Watershed-based Planning and Implementation Funding and Resources

New Hampshire Lakes Congress

Concord, New Hampshire

June 5, 2025

Presented by: Stephen C Landry, Coordinator NH Nonpoint Source Management Program Watershed Assistance Section - NHDES



Speaker Background and Disclaimer...

















Who's going to pay for all this watershed management?!?!?















The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section and NH Nonpoint Source Management Program





Who's going to pay for all this watershed managementaia



Watershed Assistance

Working with partners and stakeholders to protect and restore surface water in New Hampshire.

The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section works with local organizations, statewide nonprofits, municipalities, regional planning commissions, other programs within NHDES, EPA New England, and other state agencies to improve water quality in New Hampshire at the watershed level by implementing the New Hampshire Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan.

At the heart of this plan is the protection and/or restoration of surface waters in New Hampshire enabled by far-reaching collaboration with a diverse portfolio of watershed management stakeholders throughout the state.



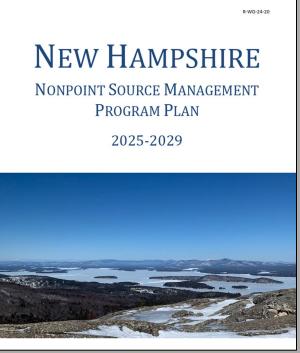
Resources for Watershed Assistance Grants and Loans >



Salt Reduction Program and Green SnowPro Certification >



Related Content		
Land Development		
Water Quality Assessmen	it	
Waterfront Development		
Clean Water State Revolv	ing Fund	
Asset Management		



New Hampshire Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan 2025-2029

7.0 PRIORITY WATERSHEDS

Restoration of NPS-impaired waters remains the primary goal of the New Hampshire NPS Management Program; however, not all waters in New Hampshire have sufficient data to determine whether or not water quality impairments exist. For example, as of 2022, about 65 percent of lakes and 89 percent of rivers had enough data to be assessed for the aquatic life integrity designated use. Per <u>Env-Wq 1702.17</u>, aquatic life integrity is defined by a surface water's ability to support aquatic life, including a balanced, integrated and adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity and functional organization comparable to that of similar natural habitats of the region. This designated use has the strongest correlation with NPS impacts from stormwater-related pollutants in New Hampshire. According to the "2020/2022 Section 305(b) <u>Report</u>," 50 percent of all impaired waterbodies in New Hampshire are impaired due to stormwater runoff and the NPS pollutants carried with it. NHDES has categorized stormwater influenced parameters to include substances such as bacteria, nutrients, metals, sediments, dissolved oxygen, chloride, fish and bug bioassessments, as well as habitat assessments (NHDES, 2022b). See Table 7-2 for the complete list of stormwater influenced parameters.

New Hampshire's NPS Management Program provides funding for both restoration and protection activities at the watershed scale. Based upon history and current active projects it is estimated that over the next five years, approximately 80 percent of the program's time and funding will be expended on restoring impaired waters with the remaining 20 percent devoted to protecting and improving threatened waters.

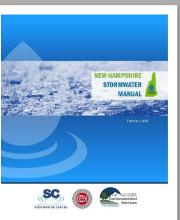
- Restoration of NPS-impaired waters is our top priority
- 50 percent of all waterbody impairments are due to stormwater runoff and the NPS pollutants carried with it
- The NH NPS Management Program Plan provides funding for both restoration and protection actions at the watershed scale.
- 80 percent of NPS Management Program staff time and **funding spent on restoration**
- 20 percent of NPS Management Program staff time and **funding spent on protection**





NEW HAMPSHIRE Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan 2025-2029





- Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan 2025-2029 published.
- New Hampshire Stormwater Manual published in February 2025.
- Certifying over 700 Green SnowPro, commercial salt applicators, annually.
- Municipal Green SnowPro rules adopted by NHDES in May 2024.
- Award \$550,000 in s319 Watershed Assistance Grants annually.
- Award \$160,000 in s604b Water Quality Planning Grants annually.
- Awarded \$390,000 in ARPA Grants for implementation in 2024
- Awarded \$900,000 in CWSRF Stormwater Planning Loans in 2024
- **12 EPA NPS Success Stories for restored designated uses.**
- 108 active projects being managed by seven staff in WAS.
- Stormwater Control Measures installed by NPS partners yields:
 - >12,000 tons of sediment removed from surface waters
 - >31,000 lbs. of phosphorus removed from surface waters
 - >7,000 lbs. of Nitrogen removed from surface waters















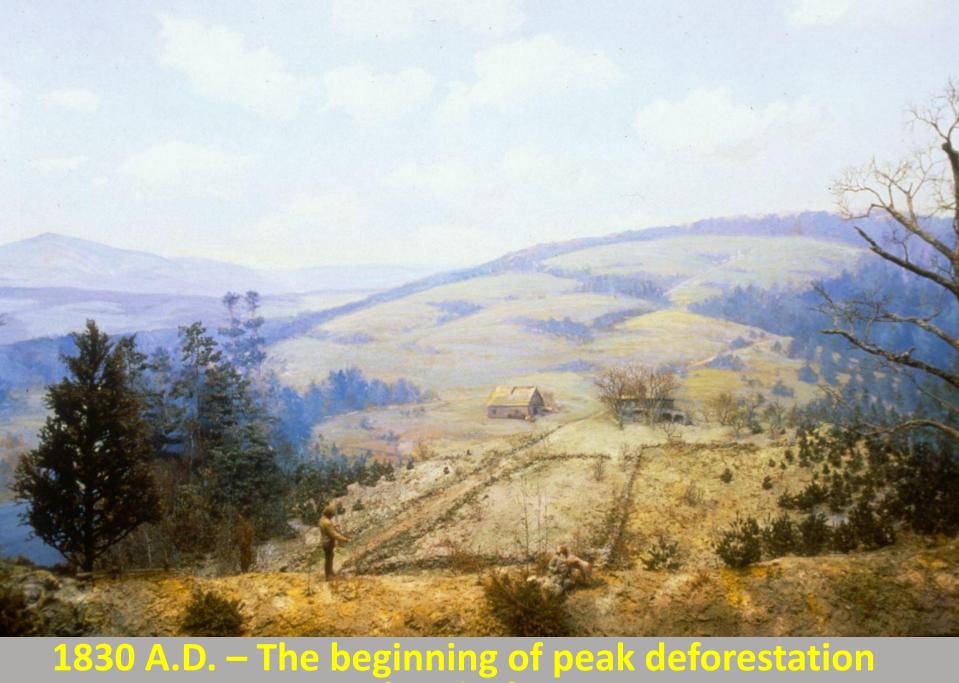




watershed.



1740 A.D. – European settlement, forest clearing, hunting, and trapping.



and agriculture.



