalachia are: Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, and Tompkins.

Funding available: Grants of up to \$150,000 can be made to not-for-profit or local government groups that can demonstrate a positive economic impact and document the required matching funds.

Applying: Pre-applications for ARC grants are typically due in early June, local rankings are completed and announced by September just prior to the beginning of the new federal fiscal year. State rankings are announced in December. Funds for the highest priority projects must be budgeted in the federal budget in the new fiscal year.

Contacts: Kyle Wilber, 518-473-3355 or LGEprogram@dos.state.ny.us

Website: <http://www.southerntierwest.org/htm/arc.htm>

Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP)

Administered by: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

Program Description: WQIP is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program open to local governments for projects that directly address documented water quality impairments. WQIP funds can be used towards municipal wastewater treatment infrastructure improvement. This can be mentioned as a potential

funding source, but please note that the frequency of grant availability is uncertain, and that the amount of funding available for wastewater is typically very limited, and likely insufficient for constructing a new system.

Funding available: Grants up to 85% of the total project cost with a 15% local share required.

Applying: Applications are available through DEC.

Contacts: Water Quality Improvement Project Program, 518-402-8179 or user.water@dec.ny.gov

Website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>

Nonpoint Source Funding Opportunities

(Updated December 2015)

Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Funding Programs

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

Eligible applicants:	Municipalities, municipal corporations, soil and water conservation districts.
Summary of program:	Provides funding statewide for non-agricultural nonpoint source projects implementing best management practices
Project state funded:	Implementation.
Frequency grant released:	Annual
Tracking/reports:	Awarded projects are listed in press releases for each round, and the press release is posted on the DEC website. Quarterly reports and final reports are required from grant recipients
Website:	http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html
Contact:	Susan Van Patten, Division of Water, 518-402-8179, DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov

Clean Water Act Section 604(b) Funding

Eligible applicants:	Regional public comprehensive planning organizations in New York State and interstate planning organizations working in New York State
Summary of program:	Provides funding for to regional planning organizations for planning activities.
Project state funded:	Planning.
Frequency grant released:	Every 3-5 years.
Tracking/reports:	All awarded projects are listed on the below website, and progress is tracked with quarterly reports submitted by the award recipient.
Website:	http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/53122.html
Contact:	Susan Van Patten, Division of Water, 518-402-8179, DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov

Finger Lakes – Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FOLLOWPA)

Eligible applicants:	25 counties in the Finger Lakes and Lake Ontario watershed receive FOLLOWPA funding. Those eligible to receive a portion of the funding distributed to the 25 counties varies by county.
Summary of program:	FOLLOWPA is a membership of 25 counties, represented by County Planning Departments, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, County Health Departments and Water Quality Management Agencies within the Finger Lakes and Lake Ontario drainage basin. FOLLOWPA receives an annual appropriation from the Environmental Protection Fund, which is divided among the 25 counties. Each county then uses that funding to implement water quality-related programs and projects. Some counties have funded green infrastructure projects with their portion of the funding. How the counties disburse their funding for particular projects varies by county. Interested municipalities or others interested in receiving funding from a FOLLOWPA county should contact the appropriate county coordinator found on this webpage: http://www.followpa.org/county.html .

Project state funded: Planning, pilot and implementation
Frequency grant released: Annually.

Tracking/reports: N/A

Website: <http://www.fllowpa.org/index.html>

Contact: Susan Van Patten, Division of Water, 518-402-8179,
DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov

Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant Program

Eligible applicants: Community-based organizations that must also meet several other criteria, as explained on the below website.

Summary of program Previously awarded projects have included green infrastructure demonstration projects. In the 2012 grant cycle, smaller “Green Gems” projects must involve education, stewardship, and/or monitoring activities related to parks, open space, community gardens or green infrastructure.

Project state funded: Pilot

Frequency grant released: Varies.

