

Section 319 Grant Program – Nonpoint Source Pollution Control



presented by
Holly Hudson

Fox River Ecosystem Partnership &
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning



Chicago Metropolitan
Agency for Planning

FREP Membership Meeting
May 21, 2014

Today's talk...

- Intro to Section 319 grants
- Administrative aspects
 - eligibility, funding, priorities
- Project types
- Application process
 - timeline, required information, tips

Section 319 grants

- Federal grant program authorized by Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act
- Administered by U.S. EPA and Illinois EPA

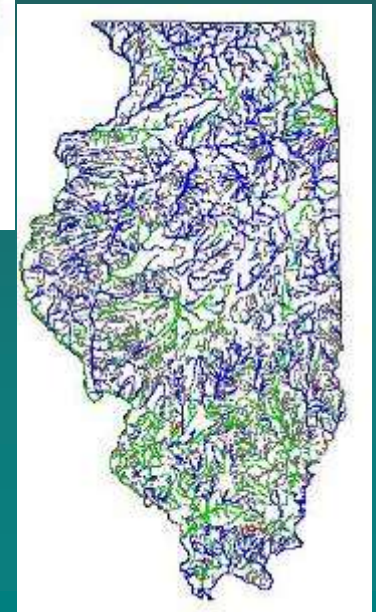


Section 319 grants

- **Purpose:** to work cooperatively with local units of government and other organizations toward our mutual goal of protecting the quality of water in the state of Illinois by controlling nonpoint source (NPS) pollution



1972



2002

Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution



Who is Eligible?

- State and local governmental units
- Public and private for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, institutions, businesses
- Land conservancies or trusts
- Colleges and universities
- Watershed groups (inc.)
- Individuals

Applicant must have legal status to accept funds from the State of Illinois



Funding

- Total project costs: any reasonable amount (typical range \$50K – \$1.2M)
- Cost share program: max. 60% federal / min. 40% local share

Project	Total cost	319 grant	Local share
A	\$150,000	\$90,000 (60%)	\$60,000 (40%)
B	\$900,000	\$450,000 (50%)	\$450,000 (50%)

- Reimbursement basis
- 2-year grant*

Local Match

- Local funds or in-kind services used to complete appr'v'd project tasks
 - In-kind services include labor time, machine time, materials
- Any non-Federal funding source (e.g., Partners for Conservation – IDOA, IDNR, IEPA)
- Recipient, subcontractor, volunteers, project partners



High Priority Watersheds

- 51 basins in Illinois
- Each yr, 8-11 basins priority for planning
- 2 yrs later, same basins priority for implementation

<http://epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/publications/nps-pollution/priority-watersheds.pdf>

Types of Eligible Projects

High Priority:

- Implementation of activities identified in an IEPA-approved watershed-based plan (WBP) or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plan
 - BMP installation
 - NPS WQ modeling
 - Environmental monitoring
 - Social indicator monitoring
 - Outreach activities



IEPA-approved Watershed-based Plans in Illinois

Section 319 Biannual Report:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/reports/biannual-319/index.html>

Click on "March 2014" report link

See lists on pp 12-30:

- Illinois & USEPA Clean Lakes Prog.
Phase 1 Diag/Feas Study Rpts
- Completed WBPs
- Under-development WBPs



Illinois or Federal Clean Lakes Program Phase 1 Diagnostic-Feasibility Study Reports within Fox River Watershed

- Channel Lake & Lake Catherine (Fox Waterway Agency, 2000)
- McCullom Lake (City of McHenry, 1992)
- Crystal Lake (Crystal Lake Park District, 2010)
- Woods Creek Lake (Vlg of Lake in the Hills, 2000)



