



Section 319(h): Georgia's Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant FY 14 APPLICATION DEADLINE: **OCTOBER 31, 2013**

Under Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) awards a **Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant** to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GAEPD) to fund projects in support of **Georgia's Nonpoint Source Management Program**. Funding is distributed via a competitive process to projects that will lead to direct reductions in pollutant loads and measurable water quality improvements. **The maximum amount of individual Federal awards is \$400,000** over a maximum timeline of 3 years.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Public agencies such as local, regional, or State governments; authorities that operate service or delivery programs (e.g. sewer, water); regional development centers; agricultural conservation councils; and school and university systems qualify for grants. State law prohibits non-governmental organizations from receiving Section 319(h) funds directly; but, these organizations are encouraged to form partnerships with public agencies to develop or implement projects.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING: *To be considered for funding, all projects **must meet both** of the following minimum requirements:*

1. Revise existing watershed-based plans to meet USEPA's Nine Elements for Watershed Planning, and / or implement existing watershed-based plans that already adequately address USEPA's Nine Elements for Watershed Planning; **and**
2. Commit to a minimum 40% non-federal Match that can be accomplished through local funds, in-kind services, or other non-federal sources.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS: Grant proposals must address nonpoint sources of pollution, and can include: TMDL implementation, watershed restoration, technical and financial assistance, building local capacity, certain local enforcement programs not under NPDES permits, water quality monitoring, demonstration projects, groundwater activities, updating nonpoint source pollution initiatives, and lake protection projects.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA APPLIED DURING THE SELECTION PROCESS: All proposals will also be reviewed in the light of additional competitive criteria: Implement appropriate watershed-based plans (USEPA's Nine Elements for Watershed Planning) for waters listed on Georgia's 2012 305(b) / 303(d) List of Waters as (a) Category 1, which support USEPA's *Healthy Watersheds Initiative*, **or** as (b) impaired due to nonpoint source pollution, which will result in measurable (quantitative) water quality improvement or will alleviate the "criterion violated" in order to restore the waters to supporting designated uses; target waters with TMDLs; engage multiple partnerships in the project; leverage ongoing watershed management activities; focus within a single 10-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) or smaller watershed; address specific pollutants (pathogens, dissolved oxygen, sediment, nutrients); demonstrate benefits in addition to water quality improvement; commit to 50% or higher Match; locate project in priority watersheds; correct adverse impacts of increased impervious surfaces; specify BMPs identified in appropriate Regional Water Plans; address management measures, policies, and mechanisms in Georgia's *Coastal Nonpoint Source Management Program*.

TO APPLY:

APPLICANTS **MUST** USE THE CURRENT FY14 APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES FOUND ON GAEPD'S WEBSITE AT:
<http://www.georgiaepd.org/Documents/EPDNonpointSourceGrant.html>

APPLICANTS **MUST** MEET OR CONFERENCE-CALL WITH THE GAEPD GRANTS UNIT STAFF PRIOR TO OCTOBER 15, 2013.

CONTACT:

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to inquire about potential applications, or to schedule a pre-application meeting / conference call.

Section 319(h) Grant Timeline

- July: GAEPD issues the call for proposals
- July-October 15, 2013: GAEPD staff meets with applicants to discuss proposals
- September 30, 2013: Last day to submit DRAFT proposals for GAEPD review
- October 31, 2013: Post mark or delivery deadline for proposals to GAEPD
- Winter 2013-2014: Grant award selection
- Spring 2014: GAEPD notifies applicants of grant award
- Summer 2014: GAEPD and grant recipient finalize contract / project scope of services
- Fall 2014: GAEPD and grant recipient execute contract, and project begins