



FY2019 Section 319(h) Grant

Quick Guide to Evaluate Your Project & Apply



Georgia Environmental Protection Division
NonPoint Source Program Grants Unit

Application Process

FY2019 Application Time Line

FINAL Application Deadline: October 31, 2018

- July: GAEPD Announces FY19 Grant
- September 6th or October 3rd: Pre-application Meeting Webinar (required)
- September 28th: Last day to submit DRAFT proposals for GAEPD written review (optional)
- October 31st: Post mark or delivery deadline for applications to GAEPD
- Winter 2018 into early 2019: GAEPD and EPA Scores Applications
- Spring 2019: GAEPD notifies applicants of grant award
- Summer 2019: GAEPD and grant recipient finalize project scope of work
- Fall 2019: GAEPD and grant recipient execute contract and project begins



Pre-Application Meeting

Webinar

(Required in order to submit)

What to Expect:

- Meet the EPD Team
- Highlights of changes from FY18
- Cost-Share Requirements
- Eligibility Requirements
- Selection Criteria
- Contacts & Links



Cost-Share Requirements

Federal Funds & Local Match

- Maximum Federal Award: **\$400,000** and limited to **60%** of total project cost.
- Minimum non-federal, local Match: **40%** of total project cost.
- Calculate Match as Federal Funds x 2/3.
- Maximum Time Frame of project: **3 Years**.



Match

- Total Federal Funds x $\frac{2}{3}$ = 40% Match:
 - Non-federal (state, local or private) sources
 - Not already applied as Match to another project
 - Not required under NPDES permit or enforcement
- Cash contributed to cover actual project costs
- In-kind services performed to support project
- Public Land Conservation restricted to water quality purposes & permanent protection



Eligible Applicants

- Must be public entities or local governments:
 - ✓ Local, regional or State departments, units or agencies
 - ✓ Authorities that operate public service or delivery programs
 - ✓ Regional Commissions & RC&D Councils
 - ✓ Public school & university systems
- Function as Lead Organizations on project
- Maintain Qualified Local Government Status
- Partner with NGOs/NPOs/local watershed groups:
 - ✓ NGOs/NPOs/watershed groups are NOT eligible applicants, however they may partner with eligible applicants



Eligibility Requirements

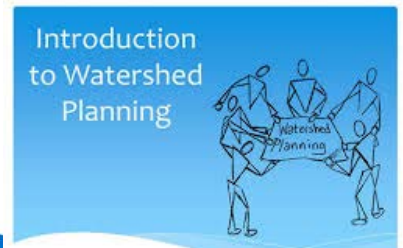
Minimum Requirements

- Applications must fulfill **all three** of the following:
 - ✓ Implement existing watershed-based plans that meet all USEPA's Nine Elements for Watershed Planning
 - ✓ Locate project within a single 10-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC-10), or smaller
 - ✓ Commit to a minimum 40% non-federal Match



Watershed-Based Plan Check List of USEPA's 9 Elements

- A. Identification of Pollutant(s) & Impairment Causes & Sources
- B. Pollutant Load Estimates Expected from Nonpoint Source (NPS) Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- C. Nonpoint Source (NPS) Best Management Practices (BMPs) & Critical Target Areas for BMP Installations
- D. Financial & Technical Assistance to Implement NPS BMPs plus Associated Costs & Sources of Funds



Watershed-Based Plan Check List of USEPA's 9 Elements

- E. Education & Outreach to Encourage Public Participation in Watershed-Based Plan Implementation
- F. BMP Implementation Schedule
- G. Interim Milestones to Determine Progress of BMP Implementation
- H. Set of Criteria (what) to Measure/Monitor & Assess (how) BMPs
- I. Component to Determine Effectiveness of Watershed-Based Plan Implementation



Eligible Project Activities

- TMDL Implementation & Watershed Restoration
- Urban Stormwater Controls Not Included in NPDES Permits or “Above & Beyond” NPDES Required BMPs
- Education & Outreach
- Technical Assistance
- Project Management/Administration
- Water Quality Monitoring



NOTE: This list represents examples of eligible projects and is not completely inclusive.