1880 A.D. – The peak of agriculture followed by a decline with abandoned fields transitioned into white pine forests.



1910 A.D. – Middle age white pines harvested, and sawmills constructed for box board industry.



1930 A.D. – Following the white pine clear-cuts, fast-growing species self-sprouted.

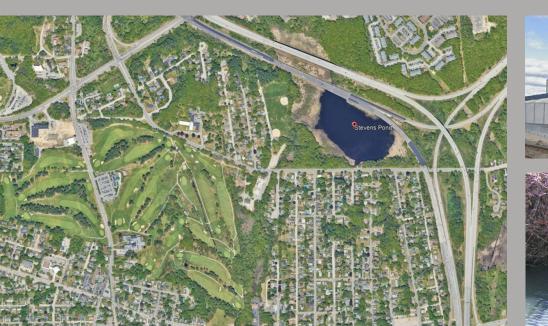




LOW % of impervious surfaces



- 17,000 river and stream miles
- 900 lakes and ponds
- 75 percent of new development on septic
- 15,000 river and stream crossings
- 4,000 dams and barriers
- 400,000 tons of rock salt sold each vear in New







NEW HAMPSHIRE Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan

2025-2029



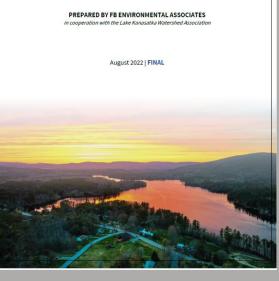
Lake Sunapee Watershed Management Plan

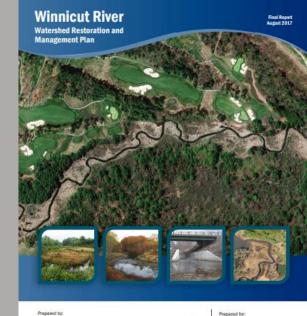


March 2020



LAKE KANASATKA WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN





Geosyntec[▷] WRIGHT-PIERCE 🝣 consultant

August 2022



TUCKER POND WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREPARED BY FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES

October 2022 | FINAL



SALMON FALLS HEADWATER LAKES Watershed Management Plan





FB Environmental Associates, Inc. 97A Exchange Street, Suite 305 Portland, ME 04101

~ March 2010



PARTRIDGE LAKE WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN







February 2020











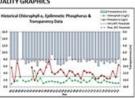
Recommended Actions: Greas job monitoring in 2023! Record summer rainfall and flooding resulted in overall higher levels of nutrients (phosphorus) in the take, increased turbidity and decreased lake clarity (transparency). This highlights the importance of marking to turbine the number of the solution of the soluti

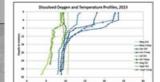
HISTORICAL WATER QUALITY TREND ANALYSIS

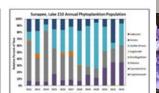
PARAMETER	TREND	PARAMETER	TREND
Conductivity	Worsening	Chiorophy8-a	Stable
pH (epilimnion)	Stable	Transparency	Stable
Phosphorus (hypolimnion)	Stable	Phosphorus (epilimnion)	Stable

HISTORICAL WATER QUALITY GRAPHICS





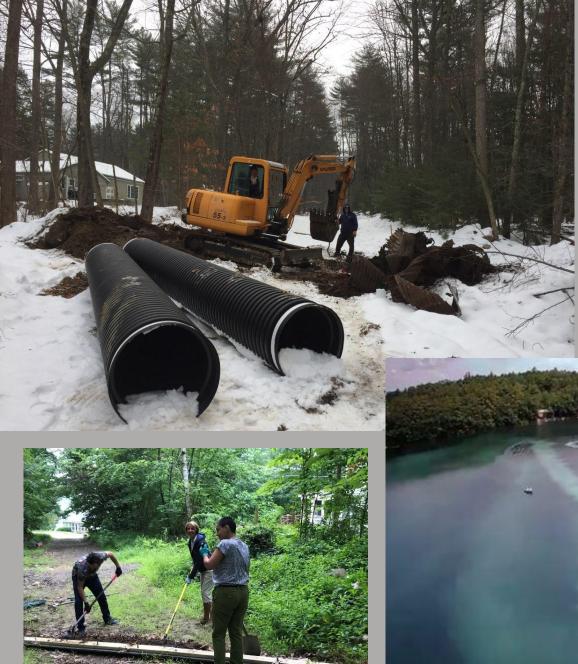
















Watershed-based Plans

Watershed planning is comprehensive, valuable, technical, and time-consuming. Costs range from \$75,000 to \$100,000 in New Hampshire.

LAKE KANASATKA WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREPARED BY FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES

in cooperation with the Lake Kanasatka Watershed Association

August 2022 | FINAL



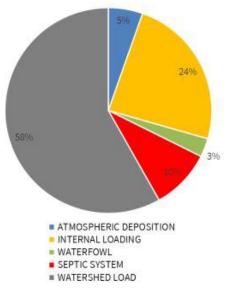


Figure 14. Summary of total phosphorus loading by major source for Lake Kanasatka. Refer to Table 10 for a breakdown.

4 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The following section details management strategies for achieving the water quality goal and objectives using a combination of structural and non-structural restoration techniques, as well as outreach and education and an adaptive management approach. A key component of these strategies is the idea that existing and future development can be remediated or conducted in a manner that sustains environmental values. All stakeholder groups have the capacity to be responsible watershed stewards, including citizens, businesses, the government, and others. Specific action items are provided in the Action Plan (Section 5).

4.1 STRUCTURAL NONPOINT SOURCE (NPS) RESTORATION

Structural NPS restoration techniques are engineered infrastructure designed to intercept stormwater runoff, often allowing it to soak into the ground, be taken up by plants, harvested for reuse, or released slowly over time to minimize flooding and downstream erosion. These BMPs often incorporate some mechanism for pollutant removal, such as sediment settling basins, oil separators, filtration, or microbial breakdown. They can also consist of removing or disconnecting impervious surfaces, which in turn reduces the volume of polluted runoff generated, minimizing adverse impacts to receiving waters.

4.1.1 Watershed & Shoreline BMPs

Twenty-two (22) NPS sites identified during the 2021 watershed survey and 121 high/medium impact rated shoreline properties from the 2021 shoreline survey were documented to have some impact to water quality through the delivery of phosphorus-laden sediment (refer to Section 3.11-3.12). As such, structural BMPs to reduce the external watershed phosphorus load are a necessary and important component for the protection of water quality in the watershed.

The following series of BMP implementation action items are recommended for achieving Objective 1:

- Address the top five high priority sites (and the remaining 17 medium and low priority sites a opportunities arise) identified during the 2021 watershed survey. The sites were ranked based on phosphorus obar reduction and waterbody proximity. The full prioritization matrix with recommended improvements is provided in Appendix B.
- Provide technical assistance and/or implementation cost sharing to three high impact shoreline properties
 identified during the 2021 shoreline survey. Encourage landowners to implement stormwater and erosion controls
 on the 118 medium impact shoreline properties identified during the 2021 shoreline survey. Workshops and tours of
 demonstration sites can help encourage landowners to utilize BMPs on their own property. Conduct regular
 shoreline surveys to continue prioritizing properties for technical follow-up.

For the proper installation of structural BMPs in the watershed, LKWA and other stakeholders should work with experienced professionals on sites that require a high level of technical knowledge (engineering). Whenever possible, pollutant load reductions should be estimated for each BMP installed. More specific and additional recommendations are included in Section 5. For helpful tips on implementing BMPs, see Additional Resources. Who's going to pay for all these watershed-based plans?!?!?







Grants and Loans to Develop Watershed-based Plans

R-WD-24-20

NEW HAMPSHIRE

NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

2025-2029



New Hampshire Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) Grants

- Source water protection projects (water supply land protection grants)
- Grants are capped at \$500,000 per project
- Up to 50 percent of total project costs to permanently protect high-priority water supply lands
- \$2 million available each funding round
- Pre-applications due in spring
- Full applications due in late summer

Source Water Protection Grant Program

Working to protect drinking water supply lands to support clean and safe drinking water.



