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USDA Partners to Improve Rural Water Infrastructure

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing in infrastructure projects to **upgrade water and wastewater systems** in rural communities. Applications are currently being accepted for the USDA Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program.

This program provides funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas. Areas that may be served include rural areas and towns with populations of 10,000 or less, and tribal lands in rural areas.

Funds may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of:

- Drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and distribution
- Sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal
- Solid waste collection, disposal and closure
- Storm water collection, transmission and disposal

In some cases, funding may also be available for related activities such as:

- Legal and engineering fees
- Land acquisition, water and land rights, permits and equipment
- Start-up operations and maintenance
- Interest incurred during construction
- Purchase of facilities to improve service or prevent loss of service
- Other costs determined to be necessary for completion of the project

Congress provided a historic level of funding for water and wastewater infrastructure in FY 2018. The 2018 Omnibus spending bill includes \$5.2 billion for USDA loans and grants, up from \$1.2 billion in FY 2017. It also directs Agriculture Secretary Perdue to make investments in rural communities with the greatest infrastructure needs.

Rural community leaders can apply for these funds electronically by using the interactive RD Apply tool, at www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program. You can also apply through USDA Rural Development's Wisconsin office, www.rd.usda.gov/wi.

Funding Available to Plant Trees!

2019 WI RPCs & DNR Great Lakes Basin Tree Planting Grant Program

The Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission is excited to announce available funding under the 2019 WI RPCs & DNR Tree Planting Grant Program. This program is a partnership with the Wisconsin DNR, East Central Wisconsin RPC, Northwest Wisconsin RPC, and Southeastern Wisconsin RPC. The funding opportunity is aimed at helping communities, counties, and tribes plant trees to mitigate Emerald Ash Borer impacts and reduce runoff.

The funding is available to all Wisconsin jurisdictions within the Great Lakes Basin. Approximately \$120,000 will be available in this 2019 grant round to fund projects ranging in cost from \$1,000 to \$20,000. All communities within the Wisconsin Great Lakes Basin are eligible, but this program will particularly be targeting projects in communities:

- within watersheds with surface water quality concerns;
- on tribal lands;
- within communities that are members of a regional planning commission;
- within areas of concern (AOCs) for beneficial use impairments; and
- within Tree City USA communities.

Applications are due on September 10, 2018 by 4:00 PM. For additional information, and to apply, visit www.baylakerpc.org/tree-grants.

Small Community Forums

These annual regional forums are designed to bring together people involved and interested in promoting, enhancing and preserving Wisconsin's small communities. All forums will take place from 12 noon to 4:30 PM.

- August 24 – Egg Harbor
- August 22 – New Glarus
- September 6 – Pepin
- September 19 – Hurley

For more information, see the Wisconsin Rural Partners website at www.wiruralpartners.org/community-forums.

Version 4 Statewide Parcel Map Release!

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) and State Cartographer's Office are pleased to announce the release of the Version 4 (V4) Statewide Parcel Map Database, the fourth iteration of Wisconsin's statewide digital parcel map.

Visit www.sco.wisc.edu/parcels/data for statewide downloads (as file geodatabase), individual county downloads, schema documentation, and more.

The V4 Project is part of a larger Statewide Digital Parcel Map Initiative, a multi-year, DOA initiative that resulted from Act 20, the state's 2013-15 biennial budget. There is also an online web app to provide public access to the parcel database.

For questions, please contact peter.herreid@wisconsin.gov.

League of Wisconsin Municipalities 2018 Chief Executives Workshop

August 16-17, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells

Registration is open for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities **2018 Chief Executives Workshop**, which will take place on August 16-17 in the Dells. Register by August 8, 2018!