Ineligible Activities

The following are examples of ineligible projects:

- Implementation of NPDES Permit Requirements (unless “Above & Beyond” specific permit BMPs)
- Fulfillment of Consent Orders and/or Decrees
- Construction of Wastewater Infrastructure
- Water Quantity/Water Supply Projects
- Dam Construction and/or Removal
- Surface Paving (Impervious)
- Installation of Incinerators
- Lake Dredging or Aquatic Harvesting



Best Management Practices

Project Activities for BMPs must include the following tasks:

- Develop Schedule of BMP Operations & Maintenance or Standard Operating Procedures in accordance with commonly accepted standards and covering at least five years
- Estimate linear feet of streambank restoration or acres related to wetland protection
- Model load reductions for nitrogen, phosphorus and/or sediment



Water Quality Monitoring

- Post-BMP monitoring is eligible under a 319(h) grant for the following purposes:
 - ✓ Collect & qualify samples to assess water quality for 305(b)/303(d) List of Waters
 - ✓ Track post-BMP trends in water quality
 - ✓ Evaluate effectiveness of **new technology** BMPs
- Submit DRAFT QA/QC Monitoring Plan that is appropriate for monitoring purpose with Application
- Schedule monitoring during the final 12 months to give BMPs enough time to work



“Above and Beyond” NPDES Permit Requirements

- Grant-funded activities entered in an NPDES permit report MAY NOT be counted as compliance
- Applicants must include a signed Letter of Assurance on official letterhead verifying 319(h) project will not be reported as compliance
- Section 319(h) Grants will not fund watershed monitoring required under a NPDES permit. However, ongoing NPDES monitoring data can be used to support a 319(h) project



