



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Application Workshop

FY2023 Section 319(h) Grant

**Georgia DNR Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch Nonpoint Source Program**

**Grants Unit
March 1, 2023**



WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Today's Speakers

FY2023 Coordinator: Mary Gazaway

Grants Unit Manager: Joy Hinkle

GAEPD Grants Administrators

Barbara Stitt Allen

Joyce McClain

Jackie Encinas





SECTION 319(H) GRANT WORKSHOP AGENDA

Welcome & Introductions

General Grant Information – Mary Gazaway

- Section 319(h) Grant Web Page & Links
- FY2023 Grant Timeline
- Eligible Applicants and Eligible/Ineligible Projects
- Minimum Requirements
- Funding Amounts & Match

Q&A with GAEPD Grants Administrators

Online Application Instructions – Joy Hinkle

Scoring Criteria – Joy Hinkle

Q&A with GAEPD Grants Administrators





GENERAL GRANT INFORMATION

- 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act provide states, territories, and tribes grant money to support a wide variety of activities under the Nonpoint Source Management Program.
- Georgia EPD conducts a competitive process to fund eligible implementation projects that will lead to direct reductions in pollutant loads and measurable water quality improvements in impaired waters throughout the state.
- “Shovel-ready” projects will be more competitive but will require preliminary designs, renderings, or engineering specs submitted with the Application.





SECTION 319(H) GRANT WEB PAGE & LINKS

<https://epd.georgia.gov/outreach/grants/georgia-319h-nonpoint-source-grant>

- Links to FY2023 Grant Administration Portal (GAP) to access the online Application; to list of Georgia's Watershed-Based Plans; and to page where you can find links to FY2022 Integrated 305(b)/303(d) Report & USEPA's Watershed Planning website.
- Downloads for PDF files of **Georgia's Statewide Nonpoint Source Management Plan; Section 319(h) FY2023 Grant Guidelines; & EXCEL** format of Section 319(h) FY2023 Grant Project Schedule.
- Go to <https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/watershed-planning-and-monitoring-program/total-maximum-daily-loadings> for downloads of Final TMDLs; TMDL Implementation Plans & BMP Resources; and supplemental data and TMDL planning documents.





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FY2023 GRANT TIMELINE

FY2023 Grant Timeline

- January 31, 2023: GAEPD opened the 319(h) Grant Administration Portal (GAP)
- March 1, 2023: Online Application Workshop
- April 30, 2023: Deadline to submit Applications via the 319(h) GAP
- Late Spring 2023: Scoring Committee reviews and scores all Applications
- Summer 2023: GAEPD notifies applicants of grant awards
- Fall 2023: GAEPD and grant recipients finalize project scopes of work and execute contracts





ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Public Entities in Georgia are eligible applicants, including:

- City and county governments with Qualified Local Government Status*. Check current status on GA DCA website at <https://apps.dca.ga.gov/LocalGovStatus/planning.asp>
- State agencies
- Local, regional, or State authorities operating jurisdictional services and/or delivery programs
- Regional Commissions
- Resource Conservation and Development Councils
- Local and regional school systems
- State colleges and universities

*as defined in paragraph 18 of subsection (a) of O.C.G.A. 50-8-2





EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- Green Infrastructure & Low Impact Development BMPs
- Watershed hydromodification, stream restoration & stabilization BMPs
- Urban stormwater BMPs “above & beyond” NPDES permits
- Agricultural BMPs that address water quality & meet NRCS practice codes
- Septic repairs & replacement BMPs
- Education & training
- Water quality monitoring based on a QA/QC Monitoring Plan approved by GAEPD





PROJECTS INELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

- Compliance criteria in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits (CAFO, Phase I & II MS4, Wastewater, Water, etc.)
- Watershed monitoring required under a NPDES permit
- Projects to fulfill consent orders and/or decrees
- Surface paving (impervious)
- Construction of wastewater infrastructure
- Water quantity/supply projects (such as reservoirs, drinking water wells, infrastructure, etc.)
- Lake dredging or aquatic macrophyte harvesting (Note: Exceptions only if ALL contributing sediment sources have been corrected.)
- Incinerators for dead livestock disposal (Note: Composting is the preferred practice for Section 319(h) grant funding.)
- Revising existing or developing new watershed-based plans
- Dams or impoundments





MINIMUM PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

PROJECTS MUST TARGET NONPOINT SOURCES OF POLLUTION WITH THE INTENTION OF IMPROVING/PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

1. Implement an existing watershed-based plan that meets USEPA's Nine Elements of Watershed Planning or implement an alternative to a watershed-based plan in the form of a Summary of Nine Elements.
2. Locate the project in a watershed or drainage area equal in size to a 10-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC-10) or smaller.
3. Commit to a minimum 40% non-Federal Match of the total project cost that can be contributed through local funds, in-kind services, or other non-Federal sources.





