

Next Steps for Wastewater Applicants of the Clean Water Fund Program

Refer to the [CWFP SFY 2026 Project Priority List \(PPL\)](#) to find your project's priority (PERF) score and priority ranking. Direct any questions about the application process to the [CWFP coordinator](#).

Deadline

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026 funding, you must submit your CWFP Financial Assistance Application with all [required documentation](#) through the [online system](#):

- ☐ If competing for [principal forgiveness \(PF\)](#), applicants must submit the complete CWFP application by **Sept. 30, 2025**.
- ☐ If not competing for PF during SFY 2026, it is recommended that applicants submit an application by the Sept. 30, 2025, deadline due to potential limitations on loan capacity. Visit our webpage on [Loan Capacity](#) for more information.

Plan reviews by DNR Bureau of Water Quality

Facilities Plans

An *approved* facilities plan is a requirement of the application. Any project seeking CWFP funds must be submitted to DNR for plan review and approval, regardless of a "reviewable" or "maintenance" project classification. For example, an abbreviated form of a facilities plan, or engineering report, is required even for sanitary sewer replacement or rehabilitation projects, if seeking CWFP funding. The facility plan report covers certain federal requirements such as the cost-effectiveness analysis and the environmental analysis.

Requirements for submitting a facilities plan are explained on the [Municipal Wastewater Facility Planning](#) webpage.

- ☐ Submit required copies of the facilities plan to the Bureau of Water Quality for approval. **Provide enough lead time** (preferably six months) *before* the Sept. 30 application deadline for the DNR to complete the facilities plan review.
- ☐ Include a [parallel cost estimate](#) and an [environmental assessment](#).

Plans and Specifications Submittal: Follow requirements as explained in DNR's [Wastewater Plan Submittals by Project Type](#).

- ☐ Submit approvable plans and specifications to the DNR by the application submittal deadline. Submit plans and specs to the Bureau of Water Quality (postmarked by the application deadline) *and* upload electronic copies of plans and specs with the CWFP application.

Accomplish in the near future:

- ☐ Pass a [Reimbursement Resolution](#).
- ☐ Prepare an [equipment replacement fund](#) schedule.

Federal requirements

Applicants must comply with:

- ☐ [Cost and Effectiveness Certification](#) – required for all projects at the time of application submittal.
- ☐ [Davis-Bacon and Related Acts \(DBRA\)](#)
- ☐ [Disadvantaged Business Enterprises \(DBEs\)](#)
- ☐ [Environmental Review](#) – as part of facility planning.
- ☐ [American Iron and Steel](#)
- ☐ [Build America, Buy America \(BABA\)](#) – required only for projects designated as [federal equivalency](#).

If you have any questions about the application process, contact Lisa Bushby, Clean Water Fund Program coordinator, at Lisa.Bushby@Wisconsin.gov or 608-358-3330.