Selection Criteria

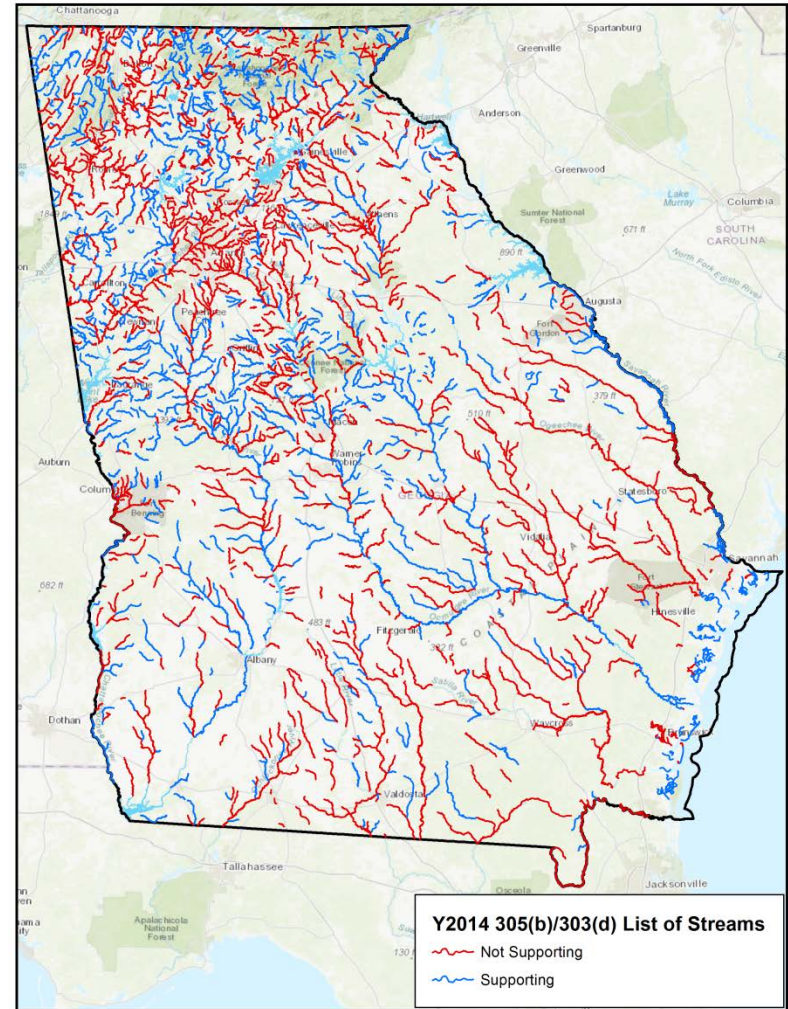
Key Ranking Priorities

- Specify nonpoint sources of pollution and identify activities best suited to address these sources
- Demonstrate cost-effectiveness
- Reference goals/milestones/implementation activities in 2014 revision of “Georgia’s Statewide Nonpoint Source Management Plan”
- Identify Measures of Success for each Project Task



Additional Selection Priorities

- Target Georgia's 2014 305(b)/303(d) List of Waters in order to:
 - ✓ Improve water quality by 40% in impaired waters
 - ✓ Restore impaired waters to meet State standards
 - ✓ Protect water quality in Category 1 (supporting) waters by incorporating USEPA's "Healthy Watersheds Initiative".



Additional Selection Priorities

- Implement structural or non-structural BMPs that show quantifiable water quality improvements
- Engage committed multi-jurisdictional partners in conjunction with ongoing NPS activities
- Target Pathogens (Bacteria), Sediment, Dissolved Oxygen, Nitrogen and Phosphorous impairments
- Implement BMPs identified in Regional Water Plans



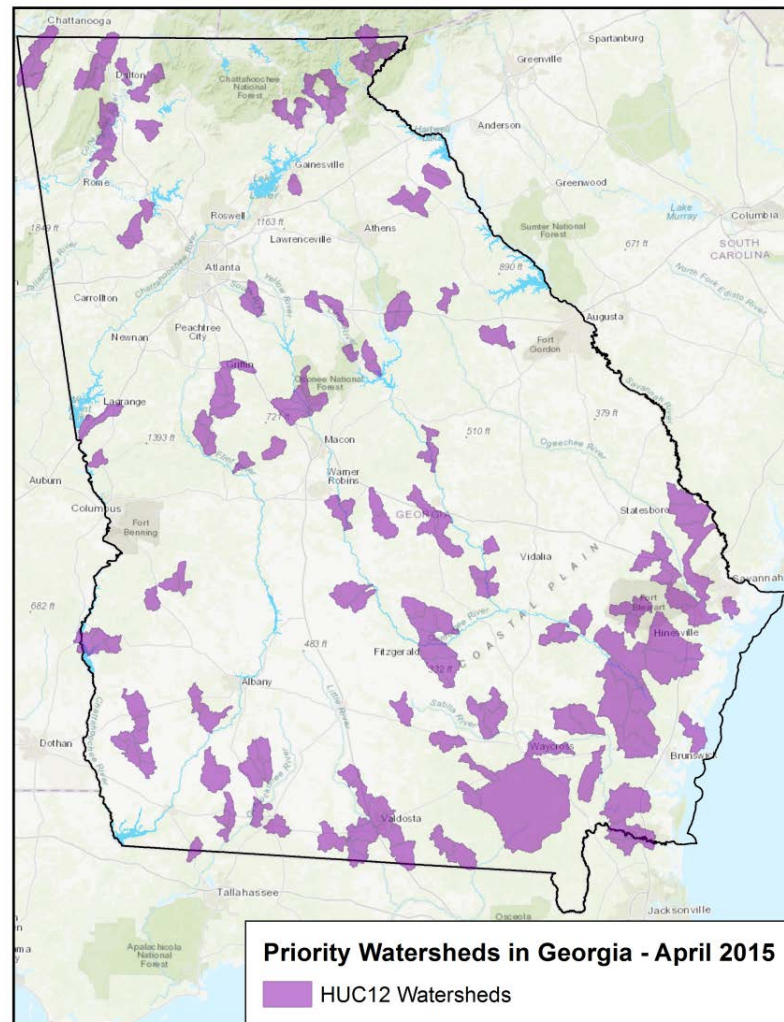
Additional Selection Priorities

- Address finalized Total Maximum Daily Loads
- Demonstrate environmental benefits in addition to nonpoint source impairments
- Commit to 50% or higher Match
- Include structural or non-structural initiatives to prevent/correct adverse hydrological impacts from impervious surfaces



