



## Capitol Region Watershed District

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# Water Quality Capital Improvement Grants

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## Overview

Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) Water Quality Capital Improvement Grants provide financial assistance for final engineering and construction of cost-effective and/or innovative projects that protect and improve the water quality of waterbodies within CRWD. Successful applicants have a minimum of a completed water quality feasibility study and are typically planning on construction within a year of applying. Applicant matching funds are not required but are encouraged.

## GOALS

- Support on-the-ground projects that improve water quality by decreasing stormwater runoff and pollutants and/or preserve, protect, and/or restore plant and wildlife communities adjacent to lakes, rivers and wetlands
- Establish links between people and water resources through education
- Provide demonstration of innovative and effective management practices
- Foster stewardship of CRWD water resources from residents, businesses, schools, community groups and others who live, work or serve within CRWD

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Government agencies working in CRWD
- Public and private schools located within CRWD
- Nonprofit, faith-based or religious organizations serving within CRWD
- Businesses and other private property owners who are located within CRWD

## PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

- Project must be located within CRWD
- Water quality related construction and construction management expenses exceeding \$40,000 (if less than \$40,000 see CRWD's Stewardship Grant Program)
- Eligible projects include: stormwater best management practices (BMPs), erosion stabilization, shoreline restoration, and habitat improvement
- Feasibility study including design alternatives, cost estimates, and pollution reduction estimates must be completed prior to applying (see CRWD's Water Quality Planning Grant for assistance).
- Projects must be innovative and/or cost-effective
- Projects must include educational components
- Construction must be completed within two years of grant award
- Projects required to meet regulations are not eligible. Project components that go above-and-beyond required treatment may be eligible for partial funding.

## FUNDING AND APPLICATION CYCLE

- Typical annual funding available: \$300,000 - \$500,000
- Average grant award: \$100,000
- Annual application cycles: up to 2
- **Applications due October 31, 2018**

## Application Evaluation

Water Quality Capital Improvement Grant applications will be evaluated on the following 4 criteria:

### 1. Water resource management effectiveness and efficiency (30 points)

- a. Water quality benefit: The proposed project provides cost-effective water quality improvement (20 points)
  - i. Point calculation = (CRWD grant calculator estimate/grant request) x 20
- b. Other natural resource benefit: The project addresses another environmental issue (habitat, erosion, urban heat island etc.) (5 points)
- c. Watershed Management Plan: The project directly addresses issues and goals identified in CRWD's Watershed Management Plan (5 points)

### 2. Education and demonstration (25 points)

- a. Located in an area highly visible/accessible to the public (10 points)
- b. Educational signage and outreach that features community/public involvement, historic and artistic elements (10 points)
- c. Located in an underserved community as defined by CRWD (5 points)

### 3. Project Innovation (25 points)

- a. One of the first projects of its kind within CRWD (10 points)
- b. Follow-up monitoring of effectiveness included as part of project (5 points)
- c. Project provides multiple environmental, social and/or economic benefits (5 points)
- d. Likelihood of future acceptance and widespread implementation (5 points)

### 4. Project Readiness (20 points)

- a. Level of completion of designs, and cost-estimates (10 points)
- b. Matching funds provided for water quality related expenses (5 points)
- c. Landowner endorsements, required approvals and permits secured or will be secured and project likely to be implemented within 2 years (5 points)

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Possible Points</b>
Water Resource Management Effectiveness	30
Education and Demonstration	25
Innovation	25
Project Readiness	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>