WATERSHED-BASED PLAN OR SUMMARY

NINE-ELEMENT WATERSHED-BASED PLANS (refer to FY2023 Guidelines Appendix A, page 24)

ALTERNATIVE SUMMARY OF NINE ELEMENTS

- Acceptable planning sources for components of a Summary of Nine Elements:
 - Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs) Reports
 - TMDL Implementation Plans
 - Watershed protection plans
 - Stormwater management plans
 - Source water protection plans
 - Watershed studies and water quality data reports
 - Other water resource management documents
 - Any of Georgia's eleven (11) Regional Water Plans





FUNDING AMOUNT & MATCH

Maximum award is \$400,000 and up to 60% of the total project cost

- Minimum non-Federal match of 40% of the total project cost either as Cash or In-Kind
- Compute 40% as follows: requested federal grant amount x 2 divided by 3 = 40% of total project cost
- Total Anticipated FY2023 Funding = approximately \$2.1 million
- Projects should be completed within 36 months of execution date







ONLINE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

All applications must be submitted through the
319(h) Grant Administration Portal (GAP)

319(h) GAP LINK: <https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/gaepd-319h>

1. Create an Account
2. Create an Organization Profile
3. Complete Application Section 1: Project Description
4. Complete Application Section 2: Project Budget
5. **SUBMIT all sections and supporting attachments in the portal by APRIL 30, 2023.**



SCORING CRITERIA

- All eligible projects will be scored by a review committee made up of GAEPD and USEPA staff.
- Criteria established in compliance with GAEPD and USEPA rules and guidelines.
- All application responses and attachments will be evaluated, including the project schedule.
- All projects will be given a numeric score based on the criteria outlined in the Grant Guidelines.

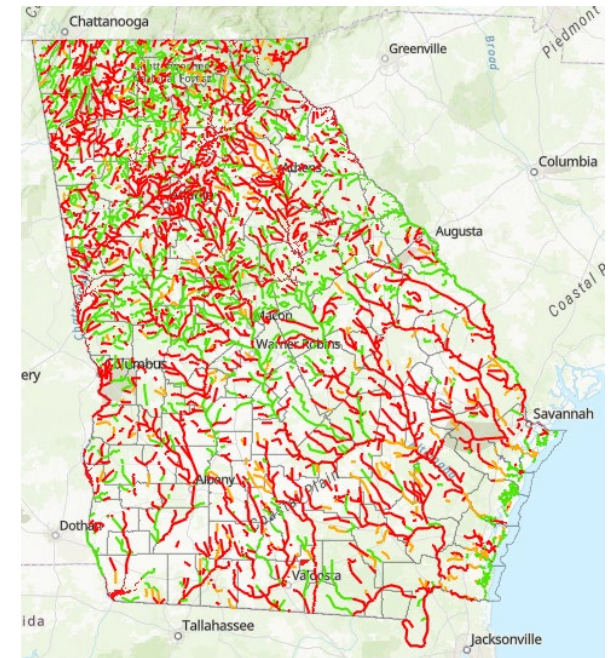




SCORING CRITERIA

Important for ALL Projects:

- Explain why the project is needed, the scope of the water quality problem, and the current condition of the targeted waterbody.
- Proposed activities are supported by the Watershed Plan or Summary.
- Partners provide letters of commitment describing activities or resources they will contribute to the project **AND** the dollar value of those contributions.
- Demonstrate reasonable costs. The budget and narrative need to detail how the funds will be spent and how match will be provided.

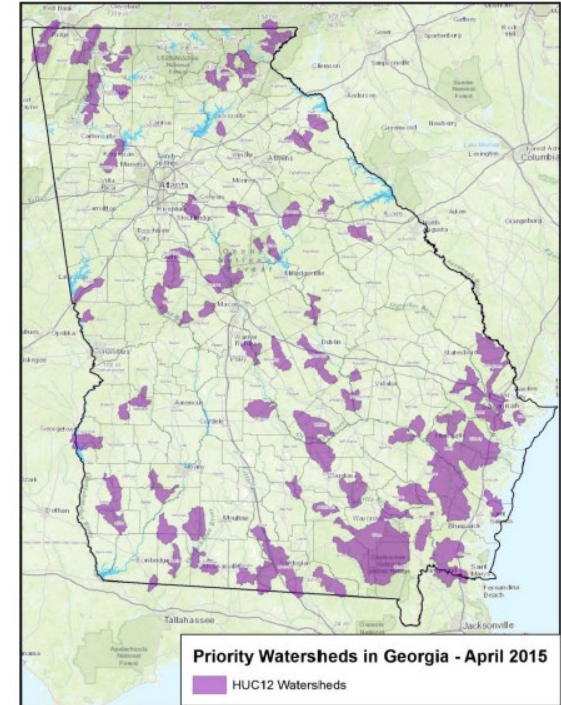




SCORING CRITERIA

Some projects qualify for additional points:

- Lead organization designated as a WaterFirst Community
- Projects located in a GAEPD Priority Watershed
- Projects that commit to a Non-Federal match of 50% or higher





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

