



**Department of the Environment**

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# **Integrated Project Priority System for Water Quality Capital Projects (Point and Nonpoint Sources)**

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# Introduction - Project Priority Systems

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- Used to score/rank projects submitted to MWQFA for funding from State Revolving Fund and State grant programs
  - Water Quality (WQ) Integrated Project Priority System (IPPS)
  - Drinking Water Project Priority System
- Annual solicitation (December – January)
- Solicitation is announced via email to >600 contacts and on MWQFA web page





## Introduction (con't)

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- All projects submitted are scored and ranked; however...
- Projects must meet threshold requirements to be considered for funding
  - Consistent with MDE-approved County Water & Sewer Plan
  - Consistent with Priority Funding Area law (or granted exception by Smart Growth Coordinating Committee)
- Projects funded in ranked order
- Priority systems do not determine amount of funding or additional subsidies





# Water Quality IPPS

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- Projects scored according to primary benefit:
  - Environmental water quality (nutrient reduction) OR
  - Public health (e.g., CSOs, connection of failing septics)
- Priority given to:
  - Confirmed public health risk/Bay water quality improvement
  - Addressing compliance issues (orders/permits)
  - Cost-efficiency
  - Sustainability
- Maximum possible points = 100
- Approved by U.S. EPA in November 2010; revisions approved in January 2015





# Environmental Water Quality Benefit

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- Projects for nutrient reduction and/or other water quality problems:
  - WWTP upgrades
  - Stormwater best management practices
- Score based on
  - Nutrient load reduction
  - Relative effectiveness of the reduction on the Chesapeake Bay
  - Compliance status
  - Cost-effectiveness of project
  - Sustainability





# Environmental WQ Benefit (cont)

## A. NUTRIENT LOAD REDUCTION (use higher of TN or TP score; max = 35 pts)

**TN Reduction: \_\_ lbs/yr**

High (> 200,000 lbs/yr)	15
Medium (>10,000 & ≤ 200,000 lbs/yr)	10
Low (> 0 & ≤ 10,000 lbs/yr)	5

**TN Relative Effectiveness (RE): \_\_\_\_\_**

Most Effective (> 7.5)	20
More Effective (>5.5 & ≤ 7.5)	15
Moderately Effective (>3.5 & ≤ 5.5)	10
Less Effective (> 1.5 & ≤ 3.5)	5
Least Effective (≤1.5)	0

**OR TP Reduction: \_\_ lbs/yr**

High (> 65,000 lbs/yr)	15
Medium (>3,500 & ≤ 65,000 lbs/yr)	10
Low (> 0 & ≤ 3,500 lbs/yr)	5

**OR TP RE: \_\_\_\_\_**

Most Effective (> 7.5)	20
More Effective (>5.5 & ≤ 7.5)	15
Moderately Effective (>3.5 & ≤ 5.5)	10
Less Effective (> 1.5 & ≤ 3.5)	5
Least Effective (≤1.5)	0

## B. WATER QUALITY COMPLIANCE STATUS (max = 30 pts)

Proposed project is required to comply with a final administrative or judicial order	30
Proposed project is required due to a MS-4 Permit	20
Proposed project is required due to new limits in discharge permit	10





# Public Health Benefit

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- Projects address public health problems, including:
  - Combined Sewer Overflow/Sanitary Sewer Overflow projects
  - Inflow/Infiltration projects
  - Sewer extensions to homes on failing septic systems
- Score based on
  - Severity of danger to public health
  - Compliance status
  - Cost-effectiveness of project
  - Sustainability





# Public Health Benefit (cont)

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## A. PUBLIC HEALTH (max = 35 pts)

Proposed project mitigates public health emergency or confirmed, repeated contamination of drinking source water supply by E. coli, fecal coliform or nitrate above drinking water MCL 35

Proposed project mitigates confirmed, repeated contamination of surface water, groundwater or drinking source water supply (other than above) 25

Proposed project mitigates other public health concerns with limited risk/exposure (other than above) 15

## B. COMPLIANCE STATUS (max = 30 pts)

Proposed project is required to comply with a final administrative or judicial order 30







# Cost-Effectiveness

**SCORE ONLY ONE EFFICIENCY (max = 10 pts)**

***Annualized Capital Cost/lbs per yr TN/ TP Reduction***

OR

***Capital Cost \$/Household***

BNR/ENR: \_\_\_\_\_ TN or TP

Non BNR/ENR Wastewater: \_\_\_\_\_

High: >\$12 (TN) or >\$700 (TP) 0

High: >\$35,000 0

Medium: >\$6 & ≤ \$12 (TN); >\$350 & ≤ \$700 (TP) 5

Medium: >\$15,000 & ≤ \$35,000 5

Low: ≤ \$6 (TN) or ≤ \$350 (TP) 10

Low: ≤ \$15,000 10

OR

***Capital Cost \$/Acre of Drainage Area***

OR

***Capital Cost \$/LF of Stream Restoration***

Stormwater BMP: \_\_\_\_\_

Stream Restoration: \_\_\_\_\_

High: >\$40,000 0

High: >\$1,000 0

Medium: >\$25,000 & ≤ \$40,000 5

Medium: >\$500 & ≤ \$1,000 5

Low: ≤ \$25,000 10

Low: ≤ \$500 10





# Sustainability

## SCORE ALL APPLICABLE (max = 25 pts)

Project Benefits Existing Sustainable Community Needs (Fix-It-First)	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Project results in &lt; 20% EDU growth or &lt; 20 % design capacity increase</li><li>– Project results in &gt; 20% EDU growth or &gt; 20% design capacity increase, as justified by<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proximity to a transit station</li><li>• Base Realignment and Closure</li><li>• Brownfield revitalization area</li><li>• Dept of Housing and Community Development “Sustainable Community” designation</li></ul></li></ul>	
Project implements recycling or reuse (stormwater, bio-solids, treated effluent, digester gases, etc.)	3
Owner has Asset Management and/or Environmental Management System	3
Owner has Full Cost Pricing sewer user charge or a Dedicated Fee system for Non-Sewerage projects	3
Multiple Partner Financing Project (DOT, HUD/CDBG, USDA/RD, EPA/SAP etc.)	3
Project is located in a designated Maryland Environmental Benefits District	3
Project includes green elements (LEED, WaterSense, EPA Score Card.) or 20% energy/H2O reduction	3





# FY17 Solicitation Outcomes

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- Seventy-seven applications for water quality projects
- Of the top 25 projects:
  - Major sewer rehab (inc. SSOs) = 11
  - WWTP upgrades = 6
  - CSO correction = 3
  - Stormwater BMPs = 3
  - New collector sewer = 1
  - Inflow/infiltration correction = 1
  - All were to comply with an order or permit





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# **Maryland Department of the Environment**

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