The DWGTF Source Water Protection (SWP) program offers competitive grants to permanently protect drinking water supply lands in New Hampshire. Many national organizations and agencies have long recognized that what happens on the land affects the quality of water that flows from it. Protecting drinking water sources from development and degradation is an effective way to assure we have high-

quality drinking water at the tap. If we keep our rivers, lakes and groundwater free from pollution, it is easier and less expensive to keep drinking water safe and healthy. Protecting source water from contamination helps reduce treatment costs and may avoid the need for complex treatment. In addition, when we use nature to filter pollution, collect and store rainwater, and recharge our aquifers it reduces operational and treatment costs otherwise needed to make our water safe to drink.

HOW TO APPLY

The Advisory Commission solicits preapplications in the spring of each year. Each pre-application is reviewed for completeness, and if found eligible, applicants are invited to submit a funding application due in late summer.



Source Water Protection Grant Program FAQs >



Source Water Protection Eligible Lands Mapper >





Home About Advisory Commission Funding Programs Program Highlights Resources

Home > 2025 DWGTF Source Water Protection Grant Round is Open and Upcoming Webinar!

Funding Announcements

For Immediate Release **Posted:** April 03, 2025

Laura Weit-Marcum (<u>603) 271-2862</u> | <u>laura.m.weit-marcum@des.nh.gov</u>

2025 DWGTF Source Water Protection Grant Round is Open and Upcoming Webinar!

The Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund has allocated \$2 million for this year's grant round. NHDES is currently accepting pre-applications for <u>Source Water Protection</u> projects. Grants are available to cover up to 50% of total project costs and are capped at \$500,000 per project. To be eligible for consideration, a project must permanently protect an area containing "high-priority water supply lands," defined as land that falls within either: a wellhead protection area, hydrological area of concern or a high-yield stratified drift aquifer classified as GA2. Eligible lands can be viewed in the <u>Source Water Protection Eligible Lands Mapper</u>. <u>Pre-applications</u> are due May 21, 2025; and if eligible, applicants are invited to submit a funding application due June 25, 2025.

Contact

What makes a project competitive?

There are several factors the Advisory Commission uses to evaluate projects and determine funding awards (using evaluation criteria set in the <u>DWGTF Source Water Protection Grant Program</u> <u>Rules</u> . Projects that meet multiple criteria will rank higher.

New Hampshire Local Source Water Protection Grants - \$400,000 (2024)

• Eligible applicants

- Public water systems
- Municipalities
- Regional Planning Commissions
- Nonprofit organizations
- County Conservation Districts
- State agencies
- Watershed Associations
- Educational institutions

• Types of eligible source water protection projects

- Watershed-based plan development
- Salt mitigation measures
- Low impact development (LID)
- Riparian buffer code adoptions
- Innovative stormwater control measure design

Any eligible project may apply for a grant of up to \$25,000, OR \$30,000 for projects that address changing environmental conditions, with no match required.

MS4 communities are eligible for funding to implement source water protection activities under the New Hampshire MS4 stormwater permit.

NHDES Water Quality Planning Grants

Section 604(b) of the USEPA Clean Water Act

HALFMOON LAKE

WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREPARED BY FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES in cooperation with the Halfmoon Lake Association

JANUARY 2025



HALFMOON LAKE WATERSHED-BASED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by FB ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATES in cooperation with the Halfmoon Lake Association



JANUARY 2025

CONTACT Nina Kelly, President Halfmoon Lake Association hmlapresident@outlook.com

Funding for this project was provided in part by a Water Quality Planning Grant from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services with Clean Water Act Section 604(b) funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

5.2 EPA SECTION 604(B) WATER QUALITY PLANNING GRANTS

<u>Section 604(b) Water Quality Planning Grants</u> are available to planning entities such as watershed organizations in New Hampshire for water quality planning purposes. Funds are allocated to project partners for conducting water quality planning, including:

- Identifying the most cost effective and appropriate NPS measures to meet and maintain water quality standards.
- Developing an implementation plan to obtain state and local financial and regulatory commitments to implement water quality plans.
- Determining the nature, extent and causes of water quality problems in New Hampshire.
- Determining which publicly owned treatment works should be constructed, taking into account the relative degree of effluent reduction attained and the consideration of alternatives to such construction.

Other eligible projects that address water quality concerns include, but are not limited to, developing corridor management plans for designated rivers; conducting monitoring to address water quality concerns; planning stormwater retrofits to address water quality impairments; green infrastructure projects that manage wet weather to maintain or restore natural hydrology; working with municipalities to adopt specific model ordinances and/or to meet regulations (MS4 permits) to address priority water quality planning concerns; and developing watershed-based plans in accordance with EPA's criteria requiring nine required elements (a) through (i).

Between \$60,000 to \$150,000 is made available each year through a competitive application process managed by the NHDES NPS Management Program. Funds are made available to NHDES through EPA pursuant to Section 604(b) of the CWA.

NHDES Water Quality Planning Grants Section 604(b) of the USEPA Clean Water Act

Water Quality Planning 604(b) Grants

Water Quality Planning 604(b) grants are available for water quality planning purposes. The 2025 Request for Letter of Intent (LOI) is now available. An approximate total award amount of \$180,000 is available. All LOIs are due by **4:00 PM, September 13, 2024**.

- 2025 Water Quality Planning 604(b) Information Package m
- 2025 Water Quality Planning 604(b) Letter of Intent m

IV. Water Quality Planning Grant Recipient Eligibility

Governmental subdivisions and non-profit organizations are eligible to receive Water Quality Planning Grants. Examples include:

- ✓ Municipalities
- ✓ Regional Planning Commissions
- ✓ Non-profit Organizations
- County Conservation Districts
- ✓ State Agencies

- Watershed Associations
- ✓ Lake, Pond, River or Estuary Associations
- ✓ Public Water Suppliers
- Local River Management Advisory Committees (RSA 483:8-a)

Other groups may also apply for grant funding by partnering with governmental subdivisions or non-profit organizations. Non-profit organizations must be registered with the New Hampshire Secretary of State (this can be done on the <u>New Hampshire Secretary of State's website</u>).

Note: Grant recipients may use these grant funds to sub-contract with private entities, such as environmental consulting or engineering firms selected through an approved procurement procedure.

PROCESS	ESTIMATED SCHEDULE	
1a. The LOI consultation must occur with the project manager.	By September 6, 2024	
1b. Deadline for submittal of LOI.	September 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM	
2. NHDES will evaluate LOIs.	Early October 2024	
 NHDES will contact organizations that submitted LOIs with a status update and schedule interviews if necessary. 	October 2024	
4. Deadline for submittal of full proposals	December 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM	
 NHDES will make final selection of full proposals to receive funding and submit to EPA for review. 	January 2025	
 NHDES will draft Grant Agreements and send to organizations for signatures. 	June 2025	
 NHDES Commissioner and N.H. Attorney General's office review Grant Agreements. 	June-July 2025	
 Submit Grant Agreements to Governor and Executive Council for approval. 	July-September 2025	
9. Governor and Executive Council approved project may begin.	Summer 2025	

* The dates in this table are subject to federal funds and are subject to change.

 Pre-proposal consultation with NHDES staff is required.