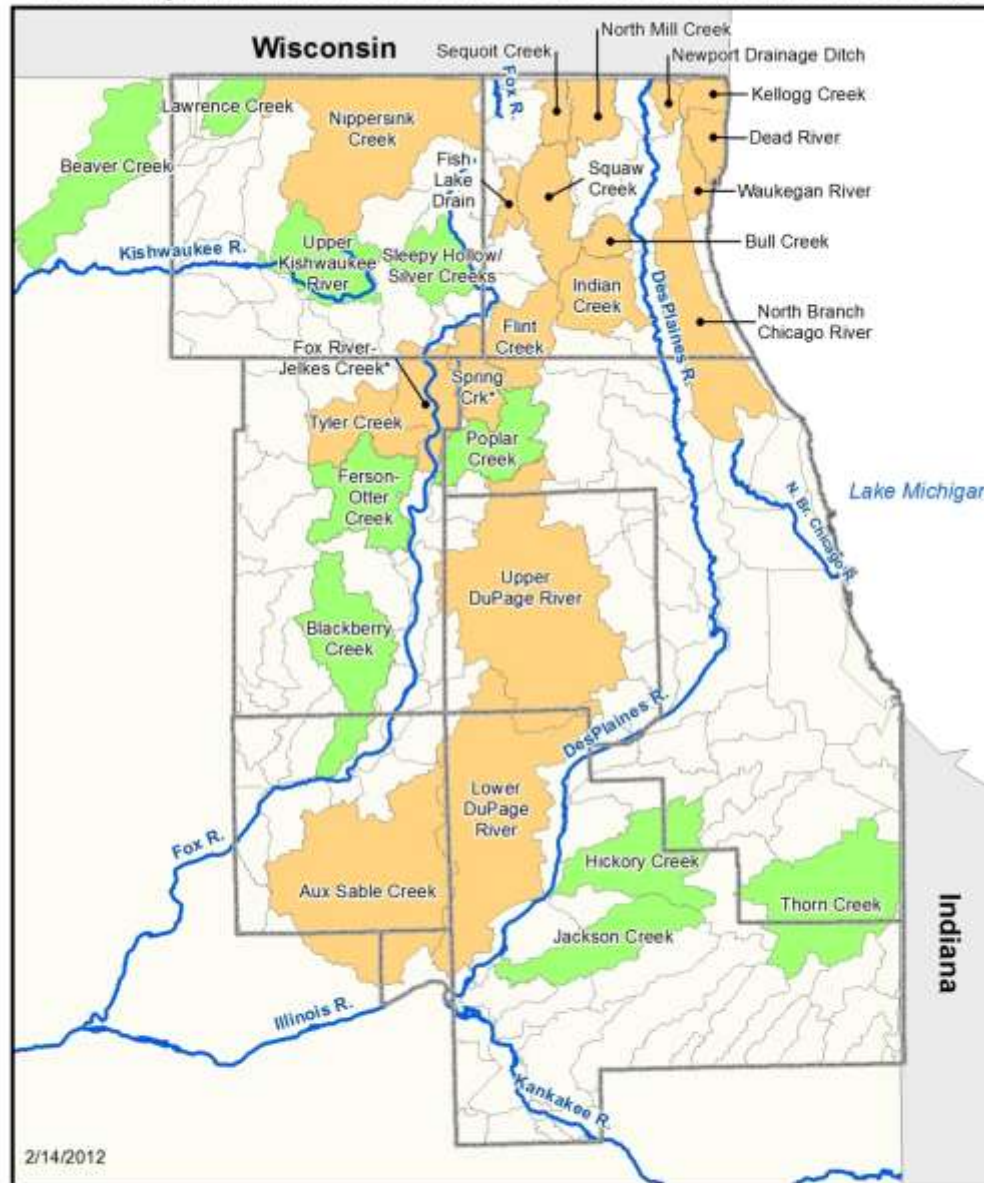
IEPA-approved WBPs within Fox River Watershed

- Nippersink Creek
- Sequoit Creek
- Fish Lake Drain
- Squaw Creek
- Silver & Sleepy Hollow Creeks
- 9 Lakes*
- Flint Creek
- Woods Creek
- Spring Creek
- Fox River-Jelkes Crk
- Tyler Creek
- Poplar Creek
- Ferson-Otter Creek
- Blackberry Creek

