



# 319 NPS Project Funding Request

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<http://deq.mt.gov/Water/WPB/Nonpoint-Source-Program/NPS-319-Project-Funding>

Project Title FY 2017 Education & Outreach Water Quality Mini-Grants

### Project Sponsor Information

Name Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana (SWCDM) Tax ID # 23-7096823  
 Address 1101 11th Avenue Website http://swcdmi.org/  
 City Helena State Montana Zip Code 59601 County Lewis and Clark

Primary Contact Jessica Makus  
 Title Programs Manager  
 Phone Number 406-443-5711  
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 E-mail Address jessica@macdnet.org  
 Signature *Jessica L. Makus*

### Project Funding

319 Funds Requested	\$30,000.00
Non-Federal Matching Funds	\$20,000.00
Federal Funds	
Total Project Budget	\$50,000.00

### Project Location

Watershed Name or HUC # Statewide  
 Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is the waterbody on the 2016 List of Impaired Waters?  Yes  
 Does this project implement a WRP?  NA

### Nonpoint Source (NPS) Information and Project Planning

Project Focus 

This grant would fund education and outreach mini-grants for FY2017, as well as management of the grant program. Mini-grants will be awarded to qualifying organizations to provide education and outreach addressing nonpoint source pollution.

  
 Does the landowner support this project?  N/A

### Project Description

Timeline: Please detail the proposed timeline for this project.

Project duration: July 2017-June 2018. Calls for applications will be done in fall 2017 and spring 2018. Each awardee will have 1 year to complete the proposed project and submit a final report. All projects will be completed and reported to DEQ by 6/30/2018.

Please provide a brief overview of the proposed project, including background, purpose, partners and methods.

This project will fund education and outreach mini-grants focused on reducing nonpoint source pollution for FY2017, as well as management of the mini-grant program. At least two calls for applications will be made: one in fall 2017 and the other in spring 2018. Each call will be advertised through SWCDM and partners via email, newsletter postings, social media, and other appropriate avenues. A review committee made of up agency, conservation districts, and nongovernmental organization professionals will review and rank eligible applications. A minimum of 12 individual education and outreach mini-grants of up to \$2,000 each will be awarded to eligible entities, which include; schools, nonprofit organizations, volunteer groups, conservation districts, etc. All eligible applications will provide education and outreach projects addressing nonpoint source pollution and issues dealing with cumulative negative effects to water quality. Past funding has been awarded for a variety of projects including; citizen monitoring programs, water events or tours, youth education events, production of newsletters and other media, webpage development, and more. Due to the fast turnaround from the time of the call until funds are available, this program meets local needs and puts funding on the ground quickly. SWCDM is currently managing the seventh consecutive grant cycle for this program. In that time, over \$265,700 in match has been leveraged with just \$118,000 in 319 funding. This demonstrates how important this program is to leverage non-federal funding and how it can provide the necessary "seed" funding to accomplish nonpoint source pollution projects and education throughout the state and among many diverse organizations. In spring of 2016, an effectiveness report was developed, and sent to past award recipients. Each recipient stated how crucial these grant funds were to their communities and stressed the importance of these funds in continuing to meet their goals and continued community service. The projects supported by mini-grant funds have reached thousands of people and the positive effect they've had on nonpoint source water quality and community awareness will likely be felt for years to come.