



2026 Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction Application - Capacity Building/Education Outreach Projects

General Information

Project Name _____

Applicant Name _____

Is your organization registered with the Montana Secretary of State?

Explanation: Each applicant must be registered with the Montana Secretary of State to do business in the state of Montana. Registration with the Secretary of State may be completed via the following website: <https://sosmt.gov/business/>

Is your organization registered with the federal System for Award Management (SAM)?

Explanation: Each applicant is required to register with SAM. To register or check your organization's status, go to <https://sam.gov/content/home>. If you get an "Unsupported Browser" error, copy, and paste the link into a Google Chrome browser window.

Your organization's Unique Entity Identifier number (UEI #)

Explanation: Each applicant is required to have a current UEI number. The UEI number replaces the old DUNS number. If your organization had a DUNS number, you should have received a notification from the federal government indicating that your DUNS number has been changed to a UEI number. If you did not receive this notification, or if you never had a DUNS number, you will need to go to the federal government's System for Award Management (SAM - <https://sam.gov/content/home>) to obtain your UEI number. DEQ recommends starting this process early as it is very time-consuming, requires providing documentation-sometimes with follow-up requests for additional information, and can take up to 2 months to complete. If you need assistance, you may contact the federal help desk at 866-606-8220 Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. EST.

Does your organization have adequate liability insurance for the risks associated with your project?

Explanation: Each applicant must have or obtain liability insurance coverage meeting the requirements stated in the Draft Sample Contract and/or requirements negotiated based on the appropriate level of risk associated with the project.

Primary Contact _____ Title _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Signature

Explanation: This is the person who DEQ would routinely contact to discuss project progress, billing, etc.

Signatory _____ Title _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Signature

Explanation: This is the person who can legally sign contracts and other binding documents on behalf of the applicant (e.g., a board chair)

Note: The primary contact and the signatory must both sign the application. Signatures must be either signed electronically, or wet-signed, scanned and emailed.

Project Form

Project Type

Is this a Capacity Building Project, or is it an Education and Outreach Project?

Explanation: DEQ supports education and outreach efforts that focus on changes in behavior that will prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution. Our goal is to encourage adoption of Community Based Social Marketing concepts to produce measurable, sustainable change. We also want to support activities that improve local capacity to develop and implement on-the-ground projects to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution. In so doing, we are making a distinction between capacity building projects, and education and outreach projects. The selection you make above will be used to determine which questions on the Scoring Sheet reviewers will use to evaluate your project.

Required Attachments in Addition to This Form

Letter of support or from each organization critical to the project (*if applicable*)

Letter of support from each landowner associated with any on-the-ground component of the project (*if applicable*)

Budget Table (see Microsoft Excel Template)

Activity Location

List the watershed(s) where your proposed work will happen.

Activity Description

Describe your project goals, proposed activities and how the project will make progress towards addressing nonpoint source pollution. Explain why the proposed work is an appropriate next step towards preventing or reducing nonpoint source pollution.

Budget Form

Please fill out the Capacity Building and/or Education Outreach Project Budget Template (Excel file). Cells highlighted in yellow may be edited to fit the needs of your particular project. DEQ uses a template to construct nonpoint source grant contracts. The Budget Template contains tasks and typical deliverables that match up with the grant contract template. Please see the Example Contract and Scope of Work template for a more detailed look at typical task requirements and deliverables.

Capacity Building Projects

(only complete this page if you selected "Capacity Building Project" on the top of page 2; otherwise, leave this page blank)

Need and Opportunity

Describe your organization's need for increased capacity, and how the proposed project activities will help you meet those needs. Describe the local interest and opportunities for using the capacity you create to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution.

Measurement and Sustainability

Describe how you will measure an increase in capacity and how you would sustain this in to the future

Timeline

Describe your anticipated project timeline

Education and Outreach Projects

(only complete this page if you selected "Education and Outreach Project" on the top of page 2; otherwise, leave this page blank)

Behavioral Change

Identify the behavior change you are targeting and the target audience. From a nonpoint source pollution perspective, why is the change in behavior important and what impact would it have?