NHDES Water Quality Planning Grants Section 604(b) of the USEPA Clean Water Act

- Limited funding: \$64,000 \$180,000 per year
- Very competitive: one or two plans per year
- Can fund a variety of planning aside from WBPs
- Many eligible entities
- No match requirement*
- Summer request for LOIs
- September due date



July 9, 2024 NOTICE FOR 2025 WATER QUALITY PLANNING 604(b) FUNDING Request for Letters of Intent

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is requesting Letters of Intent (LOI) for 2025 Section 604(b) Water Quality Planning projects. The LOI will be used to select projects warranting further development and consideration for funding. Selected applicants will then be invited to submit a full proposal and budget for funding.

LOI consultation is *REQUIRED*. Call or e-mail us to discuss your LOI by September 6, 2024. The LOI submittal deadline is 4:00 PM on September 13, 2024.

Table 1. Project Manager contact information for LOI consultation.

Watershed or Plan Type	Project Manager	Contact information
Coastal watershed	Sally Soule	Email: sally.a.soule@des.nh.gov Phone: (603) 559-0032
	Jeff Marcoux	Email: jeffrey.d.marcoux@des.nh.gov Phone: (603) 271-8862
All other watersheds	Nisa Marks	Email: nisa.m.marks@des.nh.gov Phone: (603) 271-8811
River Corridor Plans	Tracie Sales	Email: tracie.j.sales@des.nh.gov Phone: (603) 271-2959

Preference will be given to projects that address water quality concerns in watersheds with high recovery potential as outlined in Appendices B and C or protection potential as outlined in Appendix H, as identified in the 2020-2024 New Hampshire Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan (search by waterbody name or HUC-12).

IX. Evaluation Criteria

Table 2. LOI Ranking. The Watershed Assistance Section grants review team will review and rank the LOI submittals based upon the following criteria:

Category	Criteria	Max Points
Water Quality Improvement (either/or)	Impaired Waters: Project will achieve or lead to removing an impairment from the 303(d) list, resulting in a <u>Section 319</u> <u>Nonpoint Source Success Story</u> .	35*
improvement (enner/or)	High-Quality Waters: Project will achieve or lead to quantifiable progress toward water quality goals in a high-quality watershed.	30*
604(b) Criteria	 The project meets the 604(b) Criteria. i. Identifying NPS measures to meet water quality standards. ii. Obtaining local commitments to implement water quality plans. iii. Determining the nature, extent and causes of water quality problems. iv. Determining those publicly owned treatment works which should be constructed, taking into account the relative degree of effluent reduction attained and the consideration of alternatives to such construction. 	25
Outcomes	The LOI includes specific deliverables and associated environmental outcomes.	20
Project Communication	General quality and completeness of the LOI.	5
Priority Watershed The project addressed water quality concerns in high or medium priority watersheds as identified in the NHDES <u>Nonpoint Source</u> <u>Management Program Plan</u> .		5
Environmental Justice Concerns (i.e. accessibility to the public, lower income area, etc.). Note: NHDES staff will utilize EPA's <u>Environmental Justice</u> Screening Tool to facilitate project ranking.		5
Climate Impact	The project will address local impacts of climate change such as flooding, water quantity or water quality (e.g. cyanobacteria).	5
1.50	Total possible points for Impaired Waters* Total possible points for High Quality Waters*	100 95



P.O. Box 693 Rindge NH 03461 monomonac.org

Donald V Wilson MLPOA 35 Heron Point Rd Rindge, NH 03461

Andrea Bejtlich, Watershed Specialist, Watershed Assistance Section NH Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302 603 271-8475, andrea.l.bejtlich@des.nh.gov

On behalf of the Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association, (MLPOA), please accept this letter of intent to submit a proposal to develop a watershed based management plan for the Monomonac Lake watershed. The watershed is comprised of 12,448 acres in Rindge, NH (Cheshire County, NH), and Winchendon MA (Worcester County, MA). The project will be entitled "Monomonac Lake Watershed Management Plan". The project contact at Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association, (MLPOA) is Donald V Wilson, address as above, dwwilson62@yahoo.com.

Monomonac Lake Water Quality

Monomonac Lake is a 711 acre mesotrophic lake (ref. VLAP individual lake assessment) with 594 acres in Rindge, New Hampshire, the remaining 117 acres in Winchendon MA. Since 1987 Monomonac Lake has suffered from an infestation of variable milfoil (Myriophyllum heterophyllum). Working closely with NH DES contractors and in accordance with the Long Term Variable Milfoil Management Plan, (ref. NHDES publication, 2023) herbicide treatment with Diquat began. Winchendon Springs Lake Association, (WSLA), began herbicide treatment at the same time. The initial treatment area in New Hampshire was 4 acres. Since 1988 treatment areas have varied and increased in size to a maximum of 30 acres in New Hampshire. WSLA also reported varying treatment areas of up to 60 acres. On the New Hampshire side ProcellaCor was used in 2020 and 2022. In 2024 infestation has been reduced to 4 small plants harvested by licensed divers totaling an extracted volume of 5 gallons. (ref. 2024 divers harvest report).



SNHPC

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102-3546, Telephone (603) 669-4664 Fax (603) 669-4350 www.snhpc.org

September 13, 2024

Ms. Tracie Sales Rivers & Lakes Programs Administrator NH Department of Environmental Services PO Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Letter of Intent- 2025 Piscataquog River Management Plan Update

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission is formally submitting a letter of intent to seek funding support for updating the Piscataquog River Management Plan through the New Hampshire Department of Environment Services 2025 Section 604(b) Water Quality Planning grant program. The following sections address the requested information on the July 9, 2024, NHDES Notice for Letters of Intent. Attached to this letter is a detailed estimated project budget and letters of support.

1. Project title, description and general location (communities and watershed).

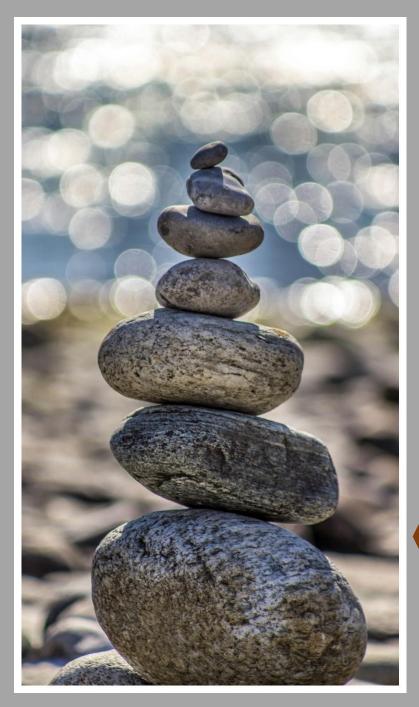
The Piscataquog River Local Advisory Committee (PRLAC) seeks funding to update the Piscataquog River Management Plan (PRMP), which was last revised in 2010. This plan update is crucial for guiding future conservation and management efforts within the Piscataquog River watershed, encompassing the communities of the towns of Deering, Dunbarton, Francestown, Goffstown, Greenfield, Henniker, Lyndeborough, New Boston, Mont Vernon, Weare, and the City of Manchester. The plan update will integrate recent data, address current environmental challenges, and incorporate best management practices for water quality improvement, climate resilience, and sustainable watershed management.