Tracking/reports: Past grant recipients and project descriptions are listed on this website:
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/31403.html>

Website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/31226.html>

Contact: Office of Environmental Justice, 518-402-8556, justice@dec.ny.gov

Urban & Community Forestry Program Cost Share Grants

Eligible applicants: Municipalities and not-for-profit corporations acting on behalf of a public ownership interest in the property or acting on behalf of a public property owner

Summary of program Street tree planting, one eligible project type, may fit well with green infrastructure projects.

Project state funded: Implementation

Frequency grant released: Varies.

Tracking/reports: Not available at this time.

Website: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5285.html>

Contact: Debra Gorka, Division of Lands and Forests, DEC, LF.Lands@dec.ny.gov, 716-851-7010

Environmental Facilities Corporation Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP)

Eligible applicants: Any county, city, town, village, district corporation, county or town improvement district, Indian reservation wholly within NYS, any public benefit corporation, public authority and certain New York State agencies, as well as other organizations empowered to develop a project, as described on the below website.

Summary of program: Provides funding for eight specific green infrastructure practices: permeable pavement; bio-retention; green roofs and green walls; stormwater street trees/urban forestry programs; riparian buffers, floodplains and/or wetlands; downspout disconnection; stream daylighting; and stormwater harvesting and reuse

Project state funded: Planning, pilot and implementation. All projects must include implementation

Frequency grant released: Annually.

Tracking/reports: Previously funded projects are posted on this website: <http://www.efc.ny.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=228>.

Website: <http://www.efc.ny.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=461>

Contact: Suzanna Randall, New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, 518-402-7461, GIGP@efc.ny.gov

trees/urban forestry programs; riparian buffers, floodplains and/or wetlands; downspout disconnection; stream daylighting; and stormwater harvesting and reuse

Project state funded: Planning, pilot and implementation. All projects must include implementation

Frequency grant released: Annually.

Tracking/reports: Previously funded projects are posted on this website: <http://www.efc.ny.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=228>.

Website: <http://www.efc.ny.gov/Default.aspx?tabid=461>

Contact: Suzanna Randall, New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, 518-402-7461, GIGP@efc.ny.gov

Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Grants

Eligible applicants:	Villages, towns, or cities, and counties which are located along New York's coasts or inland waterways designated pursuant to Executive Law, Article 42.
Summary of program:	The LWRP grant program provides matching grants on a competitive basis to revitalize communities and waterfronts. Funding is available for both planning and implementation, and funded projects may include green infrastructure components
Project state funded:	Planning and implementation
Frequency grant released:	Annually.
Tracking/reports:	The list of awards for each year are listed on the below website
Website:	http://www.dos.ny.gov/opd/grantOpportunities/epf_lwrpGrants.html
Contact:	Department of Planning and Development, New York State Department of State, 518-474-6000

NYS Energy, Research and Development Authority Cleaner Greener Communities Program Phase II Implementation Grants

Eligible applicants:	Local governments, private companies, non-governmental organizations, and other entities with projects in NYS.
Summary of program:	This program is an effort to fund implementation of large-scale, high-profile projects that support the goals of each region's sustainability planning efforts. Category 2 (Planning Initiatives) Projects may include green infrastructure planning. Some Category 3 (Community-Scale Sustainability) Projects are required to meet green infrastructure prerequisites.
Project state funded:	Planning, pilot and implementation
Frequency grant released:	The current application due date for categories 2 and 3 has passed. NYSEDA expects to offer up to two more rounds of funding for this grant, but when future rounds may be announced is uncertain.
Tracking/reports:	N/A at this time
Website:	http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Cleaner-Greener-Communities/Implementing-Smart-Development-Projects
Contact:	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, CGC@nyserda.ny.gov

NYS Homes & Community Renewal Community Development Block Grant – Public Infrastructure Funds

Eligible applicants:	Town, City or Villages with population less than 50,000, counties with a population less than 200,000 designated principal cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Summary of program	Funding is available for drinking water, clean water and stormwater; and public works Green infrastructure components may be a part of these larger public infrastructure projects.
Project state funded:	Implementation

Frequency grant released: Annually.