Thursday, August 16

- 8:30 AM **Registration, coffee & rolls**
- 9:00 AM **Working Well with your Neighbors to Promote a Region**
Mayor Tim Hanna, Appleton
Village Administrator Jesse Thyges, Grafton
- 10:00 AM **Preventing Sexual Harassment in the #MeToo Era**
Leading Cultural Change to Strengthen Your Organization
Attorney Jill Pedigo Hall, von Briesen & Roper
- 10:45 AM Break
- 11:00 AM **How Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Can Assist Development in Your Municipality**
Attorney Jennifer Hagner Campbell, Senior Legal Counsel
Mary Gage, Senior Economic Development Director, WEDC
- 12:00 noon **Networking Lunch**
- 1:15 PM **Municipal Division of Authority: Who Controls What?**
Claire Silverman, Legal Counsel, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Mayor Shawn Reilly, Waukesha
Attorney Matt Dregne, Stafford Rosenbaum, LLP
- 2:15 PM **Alternative Methods of Financing New Municipal Facilities**
Mayor Mike Palm, Baraboo
Pat Cannon, CDA Executive Director, Baraboo
City Manager Karen Kurt, Platteville
- 3:15 PM Break
- 3:30 PM **Small Communities Idea Jam**
Discussion Leader: Village President George Peterson, Rothschild
- Large Communities Idea Jam**
Discussion Leader: Mayor Tim Hanna, Appleton
- 5:30 PM **Evening Reception**

Friday, August 17

- 7:45 AM **Leadership Breakfast: Engaging Youth**
- 9:00 AM **Cool Cities = Hot Economies: How Wisconsin Municipalities Lead the Way**
Keynote Speaker: Tom Still, Wisconsin Technology Council
- 10:00 AM **Break**
- 10:15 AM **Goals & Prediction for the Next Legislative Session**
Senator Rob Cowles (R-Green Bay) (invited)
Senator Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse)
Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville)
- 11:15 AM **Legislative Update and Your Role in Advancing the Municipal Agenda**
Executive Director Jerry Deschane, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Deputy Director Curt Witynski, League of Wisconsin Municipalities
- 12:00 PM **Adjourn**

For more information, visit www.lwm-info.org/753/Chief-Executives-Workshop. For reservations, call Chula Vista Resort directly at (866) 991-7986 and use Booking ID F74422 for the discounted rate.

2019-20 Coastal Management Program Grants Available

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) is seeking proposals to enhance, preserve, protect, and restore resources within the state's coastal zone—all counties adjacent to Lakes Superior and Michigan, with their nearly 1000 miles of shoreline. The WCMP anticipates awarding up to \$1.5 million in grant funding.

WCMP Grants are available for coastal wetland protection and habitat restoration, nonpoint source pollution control, coastal resource and community planning, Great Lakes education, public access, and historic preservation.

Applications are due **November 2, 2018**.

Applicants are encouraged to contact WCMP staff early to discuss ideas for project proposals and application requirements.

When developing proposals, please pay close attention to the following items:

- Application materials and the Request for Proposals are available on the WCMP website (<http://coastal.wisconsin.gov>).
- There is a cost-share requirement for all projects. Matching funds must be from non-federal sources, and may be in the form of in-kind contributions.
- For habitat restoration and construction projects, be sure to include copies of all required permits or permit applications and title documentation with the application materials.
- For all projects, be sure to include copies of required documentation and letters of support.

There are three informational workshops scheduled to discuss the grant application process and funding priorities. The meeting dates and locations are as follows:

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program Grant Workshops

Milwaukee Tuesday, August 21, 2018
1:30 PM
Port Milwaukee
2323 S. Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee

Green Bay Thursday, August 23, 2018
1:30 PM
Neville Public Museum
210 Museum Place, Green Bay

Ashland Tuesday, September 4, 2018
1:30 PM
Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
29270 County Highway G, Ashland

We look forward to seeing you at one of these workshops. If you have any questions, please call WCMP at (608) 267-7982.

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Please direct general questions or comments to Dawn Vick, Administrator, DOA Division of Intergovernmental Relations, (608) 266-7043 or dawn.vick@wisconsin.gov.