NHDES Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loans

CWSRF Stormwater Planning Loans

5.1 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND LOAN PROGRAM

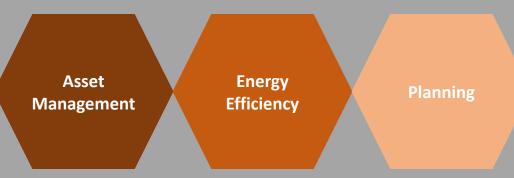
The 1987 amendments to the CWA created the CWSRF Loan Program, which provides below-market interest rates on loans to assist communities with the planning, design and construction of eligible water pollution control infrastructure projects. EPA capitalizes the CWSRF with annual grants which are used to provide loans to eligible entities. Borrowers are typically municipal or other local government entities. CWSRF funding is also available for water pollution control, watershed protection and restoration and estuary management projects that contribute to the protection of public health and water quality. Projects that address stormwater or NPS pollution problems are encouraged. Each year, New Hampshire sets aside a portion of the CWSRF for "green infrastructure" projects. In addition, the NHDES CWSRF currently offers additional subsidy for projects funded from the Project Priority List in the form of principal forgiveness. NHDES presents the CWSRF Intended Use Plan for the upcoming year's appropriation on an annual basis. Special CWSRF Loan Program initiatives for 2024 include 100 percent principal forgiveness, up to \$100,000, for select wastewater and stormwater planning evaluations, including the development of (a) through (i) watershed-based plans. It also provides up to \$30,000 per phase in grants for the development of a wastewater asset management program, and a maximum of \$30,000 in grants for the development of a stormwater asset management program.



NH CWSRF Priorities

Promote sustainable infrastructure

Protect public health and the environment



CWSRF Incentive Programs



Asset Management

100% CWSRF grants up to \$30,000; multiple phases available for WW, one phase available for SW.

Energy Audits FREE! (Just ask!)

Energy Audit Measure Implementation

50% Principal Forgiveness up to \$250,000 (Affordability % for costs above \$500,000).

Planning

100 % Principal Forgiveness up to \$100,000.



CWSRF Benefits



- 🗻 Additional subsidy for affordability & sustainability
- Reimbursement as costs incurred
- Disbursements available upon Governor & Council approval of Original Loan Agreement
- 1% interest on disbursements until substantial or scheduled completion



CWSRF Schedule

2025 CWSRF (and SAG) Pre-Application Deadline	May 30, 2025
2024 Loan Applications Due	June 30, 2025
Ranked 2025 Project Priority List Public Comment Period	July 31, 2025 – August 14, 2025
Public Hearing [CWSRF, SAG & DWSRF]	August 7, 2025

2025 Loan Applications Due

September 1, 2025 – May 1, 2026

Stormwater Planning and/or Infrastructure Ranking Criteria

PROTECTION OF WATER QUALITY & PUBLIC HEALTH

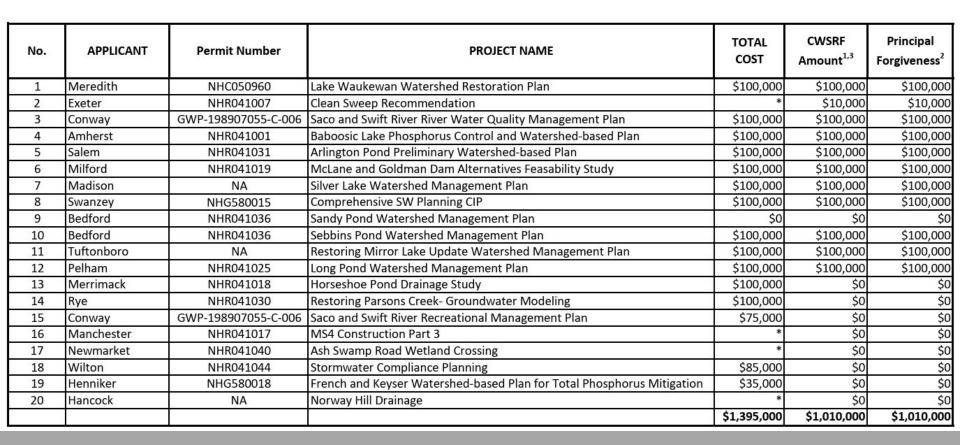
- Water quality impairment
- NPDES MS4 compliance issue
- Chronic flooding that causes a water quality problem
- Source water/wellhead protection areas
- Maintain water quality in unimpaired watersheds
- Municipal Green SnowPro Certification

WATER QUALITY PLAN

- 2025-2029 NH Nonpoint Source Management Program Plan
- <u>Watershed–based plan that meets Clean Water Act Section</u>
 <u>319 guidelines</u>
- <u>2010 Piscataqua Region Comprehensive Conservation and</u>
 <u>Management Plan</u>
- <u>Resilient Tidal Crossings: An Assessment and Prioritization</u> to Address New Hampshire's Tidal Crossing Infrastructure for Coastal Resilience
- <u>NH's Cyanobacteria Plan: A Statewide Strategy</u>
- Municipal Stormwater Asset Management Program
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)
- Nutrient Management Plan for Agriculture



2024 NHDES CLEAN WATER SRF PRIORITY LIST STORMWATER PLANNING PROJECTS



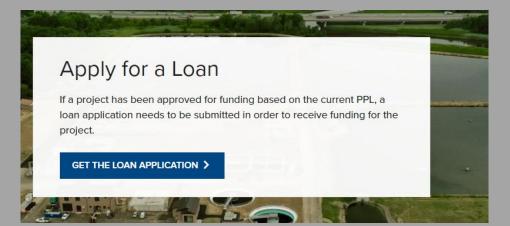
Clean Water SRF Contacts

Brian Voelk CWSRF Federal Provisions Manager	a
David Cloutier	
271SE978rogram Specialist	<u> </u>
Brian.E.Voelk@des.nh.gov Deanne Hergt	8
274S6628rogram Coordinator	<u> </u>
<u>David.R.Cloutier@des.nh.gov</u> Kathie Bourret	a
67ar 07 BAanagement Section Superviso	r 🖄
<u>Deanne.R.Hergt@des.nh.gov</u> Nina Buckman	a
SAG Program Manager	
Kathleen.A.Bourret@des.nh.gov	

Case Study for Development of the Updated Partridge Lake Watershed Restoration Plan

CWSRF Stormwater Planning Partridge Lake Watershed Plan

- Town of Littleton asked to submit a 2019 CWSRF Pre-application to NHDES on behalf of PLPOA
- \$75,000 request with \$75,000 principal forgiveness
- Interest re-payment below \$2,000
- PLPOA committed to making interest payment *



* ...and to maintain any

2019 Littleton Town Meeting YES: 672 (59.4%)* NO:460

- Loan considered a bond and required 60% vote
- Article was approved by Budget Committee 8-0
- Article approved by Board of Selectmen 3-0
- Voters at Deliberative Session in support
- The "NO" voters commented:
 - Town should not be responsible for lake matters
 - Town will end up maintaining "assets" in the end
 - The Article was written in a confusing manner
- More outreach needed head of 2020 Town Meeting

* 60 percent YES vote required to pass Warrant Articles in Littleton, NH

2020 Littleton Town Meeting YES: 885 (73%)* NO:329





PARTRIDGE LAKE WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN



August 2022



Comprehensive Environmental Inc. • 21 Depot Street, Merrimack, NH 03054 • www.ceiengineers.com









