



**FY2011 Stormwater Retrofit and
Low-Impact Development Grant Program
Funding Framework**
REVISED September 14, 2009

Purpose

Provide grants to local governments for:

- A. Retrofit stormwater facilities
- B. Stormwater construction projects that use low-impact development (LID) techniques

Eligible Applicants

This grant program is offered to Washington state eligible public bodies.

Eligible public bodies include any Washington state county, city, town, conservation district, or other political subdivision; municipal or quasi-municipal corporation; federally recognized tribe; or Washington state institution of higher education, provided that the project is not included in that institution's statutory responsibilities.

Total Funds Available

Available for funding stormwater grants statewide \$4.309M

Puget Sound – 80%	\$3.4M
Non-Puget Sound – 20%	\$0.9M

Grant Ceiling

\$500K per project

Match Requirements

75% grant – 25% cash match (no in-kind)

Schedule

- September 1 – December 1, 2009 Application period
- September 15, 16, 23, 29 Workshops in Spokane, Ellensburg, Tacoma, and Everett
- December 2009 Evaluation period
- Spring 2010 Offer List and Offer Letters
- June 30, 2014 Projects must be complete

Funding Application

To apply for the Stormwater Retrofit and LID Grant program, use the *FY2011 Water Quality Financial Assistance Application Form and Resource Guide* located on Ecology's Water Quality funding website:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/2011/index.html>

Funding Criteria

The following criteria are directed toward applicable local stormwater projects:

- **Retrofit** - Projects must provide improvement to site hydrology or water quality.
- **New development or redevelopment projects that implement LID** – Projects must implement low-impact development stormwater practices designed and constructed in accordance with the LID Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound (January 2005), the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (February 2005) or Eastern Washington (September 2004) or an Ecology-approved stormwater design manual for LID.

Supplemental activities will not score well as standalone projects but can add benefit to stormwater projects which retrofit stormwater facilities or implement low-impact development.

- Public education, information, and communication.
- Stormwater monitoring and analysis programs.
- Conducting inventory of retrofit priorities and needs.
- Mapping and geographic information system of stormwater facilities.
- Source control activities.

Construction Projects

- Stormwater infrastructure pre-design reports give the Department of Ecology (Ecology) an opportunity to review and comment on the technical merits and cost effectiveness of projects, ensuring that Ecology's funds are used only for high quality projects. These pre-design reports are not Ecology permit requirements, but are submitted as part of the construction process.
- Ecology engineers will review pre-design reports to ensure that the projects are consistent with the goals of Chapter 90.48 WAC, the Department of Ecology Stormwater Manuals for Eastern or Western Washington, the LID technical guidance manual or other applicable Ecology-approved stormwater design manuals. The Stormwater Manuals apply specifically to stormwater projects for new development or redevelopment, but can also be helpful in designing stormwater retrofit projects for existing development. Best management practices (BMPs) from the Stormwater Manuals should be used for retrofit

projects where practical. However, retrofit site constraints may interfere with strict application of the BMPs.

- Local governments with construction stormwater projects must meet the following requirements prior to receiving grant funding for construction activities:
 - State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
 - Cultural Resources review with the Department of Archeology & Historic Preservation (DHAP) and affected tribes to comply with Governor's Executive Order 05-05.
- The applicant must complete State Environmental Review Process (SERP) prior to signing a funding agreement, if federal funding (e.g. Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund) is used as match for a stormwater project.

Projects that have not yet completed SEPA and Cultural Resources review are not precluded from applying for funding. Projects that have started and/or completed SEPA and Cultural Resources review at the time of application will score more points in the application review process.

- Ecology does not require applicants to be in compliance with Growth Management Act (GMA) prior to applying for or receiving funding from this program. However, Ecology strongly encourages GMA compliance because other funding sources may require it to be eligible for funding. Compliance with GMA will be one factor used to evaluate the applications for available funding.

Ineligible Project Components

- Projects without water quality or hydrologic benefits.
- Projects involving rainwater harvesting (water rights permit challenge).

Evaluation Criteria

- Scope of Work – Overall quality of project proposed (25 percent)
- Project Budget (15 percent)
- Water quality protection, restoration, improved hydrology, and other positive impacts. (25 percent)
- Actions required under Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or federal and state water quality permits and compliance orders (10 percent)
- Project Team (5 percent)
- Project Development and Local Support (7.5 percent)
- Readiness to proceed (7.5 percent)
- Ratepayer Impact (5 percent)

Scope of Work

Points are awarded for a clear, complete, and well thought-out scope that directly addresses a stormwater problem. The scope demonstrates an understanding of the work required to fully implement and complete the project. Using the task and required performance framework provided below:

- Provide a detailed scope of work for the project that includes clearly defined tasks, deliverables, timelines, and cost per task.
- Describe the project area and provide supporting map(s) and any relevant diagrams and/or pictures.
- For construction projects, please reference which stormwater manual is used for the project design.

Cost Estimate Process: Points are awarded to cost effective projects with accurate cost estimates. For example, an applicant may determine cost effectiveness and estimate accuracy based on experience with past or ongoing projects, through consultation with other entities that have related experience, or through a planning process such as value analysis.

- Describe how costs were estimated. Include the steps taken to ensure accuracy.
- Describe the process used to control cost and ensure that this is a cost effective project (e.g. value engineering or cost benefit analysis).

Severity of Problem, Stormwater Quality, and Hydrologic Improvements

Points are awarded for addressing severe stormwater problems, documentation of those problems, and expected protection of or improvement to water quality and/or improvements to hydrologic function. Additionally, for LID projects, points are awarded for new development or redevelopment projects that minimize changes to the natural hydrology. Substantial environmental improvements receive the most points.

Measurable improvements receive more points than unclear or vague benefits. The actual benefit, the total impact (area impacted, number of people affected), and level of implementation, and the severity of the problem will be considered. Only changes that can be achieved by the proposed scope of work will be considered.

- Define the severity of the stormwater problem and how the problem has been documented in a plan or assessment (e.g. TMDL Water Quality Improvement Report or Water Quality Implementation Plan, presence of 303(d)-Listed water bodies, part of watershed or salmon recovery plan, part of a shellfish recovery plan, structural stormwater controls program list, capital improvement plan, listed in Action Agenda).
- Describe the expected project results, including how the project will achieve water quality protection or improvements and/or improve hydrologic functions.
- Describe how much of the problem will be addressed by the project.
- Describe how success of the project will be measured and documented.
- Describe how the water quality and/or hydrologic improvements will be sustained for the long-term through operations and maintenance practices.