Additional Selection Priorities

- Locate the project in Priority Watersheds
- Qualify as a WaterFirst Community or locate project within jurisdiction of committed partner that qualifies as a WaterFirst Community
- Demonstrate BMPs, enforceable policies, and mechanisms that will result in "Georgia's Coastal Nonpoint Source Management Program" being implemented



Other Competitive Conditions

- Prepare application clearly & concisely where goals, objectives and tasks are plainly stated and can be easily understood
- Show that financial resources support successful administration of current or previous GAEPD Grant-funded projects
- Summarize how staff & technical experts are qualified to perform functions assigned to them



Procuring Subcontractors

- Code of Federal Regulations Section 200.317
- General procurement standards and Georgia Procurement Manual
- If you subcontract out then you must follow the state procurement process or your own competitive process if a single line item in your contract is greater than \$25,000.
- Do not preselect a subcontractor unless the line item is less than \$25,000 or you can provide documentation of a competitive solicitation.
- If a single line item in your contract is under the \$25,000 dollar threshold then that negates the need for a competitive bid process and you can direct award with a contract to that subcontractor. Please contact us for details, if needed.



Supporting Documents

Required to be Considered for Funding:

- Check List of Inclusions, Project Cover Page and Signature on Match Disclaimer
- Completed Project Application, Work Plan & Budget
- Project Schedule (in color)
- Watershed-Based Plan or Summary of Nine Elements to be Implemented
- Files labeled appropriately to identify content
- File labels referenced in List of Inclusions



Supporting Documents

Expected to be Competitive for Funding:

- Letters of Commitment that Quantify Match Values
- DRAFT QA/QC Water Quality Monitoring Plan
- Letter of Assurance: Project Activities Qualify as “Above & Beyond” NPDES Permits
- Studies, TMDLs, TMDL Implementation Plans
- Photos, Figures, Tables (field surveys, water quality data)
- Maps (project area, watersheds, streams, municipalities, roads)

All supporting documents referenced in Application should be included as files.



Project Administration

Quarterly Reports & Invoices

- Quarterly Reports & Deliverables:
 - Submit in Template Format provided by GAEPD
 - Federal & Match Budget Accounting
 - Activities & Tasks Completed, Ongoing & Pending
 - According to Project Schedule
- Quarterly Invoices:
 - Reimbursement Drawdown
 - Match Accrued



Final Close-Out

- Close-Out Report:
 - Title Page
 - Project Summary
 - Descriptions of Outputs
 - Equipment Purchased
 - Projected Budget & Actual Expenses
 - Supporting/Final Deliverables
- Final Invoice:
 - Hold 10% Federal Amount until project closes



Written Review of DRAFT Application

DRAFT Deadline: September 28, 2018

- **What Applicant Submits:**
 - DRAFT Work Plan, Budget & Schedule
 - Supporting Documents, as available
- **What GAEPD Reviews:**
 - Eligibility, Compliance
 - Clarity, Accountability
 - Cost Effectiveness



Contacts & Links

Contacts

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Links



Section 319(h) Application & Guidance Documents

<http://epd.georgia.gov/section-319h-georgias-nonpoint-source-implementation-grant>

Georgia 305(b) / 303(d) List of Waters (2014)

<http://epd.georgia.gov/georgia-305b303d-list-documents>

Georgia Total Maximum Daily Loads

<http://epd.georgia.gov/total-maximum-daily-loadings>

Georgia's Statewide NPS Management Plan

http://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/related_files/site_page/Georgia_Nonpoint_Source_Managment_Plan_2014.pdf