*near completion

<http://foxriverecosystem.org/subwatersheds.htm>

EPA Compliant Watershed-based Plans in Northeastern Illinois



2/14/2012

- CMAP Counties
- CMAP-Led Watershed Plans
- Partner-Led Watershed Plans (*in progress - near completion)

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

0 5 10 20 Miles

Types of Eligible Projects *cont.*

High Priority:

Development of a watershed-based plan to address NPS pollution

Guidance for Developing Watershed Action Plans in Illinois (CMAP & IEPA, 2007)

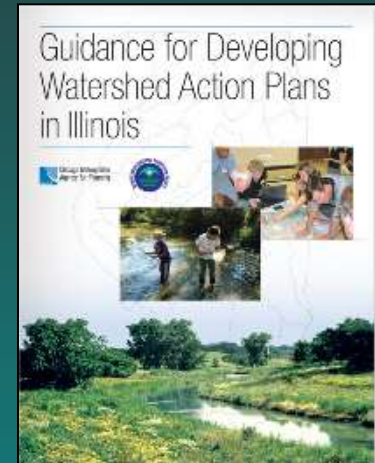
<http://chicagoareaplanning.org/watershed>

Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect our Waters (USEPA, 2005)

http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/watershed_handbook

Watershed Academy Web

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/acad2000/planning/>



9 Minimum Elements of a WBP for Impaired Waters

- Identify causes of impairment and sources of NPS pollutants that need to be controlled to achieve (a) load reductions established in a TMDL, or (b) goals identified in a local watershed plan
- Describe the NPS management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve load reductions, and the critical areas in which those measures will need to be implemented
- Estimate the load reductions expected from management measures

9 Minimum Elements of a WBP (cont.)

- Estimate the amount of technical and financial assistance needed to implement the plan, and which organizations/agencies might have a role in plan implementation and financing
- Include an information and education component to enhance public understanding of the project and encourages public involvement in NPS pollution control
- Include a schedule for implementing the NPS management measures identified in the plan

9 Minimum Elements of a WBP (cont.)

- Include interim, measurable milestones for determining whether NPS management measures are being implemented on schedule
- Provide a set of criteria that can be used to determine whether loading reductions are being achieved over time and if substantial progress is being made toward meeting water quality standards
- Include a monitoring component to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time, measured against the criteria established under the item above

Types of Eligible Projects *cont.*

High Priority:

Development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or TMDL implementation plan to address NPS pollution

TMDL requirements:

http://www.epa.gov/r5water/wsheds/topics_tmdls.htm

Illinois EPA's TMDL program:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/tmdl>

- Upper Fox River/Chain O'Lakes Watershed TMDL Final Stage 1 Report (2010)
- Upper Fox River/Flint Creek Watershed TMDL Final Stage 1 Report (2010)

Types of Eligible Projects *cont.*

Low Priority:

- NPS pollution control projects not identified in or supported by a watershed-based plan or TMDL implementation plan



Ineligible Projects and Activities

- Do not control, prevent, or address NPS pollution
- Required by mitigation, state or federal law, or state or federal permit
- Purchase of equipment
- Routine maintenance or repair of existing on-site systems
- Principally protect infrastructure, control flooding, or protect wildlife habitat
- Don't meet current USEPA guidelines for Section 319(h) grants

Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past

Streams (rural and urban)

- Channel and bank stabilization
- Meandering a channelized stream
- Levee removal or modification
- Reconnecting stream to floodplain
- Instream habitat restoration



Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Wetlands (rural and urban)

- Natural wetland restoration or enhancement
- Natural wetland area protection
- New wetland development



Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Lakes (rural and urban)

- Lakeshore stabilization
- Detention practices (sediment and nutrient)
- Aeration/destratification



Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Riparian Zone (rural and urban)

- Warm season grass planting
- Tree and shrub planting
- Riparian wetland restoration



Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Agricultural

- Nutrient management
- Erosion and sediment control
- Livestock waste management
- Livestock exclusion
- Buffers and filter strips



Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Urban

- Rain gardens and rain barrels
- Permeable and porous pavements
- Green roofs
- Bioswales



Supplemental Guidance on Urban BMPs:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/publications/nps-pollution/urban-bmps-supplemental-guidance.pdf>

Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Monitoring for Environmental and/or Social Indicators



Requires a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP):

<http://www.epa.gov/quality/qapps.htm>

<http://www.epa.gov/quality/qs-docs/r5-final.pdf>

More info on social indicators:

<http://greatlakeswater.uwex.edu/social-indicators>

Types of BMPs and activities funded in the past *cont.*

Education and Outreach Activities

- Training
- Displays
- Workshops

Requires an element that measures their effectiveness



Getting in Step: A Guide for Conducting Watershed Outreach Campaigns

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/files/getnstepguide.pdf>

A Note on Funding

- Only 20% of federal money allocated to Illinois EPA can be awarded to:
 - Implementation of BMPs not supported by a Watershed-based Plan
 - Watershed-based Planning
 - Information/Education
 - Monitoring and Research



Section 319 Biannual Report:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/reports/biannual-319/index.html>

Application Process



319 Application

- Revised 319 application and request for proposals (RFP) as of May 1, 2014
- <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/non-point.html>
 - 319 application is web-based (writable PDF)
 - READ the RFP!
 - READ the Instructions!
- Application deadline is as always: August 1
 - must be at IEPA HQ by close of business (5 PM)



Optional Application Submittals

Supporting Documentation

- Attachment 1
- Project location maps
- Photos
- BMP drawings, designs

1 electronic copy of each if possible, & 1 paper copy if not too bulky/extensive (e.g., do not send copy of WBP or TMDL plan)

IEPA's Application Timeline

- Final applications due at Illinois EPA HQ in Springfield by **August 1**
- Illinois EPA forwards recommendations to USEPA in late fall/early winter
- Illinois EPA announces grant awards following spring
- Financial Assistance Agreements executed



IEPA's Evaluation Criteria

- Environmental results likely to be achieved
- Relationship to local watershed-based plan and/or TMDL plan
- Applicant's prior performance with 319 grants
- Overall effectiveness of project
- Feasibility of completing project in timely manner



IEPA's Evaluation Criteria

- Local commitment and matching funds
- Applicant's capability to administer federal grant funds
- Project evaluation component
- Education/outreach component
- QAPP (if required)



Take Home Messages



- Start **early** (Start **NOW**)!
- **Ask** for help
- **READ** the RFP and Instructions
- Know exactly **what** you want to do; **how** you want to do it; and **reflect** that in the application
- Although IEPA needs lots of information, make application as **succinct** as possible

Help Desk



Dan Lobbes, FREP Water Res. Advisor

ph: (630) 428-4500 x201

e-mail: dlobbes@theconservationfoundation.org

Holly Hudson, FREP Lakes Advisor

ph: (312) 386-8700

e-mail: hudson@cmep.illinois.gov

Illinois EPA – Nonpoint Source Unit

ph: (217) 782-3362; e-mail:

chris.davis@illinois.gov

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/watershed/nonpoint-source.html>

FREP website: <http://www.foxriverecosystem.org>

Add'l Assistance Opportunities

- County SWCDs: IDOA-Partners for Conservation grants, NRCS tech. assist.
- Lake Co. SMC: WMB grants
- IEPA: PLWIP, LEAP, SCALE grants
- IDNR
- USEPA

Add'l Assistance Opportunities

Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) (CMAP)

- local governments, nonprofits, and intergovernmental organizations
- address local issues at the intersection of transportation, land use, and housing, including the natural environment, economic growth, and community development
- Next call for projects – now
- Informational session @ CMAP – June 3, 9 a.m.
- Proposals due – June 26, noon
- <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/ltap/call-for-projects>