Tracking/reports: Award recipients are listed on this website:
<http://www.nyshcr.org/Programs/NYS-CDBG/FundingHistory.htm#2010>

Website: <http://www.nyshcr.org/AboutUs/Offices/CommunityRenewal/FundingOpportunities.htm>

Contact: New York State Homes and Community Renewal, Office of Community Renewal,
 518
 474-2057, HCRinfo@nyshcr.org

Greenway Communities Grant Program

Eligible applicants: Municipalities that have adopted a resolution stating the community's agreement with the Greenway criteria.

Summary of program: Site planning/design projects may include green infrastructure

Project state funded: Planning

Frequency grant released: Quarterly

Tracking/reports: <http://www.hudsongreenway.ny.gov/GrantFunding/GrantsAwarded.aspx>

Website: <http://www.hudsongreenway.ny.gov/GrantFunding/CommunityGrants.aspx>

Contact: Hudson River Valley Greenway, 518-473-3835,
hrgv@hudsongreenway.ny.gov

EPA Urban Waters Small Grants

Eligible applicants: States, local governments, territories, Indian Tribes, and possessions of the U.S., public and private universities and colleges, public or private nonprofit institutions/organizations, intertribal consortia, and interstate agencies

Summary of program: Grants are available to fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities. Depending on each fiscal year's Request for Proposals, this may include green infrastructure

Project state funded: Planning, pilot, implementation

Frequency grant released: Varies.

Tracking/reports: All projects documented on website. Outcomes of some successful projects are documented on the website.

Website: <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>

Contact: Not available.

EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)

Eligible applicants:	Non-federal governmental entities, including state agencies, interstate agencies, federal-recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations, and local governments; institutions of higher learning; and nonprofit organizations. In 2014, green infrastructure projects conducted by a municipality located directly on the shore of a Great Lake or a Great Lakes connecting channel are ineligible. Green infrastructure projects conducted by other eligible applicants are eligible
Summary of program:	Green infrastructure projects that improve habitat and other ecosystem functions in the Great Lakes are eligible for funding.
Project state funded:	Planning and implementation
Frequency grant released:	Annually
Tracking/reports:	Summary information about GLRI funded projects is available on the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative website: http://greatlakesrestoration.us/projects/index.html .
Website:	http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/fund/2014rfa02/index.html
Contact:	EPA.GLRI-RFA@epa.gov

Challenge Cost Share Grant Program

Eligible applicants:	U.S. non-Federal organizations and Tribal agencies.
Summary of program:	The fiscal year 2015 grant included funding for: incorporating urban forests as green infrastructure into urban planning practices that will result in improvements for ecologically underserved communities and regions; green infrastructure jobs analysis; and utilizing green infrastructure to manage and mitigate stormwater to improve water quality. Projects must have national or multi-state application and impact.
Project state funded:	Planning and pilot.
Frequency grant released:	Annually.
Tracking/reports:	Grant recipients and projects are listed in a press release for each funding period, and recipients are required to submit bi-annual progress reports
Website:	http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf/nucfac.shtml
Contact:	Phillip Rodbell, U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area Office, 610-557-4133, prodbell@fs.fed.us

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Eligible applicants:	Non-profit 501© organizations, local governments and agencies, state government agencies and academic institutions. Projects must be implemented entirely within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
Summary of program:	Nonpoint source best management practices meeting Chesapeake Bay priorities.
Project state funded:	Planning, pilot and implementation
Frequency grant released:	Annually
Tracking/reports:	Projects are listed in a press release for each funding period.
Website:	http://www.nfwf.org/chesapeake/Pages/2014-chesapeake-rfp.aspx#.Vdbe1FOZ1gq
Contact:	Jake Reilly, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, jake.reilly@nfwf.org

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Environmental Solutions for Communities