ALUM TREATMENT PLAN Partridge Lake

Littleton, NH

March 2024



Take-aways

- Local-to-Local voter outreach is critical
 - Understand the value of resources protected
 - Identifying solutions for *existing* problems
- Clear and plain language in warrant article is key
- Start process as early as possible

Article 03: Partridge Lake Phosphate Reduction Study/Design

Shall the Town of Littleton vote to raise and appropriate a sum not-to-exceed \$85,000 (Eighty Five Thousand Dollars) to hire a Certified Lake Management / Engineering firm to study conditions and provide design solutions to reduce external and internal phosphate loading in Partridge Lake - to prevent future Cvanobacteria Algae Blooms in the Lake? And to authorize the issuance of not more than \$85,000 of bonds or notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended, with the amount of such bonds or notes to be reduced by any grant funding received for the project; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. It is anticipated that there will be \$75,000 in principal loan forgiveness under the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Clean Water State Revolving Fund (NH CWSRF), The remaining \$10,000 will be offset by the a donation from the Partridge Lake Property Owners Association Water Quality Fund. Fiscal Impact Note: The tax impact associated with this will be \$0.00 per \$1,000 valuation. The principal loan amount YES of \$75,000 will be forgiven per the terms of the NH CWSRF agreement. Any and all interest accrued prior to Ioan forgiveness and Administrative cost shall be paid via monies held in the Partridge Lake Property Owners Association Water Quality Fund. No Tax Impact. (3/5 Ballot Vote Required). Recommended by the Selectmen 3-0. Recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0.

72

NO O

More CWSRF Loan take-aways

- <u>By far the BEST route to developing or updating</u> watershed-based plans in New Hampshire!
- Critical to have a municipal "champion"
- Essential for lake or pond association to commit to repayment to avoid tax impact
- It's like getting a \$100,000 Plan for \$2,000!
- NHDES staff available (no cost) to assist as well as some consultants (fee-based) with pre-apps

Grants for Implementation of Watershed Management and Restoration Plans



Watershed Assistance Grants

Grants administered through NHDES assist in addressing nonpoint source pollution.

Watershed Assistance Section 319 Grants

Water Quality Planning 604(b) Grants

Watershed Assistance Section 319 Grants

Solicitation for projects to address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the implementation of watershed-based plans.

Each year NHDES solicits projects to address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the implementation of watershed-based plans in priority watersheds. Projects must comprehensively address NPS problems, and must have a quantitative way to assess progress and determine success. The watershed-based plan must have a clear water quality goal and include the nine, minimum elements (a) through (i) required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Funded projects must make reasonable progress toward achieving the water quality goal established in the watershed-based plan.

NHDES' Watershed Assistance Section has released the 2023 Watershed Assistance Grants' Preproposal request for proposals (RFP) to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Pre-proposals are due by 4 PM, September 16, 2022.

- 2023 Watershed Assistance Grants Part 1: Information Packet
- 2023 Watershed Assistance Grants Part 2: Pre-proposal Application Form



Resources for Watershed Assistance Grants and Loans >



Watershed Assistance >

NHDES Watershed Assistance Grants Section 319 of the USEPA Clean Water Act

- Implementation funding: \$550,000 per year
- Very competitive: five to six projects per year
- Only funds projects prioritized within WBPs
- Many eligible entities
- Non-federal match required
- Summer for Pre-proposals
- September for Full Proposals



2025 WATERSHED ASSISTANCE GRANTS Information Package

> Watershed Management Bureau/ Watershed Assistance Section

RSA/Rule: Voluntary

I. Introduction

Each year, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) solicits projects to address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the implementation of watershed-based plans in priority watersheds. Projects must comprehensively address NPS problems and must have a quantitative way to assess progress and determine success. The watershed-based plan must have a clear water quality goal and include the nine, minimum elements (a) through (i) required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Funded projects must make reasonable progress toward achieving the water quality goal established in the watershed-based plan.

A pre-proposal consultation is REQUIRED.

Coastal watershed: Sally Soule (603) 559-0032 or sally.a.soule@des.nh.gov
 All other watersheds: Jeff Marcoux (603) 271-8862 or jeffrey.d.marcoux@des.nh.gov

Call or email us to discuss your pre-proposal by September 6, 2024. The pre-proposal submittal deadline is 4:00 PM on September 13, 2024.



NHDES Watershed Assistance Grants Section 319 of the USEPA Clean Water Act

NHDES' Watershed Assistance Section has released the 2025 Watershed Assistance Grants' Preproposal request for proposals (RFP) to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Pre-proposals are due by **4:00 PM, September 13, 2024**.

2025 Watershed Assistance Grants Part 1: Information Packet m

IV. Watershed Assistance Grant Recipient Eligibility

2025 Watershed Assistance Grants Part 2: Pre-proposal Application Form

Governmental subdivisions and non-profit organizations are eligible to receive Watershed Assistance Grants. Examples include:

- ✓ Municipalities.
- ✓ Regional planning commissions.
- ✓ Nonprofit organizations.
- ✓ County conservation districts.
- ✓ State agencies.

- ✓ Watershed associations.
- Lake, pond or river associations.
- ✓ Public water suppliers.
- ✓ Designated river local advisory committees.

Other groups may also apply for grant funding by partnering with governmental subdivisions or nonprofit organizations. **Non-profit organizations must be registered with the New Hampshire Secretary of State** (this can be done on the <u>New Hampshire Secretary of State's website</u>).

Note: Grant recipients may use these grant funds to sub-contract with private entities, such as environmental consulting or engineering firms selected through an approved procurement procedure.

PROCESS	ESTIMATED SCHEDULE
1a. Contact NHDES about your pre-proposal.	By September 6, 2024
1b. Deadline for submittal of pre-proposals.	September 13, 2024 at 4:00 PM
2. NHDES will evaluate pre-proposals.	Early October 2024
 NHDES will contact organizations that submitted pre-proposals with status update and schedule interviews if necessary. 	October 2024
4. Deadline for submittal of full proposals	Jan 10, 2025 at 4:00 PM
 NHDES will make final selection of full proposals to receive funding and submit to EPA for review. 	February-March 2025
 NHDES will draft Grant Agreements and send to organizations for signatures. 	April-May 2025
 NHDES Commissioner and N.H. Attorney General's office review Grant Agreements. 	May - June 2025
 Submit Grant Agreements to Governor and Executive Council for approval. 	June-August 2025
9. Governor and Executive Council approved project may begin.	Fall 2025

* The dates in this table are subject to federal funds, dates are subject to change.

Pre-proposal submittal consultation with NHDES staff is required.



2025 WATERSHED ASSISTANCE GRANTS **PRE-PROPOSAL**

Watershed Management Bureau/ Watershed Assistance Section

The pre-proposal submittal deadline is 4:00 PM on September 13, 2024.

RSA/Rule: Voluntary

Applicants are required to call or email us to discuss their pre-proposal prior to completing this form no later than September 6, 2024.