Barriers

What are the existing barriers to changing the behavior? How will your proposed activities address the identified barriers and lead to behavior change?

Evaluation

How will you measure the extent of the behavioral change achieved because of your project?

Timeline

Describe your anticipated timeline

Project Partners and Roles

Identify the partners that will be working on the project, and their roles.

Co-Benefit Considerations

DEQ is committed to carrying out nonpoint source pollution reduction projects within engaged communities where the impact stretches beyond improving water quality. DEQ will award additional points in the scoring form where co-benefits extend beyond the project. Below are a few examples of how projects might exemplify co-benefits.

- Project will reduce economic hardship such as from livestock mortalities, cost and energy needs to treat municipal drinking and wastewater treatment, or loss of income from recreation
- Project will benefit underserved markets
- Project will improve or create equitable access to a clean and healthy environment
- Project planning included consultation with Tribal Nations
- Project will improve flood and drought resilience of the landscape
- Project impacts will benefit a downstream community and other natural systems (e.g., drinking water sources, human health, wildlife habitat, etc)

Please use this section to highlight co-benefits your project may have.

Project Administration

Each contract will have a Project Administration Task. Take the requirements (listed below) into consideration when planning logistics and budget for your project. Project administration includes bookkeeping, invoicing, interim/annual/final report preparation, office supplies, rent, communications, etc. Nonpoint source funding applied to this task on each project must not exceed 10% of the total amount of funding requested, or \$3,000, whichever is lower. Like all other tasks, payment is by reimbursement for actual expenses incurred.

Report Format:

- *Contractor shall submit each Attachment B Billing Statement, Status Report and Final Report using the most current reporting guidance and templates provided by the DEQ project manager.*
- *Contractor shall ensure each Status Report and Final Report contains adequate documentation to justify accompanying reimbursement requests and match reporting, to the satisfaction of the DEQ project manager.*
- *Contractor shall ensure that the Final Report is a standalone document describing all contract activities and containing copies of all contract deliverables (even if the deliverables were previously submitted).*

Reporting Schedule:

- *Status Reports: Due June 15th and December 15th of each year the Contract is in effect.*
- *Draft Final Report: Contractor shall submit a complete draft Final Report for DEQ review and comment at least 15 days prior to the contract expiration date.*
- *Final Report: Contractor shall submit a Final Report, addressing DEQ comments on the draft Final Report, on or before the Contract expiration date.*
- *Attachment B Billing Statements: Contractor shall submit an Attachment B Billing Statement with each Status Report, or Final Report submitted to DEQ while the Contract is in effect. To maintain cash flow, Contractor may submit interim Attachment B Billing Statements as frequently as monthly during the term of the Contract. However, each interim Attachment B Billing Statement must be accompanied by an Interim Report.*

Additional Information

Use the space below to include anything additional for the review panel to consider. Attach additional items and information that could help reviewers better understand your project. Please be conscious of reviewers' time, as they may not have time to read lengthy studies and reports. Please do not attach copies of TMDL documents or watershed restoration plans. Please no more than 20 pages.

Draft Budget

2026 Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction Application - Capacity Building Education & Outreach Budget Template