Eligible applicants:	Non-profit 501© organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions
Summary of program:	Funding priorities include facilitating investments in green infrastructure. In 2015, priority is given to projects that address 'greening' traditional infrastructure and public projects such as storm water management and flood control, public park enhancements, and renovations to public facilities.
Project state funded:	Pilot.
Frequency grant released:	Annually
Tracking/reports:	Award recipients are listed in a press release for each funding period.
Website:	http://www.nfwf.org/environmentalsolutions/Pages/home.aspx#.VDbjf1OZ1gp

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Urban Waters Restoration

Eligible applicants:	Any entity that can receive grants. While partnerships are encouraged to include state and federal agencies as partners, those entities may not serve as the grantee unless the community partners demonstrate that the state or federal agency is best suited to coordinate the community-based project.
Summary of program:	In 2014, project priorities include addressing developing educational programs to provide training to schools, businesses, community groups and homeowners on how to implement green infrastructure practices including sustainable forestry practices; or designing projects intended to control rain water through green infrastructure tools such as tree canopy, permeable pavement, green street designs, bioswales, planter boxes and green roofs, to reduce stormwater flow, controlling flooding and slowing run-off into surface water
Project state funded:	Planning
Frequency grant released:	Annually.
Tracking/reports:	Award recipients are listed in a press release for each funding period
Website:	http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/home.aspx#.VDbIP1OZ1gp
Contact:	Sarah McIntosh, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, sarah.mcintosh@nfwf.org

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants

Eligible applicants:	States, local governments, tribes, private non-profit organizations
Summary of program:	Provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. FEMA Hazard Mitigation grants will fund green infrastructure if a benefit-cost analysis shows that the damages saved from the project exceed the cost of the project.
Project state funded:	Planning and implementation
Frequency grant released:	Following a disaster declaration, the state will advertise that Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding is available to fund mitigation projects in the state.
Tracking/reports:	N/A
Website:	https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program
Contact:	Richard Lord, New York State Office of Emergency Management, 518-292-2370, rlord@dhses.ny.gov

Agricultural Nonpoint Source Funding Programs

New York State Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program

Eligible applicants:	County Soil and Water Conservation Districts administer and implement AEM at the local level through. SWCDs engage local partners such as Cooperative Extension, NRCS, AEM Certified Planners, Certified Crop Advisors, USDA Technical Service Providers, and agri-businesses
Summary of program:	The New York State Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Program supports farmers in their efforts to protect water quality and conserve natural resources, while enhancing farm viability. New York's AEM Program helps farmers protect water quality by providing a framework to assess environmental stewardship and coordinate technical and financial assistance from the Federal, State, and local levels to address priority water quality issues on the farm.
Website:	www.nys-soilandwater.org

Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control Program (ANSACP)

Eligible applicants:	Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Summary of program:	Competitive financial assistance program available to Soil and Water Conservation Districts that provides funding to plan, design, and implement priority BMPs, as well as cost-share funding to farmers to implement BMPs.
Website:	www.nyssoilandwater.org/aem/nonpoint.html

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Programs

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible land
Summary of program:	CRP is a voluntary program for agricultural landowners. Through CRP, farmers can receive annual rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish long-term, resource conserving covers on eligible farmland.
Website:	http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-program/index

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible land
Summary of program:	The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is an offshoot of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). CREP targets high-priority conservation issues identified by local, state, or tribal governments or non-governmental organizations. In exchange for removing environmentally sensitive land from production and introducing conservation practices, farmers, ranchers, and agricultural land owners are paid an annual rental rate and incentive payments.
Website:	http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/conservation-reserve-enhancement/index

Debt for Nature (DFN) Program

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible FSA loans and land
Summary of program:	Debt for Nature (DFN) is available to persons with Farm Service Agency (FSA) loans secured by real estate. These individuals may qualify for cancellation of a portion of their FSA indebtedness in exchange for a conservation contract with a term of 50, 30, or 10 years. The conservation contract is a voluntary legal agreement that restricts the type and amount of development that may take place on portions of the landowner's property. Contracts may be established on marginal cropland and other environmentally sensitive lands for conservation, recreation, and wildlife purposes.
Website:	https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/debtfornature07.pdf

Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP)

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible land
Summary of program:	The Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) is a voluntary program is designed to restore previously farmed wetlands and wetland buffer to improve both vegetation and water flow. Participants must agree to restore the wetlands, establish plant cover, and to not use enrolled land for commercial purposes.
Website:	http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/conservation-programs/farmable-wetlands/index

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible land
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Summary of program:

The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, NRCS helps Indian tribes, state and local governments and non-governmental organizations protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land. Under the Wetlands Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect and enhance enrolled wetlands.

Website:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep/>

Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program

Eligible applicants:

Landowners with eligible land

Summary of program:

The Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to voluntarily address issues such as water management, water quality, and erosion control by incorporating conservation into their farming operations.

Website:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/ama/>

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Eligible applicants:

Landowners with eligible land

Summary of program:

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns.

Website:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Eligible applicants:

Landowners with eligible land

Summary of program:

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. EQIP may also help producers meet Federal, State, Tribal, and local environmental regulations.

Website:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ny/programs/financial/eqip/>

Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)

Eligible applicants:	Landowners with eligible land
Summary of program:	The purpose of the Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) is to assist landowners, on a voluntary basis, in restoring, enhancing and protecting forestland resources on private lands through easements, 30-year contracts and 10-year cost-share agreements.
Website:	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/forest/s/

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Eligible applicants:	Agricultural or silvicultural producer associations, farmer cooperatives or other groups of producers, state or local governments, American Indian tribes, municipal water treatment entities, water and irrigation districts, conservation-driven nongovernmental organizations and institutions of higher education
Summary of program:	The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) promotes coordination between Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. NRCS provides assistance to producers through partnership agreements and through program contracts or easement agreements.
Website:	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/farmbill/rcpp/

Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program

Eligible applicants:	States, local governments and Tribes
Summary of program:	The Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program provides technical and financial assistance to plan and implement authorized watershed project plans for the purpose of: watershed protection, flood mitigation, water quality improvements, soil erosion reduction, rural, municipal and industrial water supply, irrigation, water management, sediment control, fish and wildlife enhancement, and hydropower.
Website:	http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/wfpo/

Local Funding Sources

Tompkins County Stream Corridor Restoration & Flood Hazard Mitigation Program

Eligible applicants: Municipalities within Tompkins County

This program is available to fund three different types of projects:

Summary of program:

1. Stream corridor re-vegetation and protection
2. Stream bank stabilization which may include minor in-stream structures
3. Stream corridor assessments or feasibility studies for larger scale projects where implementation will be funded through outside revenue sources

Website: http://tompkinscountyny.gov/files/planning/water-resources/Stream_and_Flood_Program_Overview_2011.pdf

Village of Lansing Street Tree Planting Program

Eligible applicants: Residents within the Village of Lansing

Summary of program: The Village of Lansing will reimburse homeowners 75% of the cost of a tree, up to a maximum of \$75/tree for planting a tree along the village streets. This has multiple benefits for water quality.

Website: http://www.vlansing.org/Applications_and_Forms/2014_Tree_Planting_Application.pdf

Research Grants

New York State Water Resources Institute 104(b)

Eligible applicants:	Investigators at an institution of higher learning
Summary of program:	Research, training, information dissemination, and other activities meeting the needs of the State and Nation are promoted in this program. The program also encourages regional cooperation among institutes in research into areas of water management, development, and conservation that have a regional or national character
Website:	https://wri.cals.cornell.edu/grants-funding/104b

Tompkins County Aquifer Program

Eligible applicants:	Municipalities within Tompkins County
Summary of program:	Funding is leveraged in partnership with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to study the aquifers of Tompkins County in order to protect groundwater resources and drinking water supplies.
Website:	http://tompkinscountyny.gov/planning/water-resources#Data