1. Project Title

Country Pond Watershed Management Plan Implementation Phase 1: Direct Drainage Area - Newton **Boat Ramp BMPs**

Format: Name of the waterbody, watershed plan implementation, project phase, and description. Example: Crystal Lake Watershed Management Plan Implementation Phase 2: Smith Street BMPs

2. Applicant Information

A. Organization Name: Country Pond Lake Association

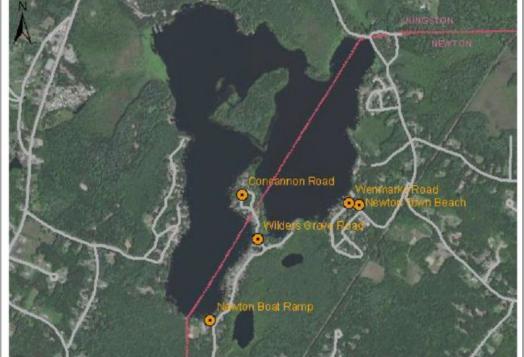
The Watershed Assistance Section grants review team will review and rank pre-proposal submittals based upon the following criteria:

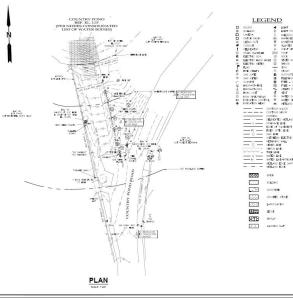
Category	Criteria	Max Points
Water Quality Improvement (either/or)	Impaired Waters: Project will achieve or lead to removing an impairment from the 303(d) list, resulting in a Section 319 Nonpoint Source Success Story.	35*
	High-Quality Waters: Project will achieve or lead to quantifiable progress toward water quality goals in a high-quality watershed.	30*
Local Capacity	Commitment of the applicant's support network, and capacity to complete the proposed project. Ranking will be based upon the grantee's description and/or demonstration of their team's ability to successfully complete the proposed project.	25
Relative Value of the Waterbody	The availability (access), benefits to surrounding communities, and extent of use of the waterbody. Uses include but are not limited to drinking water supply; public recreational opportunities; aquatic and terrestrial habitat benefits.	15
Proposal Quality and Thoroughness	General quality and completeness of the proposal package.	10
Priority Ranking	Project is located in high or medium priority watersheds as identified in the NHDES <u>Nonpoint Source</u> <u>Management Program Plan</u> .	5
Environmental Justice	The waterbody's impact on communities with Environmental Justice concerns (i.e. accessibility to the public, lower income area, etc.). Note: NHDES staff will utilize EPA's <u>Environmental</u> Justice Screening Tool to facilitate project ranking.	5
Climate Impact	Addresses flooding, water quantity, water quality (e.g. cyanobacteria).	5
-	Total possible points for Impaired Waters* Total possible points for High Quality Waters*	100 95

Note: Funding priority is given to restoration of impaired waters.

Full project proposals will be selected based upon scores received through ranking, availability of funding, final EPA review and final NHDES approvals of the proposal.

Figure 1. Locations of Proposed Stormwater Management Improvements





SURVEY NOTES

WALLOW/PAPER BO WARELE WONFORMER PLAYER POINT OF RELEASE

100K

d SUPPORT HEARS D TREEMARK SOL THE - COMPOSE D THE - C

OF PANENENT OPTIC LINE

0420

THIS FLAN OFFICTS FIELD ENDENCE AS LAST OFFICE and a cost of the second process percent of the cost percent processing the second process percent pe ITY. NOARY LINE INFORMATION UNCTION WITH PLAN ION SHOWN HEREIN IS APPROXIMATE AND IS BASED OF FORMATION OFTAHED FROM THE ROCHMENTAL COUNTY ES NOT REPOSED A DOWNDARY SUMEX NOT BE UTBLED FOR WORTLAL CONTROL: METICAL E DIE EN ALLES ANDER ANNAUED BY U.S. REVELENT THE SUPPLE WOOL ANDE INTO ACCOUNT THUS POINT WHEN HEADS NOT BE UNDER PART UNDER AN SUPPLE CONSTRU-AT THE UNDERING OF THE DEATH AND FLS ASSAULTS IN USAGE. TONIC OF THE WORK, DUE UNDERSE STE CHECKS AND IN THE CONFLICTION. NOR TO ANY EXCANATON, CONSTRUCT ONFROMING SHALL HE CONFLETED BY IN DECEMPTICES IN HORIZONTAL OF VENTICAL CONTROL INFORMATION, I CTORVERIME TO NOTIFY IS IN OPDIT TO DETERMINE THE BET IN THE WORK INTERNATED NO RECOVERY TO SAULDING TO THE DEOR AND S IN INDEX INTERNATION WITH SEARCH, SEARCH, O INT, OF THE CONTRACTOR/DEDINGLY TO IMPERATE WITH INDEX SELETEN ANY CONSTRUCTION INTERNATIONAL INTERNATION TO THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE OTHER DESCRIPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE OTHER DESCRIPTION OF THE DESCRIPTION OF THE OTHER DESCR TO THE US REPORTED TO THE REPORT TO THE HE OF THE REPORT O AND ALL DUARS AND DUARLITY ADMISTIPUS AND ITS SUB NOW THE USE OF THE ELECTIONS FILES. HENEN IS TO BE CONSTRUED AS ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERM

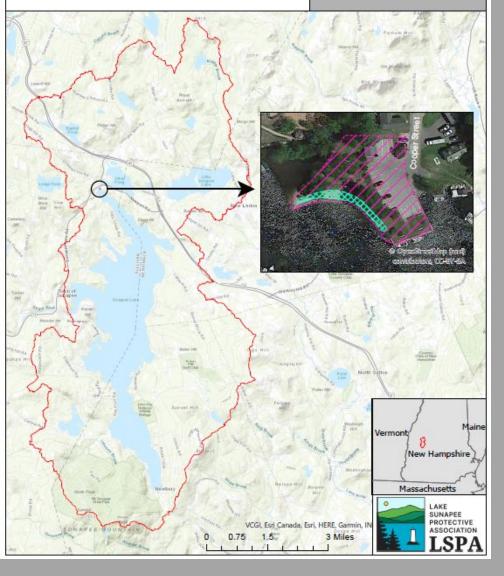


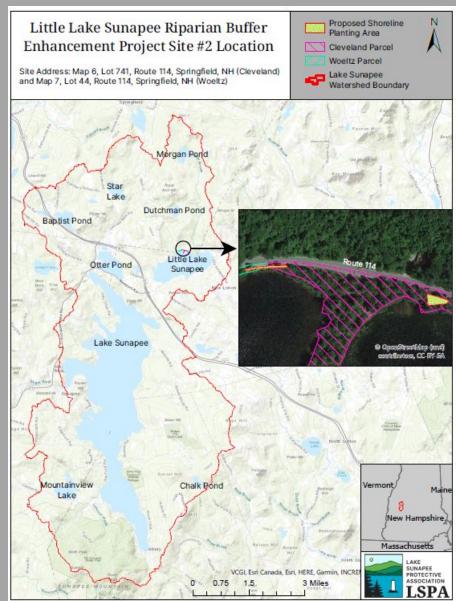
PROJECT LOCATION MAP

Georges Mills Beach Shoreline Stabilization Project Site #1 Location



Site Address: 18 Cooper Street, Sunapee, NH (Town of Sunapee)





NHDES Watershed Assistance Grants

- Non-federal Match of 40 percent required
 - Cash
 - Other grant sources that are non-federal
 - Professional services donated
 - Land purchases, easement costs, etc.
 - Labor, materials, equipment time (DPW or Road Agent)
 - Legal services donated





5.5 CONSERVATION & HERITAGE LICENSE PLATE PROGRAM (MOOSE PLATE GRANT)

The <u>New Hampshire State Conservation Committee's Conservation Moose Plate Grant Program</u>, is an annual, competitive grant program, that supports and promotes programs and partnerships throughout the state that protect, restore and enhance the state's valuable natural resources. The Conservation Grant Program's six project categories include: Water Quality and Quantity; Wildlife Habitat; Soil Conservation and Flooding; Best Management Practices; Conservation Planning and Land Conservation.