Project Title:	Tasks and Potential Deliverables	Funding Request*	Non-Federal Match**	Other Funding***	Match Source	Match Secured? (Y/N)	Total Project Cost	Additional Information****
<p>This task may include the initial stages of, for example, developing the Plan, demonstration project, outreach program, educational materials or planning project tours. Please include anticipated deliverables and a detailed budget.</p>	Project and Program Development							
	Site visits for project evaluation	\$ 12,700.00	\$ 2,000.00		Landowners, in-kind	Y	\$ 14,700.00	Funds for 6-8 site visits. Match funding coming from landowner communications and participation in site visits
	Attending and presenting at Watershed Group meetings, Conservation District meetings, outreach via events like Shields Valley Farmers Market	\$ 2,000.00					\$ 2,000.00	Funds for 4-6 meetings, both Shields Valley Watershed Group meetings and Park Conservation District meetings.
	Pre-project data collection (electrofishing, monitoring, data processing)	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		FWP staff time, in-kind	Y	\$ 9,000.00	Match funding coming from MT-FWP fisheries biologists' time for coordination and assistance with electrofishing, project planning discussions, etc. Funds requested will cover staff time for 2 MFP staff members to assist with 2-3 days of electrofishing efforts.
							\$ -	
	Total		\$ 20,700.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -		\$ 25,700.00	
<p>This task would include, for example, the time getting stakeholder involvement and writing the Plan, leading the project tours or outreach program, and coordinating volunteers. Please include anticipated deliverables and a detailed budget.</p>	Implementation				In kind/ MFP unrestricted funding (private foundation and donation \$\$)			Budget assumes 3-4 projects will coalesce and require project planning and grant writing for DEQ 319 on-the-ground project applications. Match funding coming from MFP unrestricted funding for hours put towards for grant writing and project development
	DEQ 319 project planning and proposal preparation	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,000.00			Y	\$ 12,500.00	
							\$ -	
							\$ -	
	Total		\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -		\$ 12,500.00	
<p>This task includes costs for evaluating the success of your project or program. This may include surveys, community readiness factors, landowner buy in for projects, completion of a Plan, etc. Please include anticipated deliverables and a detailed budget.</p>	Effectiveness Monitoring						\$ -	
							\$ -	
							\$ -	
							\$ -	
	Total		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	
<p>Funding applied to Project Administration must not exceed 10% of the total amount of nonpoint funding requested, or \$3,000, per project whichever is lower. Project includes normal business expenses and reporting requirements.</p>	Administration						\$ -	
	Mid/Annual/Interim Reports and Billing Statements	\$ 600.00					\$ 600.00	
	Draft/Final Report and Billing Statements	\$ 600.00					\$ 600.00	
	Communication with DEQ	\$ 600.00					\$ 600.00	
	Total		\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,800.00	
Grand Totals		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		\$ 40,000.00		

*Funding Request - Must not exceed \$30,000

**Non-Federal Match - Can include in-kind materials.

***Other Funding - Include federal match here, or, for example, other funding that is supporting the project but cannot be reported as match on this grant because it is matching another funding source.

****Additional Information - Use to specify non-federal match and other funding sources, or use to justify cost if needed (e.g., hourly rates, rental costs, etc.)

**Letters
Of
Support**



Common Sense Conservation

39 South
59047

www.parkcd.org

parkcd.310permitting@gmail.com

MT Department of Environmental Quality
319 Nonpoint Source Program
1520 E. Sixth Avenue
PO Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620

Re: 319 Grant Program Proposal- Letter of Support for Capacity Funding

Dear Members of the DEQ Nonpoint Source Funding Review Panel,

On behalf of the Park County Conservation District, I am writing to express our support for Montana Freshwater Partner's proposal to obtain Capacity Funding from the 319 Grant Program. We recognize the momentum that has been built around coordinated restoration efforts in the Shields Valley and support the work being done to improve the water quality and health of the Shields River Watershed. This funding is critical to maintain this momentum and begin implementing on-the-ground restoration projects.

Montana Freshwater Partners has demonstrated leadership in fostering collaboration among water resource partners through the Park Co. Water Initiative. Additionally, they have developed a project prioritization list that not only benefits the ecosystem, but also the communities that depend on it. To turn this planning into actionable projects, additional capacity funding is essential. The funding will offer the necessary resources to collaborate with partners and landowners, advancing existing project ideas from the conceptual stage to readiness for implementation. It will also allow for coordination and new project development with additional landowners. Ultimately, this work will support the Shields River Watershed for generations to come.

The Park County Conservation District recognizes the need for increased and focused capacity funding to identify and implement on-the-ground projects. We are confident that this funding will enable Montana Freshwater Partners to continue building upon existing momentum and deliver impactful results for the environment and our Shields Valley communities. We believe that this funding will have a positive impact on the watershed and communities that depend on its health.

Thank you for your consideration of these critical initiatives.

Sincerely,

Dustin Homan
Board Chair
Park Conservation District