Eligible applicants include municipalities, county conservation districts, qualified nonprofit organizations engaged in conservation programs, county cooperative extension natural resource programs, public and private schools (K through 12) and scout groups.

The State Conservation Committee's Conservation and Heritage Number Plate program is funded through the purchase of license plates, known as "Moose Plates." All funds raised through the purchase of Moose Plates are used to promote, protect and invest in New Hampshire's natural, cultural and historic resources. Moose Plate funding is entirely non-federal and can be used to match Section 319 Watershed Assistance Grant funds when project goals meet the criteria for each funding program.



NHDES Watershed Assistance Grants

- Typically receive double the project requests vs available funding
- Scoring for funded and not funded only differs by tenths of a point
- Pre-proposals range from Phase 1 to Phase 6 of implementation with WAGs
- Semi-annual Progress Reports, final report, procurement documentation required
- Photo documentation of Stormwater Control Measures (SCMs)or non-structural best management practices (BMPs) required





NHDES Watershed Assistance Grants Pro Tips for Pre-proposal Scoring

- Letters of permission from landowners for SCM installations are key in Pre-proposal stage
- <u>Letters of commitment score higher than letters of</u> support (often as a form letter)
- Project deliverables will approach in-lake water quality goal for Phosphorus
- Project will de-list an impaired water and generate a Nonpoint Source Success Story!











Cyanobacteria Mitigation Fund (CMF) and Other Grant Funds

New Hampshire's Cyanobacteria Plan: A • House bil **State Astronomic Plan:** A

- Directed NHDES to develop a plan to prevent the increase of, and eventually control, cyanobacteria
- Plan published in November 2023 specifies the actions needed to achieve the legislative directive
- The plan describes four strategies:
 - Strategy 1: Develop policies and practices to reduce, control and prevent the nutrient inputs that cause cyanobacteria blooms.
 - Strategy 2: Advance education/outreach efforts.
 - Strategy 3: Enhance monitoring.
 - Strategy 4: Identify best practices for public drinking water supplies.

Cyanobacteria Mitigation Fund

•NHDES announced the grant program in 2023, which is funded from a <u>one-time</u> legislative appropriation of \$1 million.

•Municipalities, community and non-profit groups and lake and river watershed associations are eligible to receive funds.

•Goal: reduce the number of chronic and extended cyanobacteria blooms that are a threat to the health and recreational values of our lakes.

CMF Grant Awards

- 2024- Lake Kanasatka Aluminum Treatment- \$500,000
- 2025- Province Lake Stormwater Engineering Plan-\$50,000

•Balance available- \$233,244 remains to award

*a portion of the legislative award dedicated for supplies and equipment and other administrative costs for the NHDES Harmful Algal Bloom Program

Additional One-Time Grant Awards

One-time American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for cyanobacteria mitigation efforts in 2024 coordinated by NHDES

- 2024- Tucker Pond Erosion/Stormwater Mitigation- \$185,970
- 2024- Province Lake Shoreline Vegetation Project- \$9,600
- 2024- NH LAKES Association- \$500,000 (to use for awards to sub-grantees to implement watershed management plans)
- 2024- Partridge Lake Aluminum Treatment in June- \$270,930

All funds from this award have been spent/allocated.

Criteria for CMF and in-lake treatments

- Fully developed Project Plan
- Alternatives Analysis
- Implementation Plan over life of project
- Ongoing operations management and safety plan
- Detailed monitoring plan during and post project
- Documented minimization of environmental harm
- Progress toward nutrient-based numeric target (P)







Plankton jar with sample of a cyanobacteria bloom from Partridge Lake, Littleton, NH- May 2025

CMF Eligibility

 All applicants must meet eligibility requirements as outlined in Env-Wq 2300

> https://www.des.nh.gov/rules-and-regulatory/ administrative-rules?keys=env-wq2300&purp ose=&subcategory=

 An eligibility request can be found online at <u>https://onlineforms.nh.gov/app/#/formversion/febf</u> <u>ce94-6c73-4236-b9c0-c10be9b59017?FormTag=</u> <u>NHDES-V107-005</u>



CMF - Looking Ahead

- •\$233,244 is available to grant for eligible applicants/projects.
- •Many eligible lakes and ponds on the impaired waters list for cyanobacteria/cyanotoxins.
- •A bill in the 2025 NH legislative session to add funds to Cyanobacteria Mitigation Fund
- •A lake license plate is proposed in the legislature which will generate some revenue each year

•No other additional funds on the horizon.

For more information about cyanobacteria mitigation grant funds contact:

Amy P. Smagula Jody Connor Limnology Center Director and Chief Aquatic Biologist <u>Amy.P.Smagula@des.nh.gov</u>

5.8 EXOTIC SPECIES PROGRAM GRANTS

The NHDES <u>Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grants</u> are funded through fees related to boating registration and include the following:

Control Grants for Exotic Aquatic Plants are awarded to local lake associations and municipalities for the control and management of exotic aquatic plants, such as milfoil, and include the development of long-term management plans for each waterbody that requests funding. Control Grants will cover 100 percent of the treatment costs for a new infestation and will match up to 50 percent for repeat management practices. Approximately \$250,000 is awarded each year.

Milfoil and Other Exotic Plant Prevention Grants have funding available each year for forward-thinking strategies that seek to prevent new infestations of exotic plants, including outreach, education, Lake Host Programs and other activities. Approximately \$225,000 to \$280,000 is awarded each year.

Research Grants are available for innovative research projects by institutions of higher learning that focus on issues associated with exotic aquatic plant management, control, biology, ecology or prevention. Awards have ranged from around \$5,000 to \$30,000 depending on the project description and need.



AQUATIC CONTROL TECHNOLOGY employees Michael Lennon, right, and Marc Bellaud spent Friday applying the chemical 2,4D the milfoil in Smith Cove. Fosters Daily Democrat

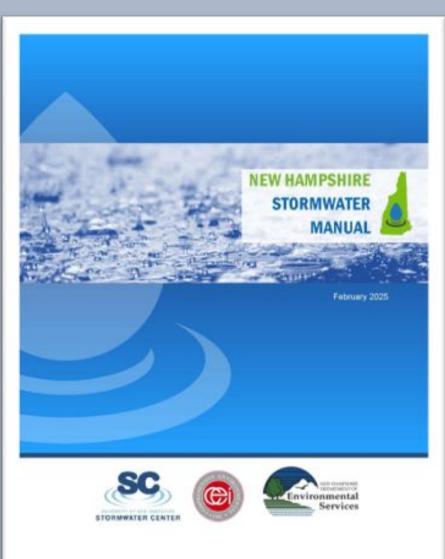
NEW HAMPSHIRE

NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PLAN

2025-2029



https://www.des.nh.gov/climate-and-sustainab ility/conservation-mitigation-and-restoration/w atershed-assistance https://extension.unh.edu/stormwater-cent nh-stormwater-manual



Thank You !

Stephen C Landry, Coordinator NH Nonpoint Source Program - NHDES 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03302 603.271.2969 or stephen.c.landry@des.nh.gov

