



Maryland

Department of
the Environment

Bay Restoration Fund

Septic System Upgrade Program (SSUP)

I. What is the purpose of the Bay Restoration Fund Septic System Upgrade Program?

The Maryland Department of the Environment's Bay Restoration Fund Septic System Upgrade Program (BRF SSUP) is a statewide grant program funded by Maryland's Bay Restoration fee. A percentage of this fee is allocated annually for projects intended to decrease nitrogen runoff, which help protect and improve the water quality of Maryland's bays.

II. How should projects be prioritized?

Local grant administrators can use the following link to determine where a project address may fall on the priority map in relation to the critical area, floodplain and Chesapeake Bay 8-digit watershed. [Mapping Tool](#)

Projects should be prioritized based on BAT system functionality and the criteria listed below. Each local grant administrator is responsible for assessing project priority based on the criteria, implemented into law through [Senate Bill 117](#) and beginning on July 1st, 2026.

1. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems and holding tanks in the Chesapeake and the Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area
2. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems that are located within the Maryland Chesapeake Bay 8-digit watershed that has a relative effectiveness for total nitrogen reduction of 9.24 or higher based on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed model
3. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems located within the 500-year floodplain
4. Failing onsite sewage disposal systems that the Maryland Department of the Environment determines are a threat to public health or water quality

Definitions:

Chesapeake Atlantic and Coastal Bays Critical Area: The Critical Area includes all land within 1,000 feet of Maryland's tidal waters and tidal wetlands. It also includes the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, the Atlantic Coastal Bays, their tidal tributaries, and the lands underneath these tidal areas. ([MD Department of Natural Resources](#))

Maryland Chesapeake Bay 8-digit Watershed: Maryland's 8-digit watersheds are state-specific delineations based on Strahler third-order stream drainage and USGS topographic contour data. These watersheds are similar to federal HUC11 watershed delineations but

are restricted to a maximum size of 15,000 acres. The 8-digit scale is the primary management scale for watersheds within Maryland.

Relative Effectiveness (RE) for Total Nitrogen: Relative Effectiveness quantifies the relative impact of one pound of pollution on Bay water quality. Specifically, it is the absolute increase in Dissolved Oxygen (DO) per pound of Nitrogen reduced.

500-Year Floodplain: A flood is a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas. (FEMA.gov) This is the boundary of the flood that has a 0.2-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

III. What projects may be eligible for funding?

1. Best Available Technology (BAT) septic system upgrades
2. Public sewer connections
3. Holding tanks
4. Drainfields (low-and moderate-income levels)

IV. Who is eligible for funding?

Maryland residents, non-profits, and business owners paying into the Bay Restoration Fund may be eligible for funding through the BRF SSUP program.

Income should be verified using the property owner’s most recently filed tax return/1040 (total income amount should be used.) Each local grant administrator is responsible for assessing property owner’s grant eligibility based on the following criteria:

Entity	Funding Eligibility
Homeowners with yearly household income less than or equal to \$300,000	100%
Non-Profit Organizations**	100%
Small Businesses *	75%
Homeowners with yearly household income above \$300,000	50%
Businesses	50%

*** Small businesses must be a certified small business registered with eMMA through the Small Business Reserve.**

**** Non-profits must provide proof of 501C3 status with either a letter of determination or Tax-Exempt Organization Search Record which can be retrieved from <https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>**

Income verification regarding multiple owner dwellings and trusts:

1. If a property applying for funding is owned by more than one individual, the tax information for all individuals listed on the deed to the property must be obtained for income verification purposes.
2. If a property is owned by a married person who files a joint income tax return, the income of both spouses must be considered whether or not the spouse is listed on the deed to the property.
3. Properties held in trusts must submit all tax information for beneficiaries; they will otherwise receive a 50% funding rate.
4. Any individual, trust, or property owner not wishing to share their income will be limited to a 50% funding rate.

Drainfield Installation Funding Eligibility Process

In accordance with Senate Bill 117, starting on July 1st, 2026 funding for drainfield installations will include both **low-AND moderate-income property owners**. Local grant administrators can refer to the table in Appendix A to determine whether a drainfield grant recipient in their area qualifies as low-or moderate-income. Low-income recipients may qualify for up to 100% funding and moderate-income recipients up to \$5,000 of eligible project costs.

Low-income property owners are eligible to receive reimbursement of up to \$1,500 of expenses incurred for the design of a drainfield system, provided that appropriate documentation is available to the local grant administrators in the form of itemized invoices from the designer. Reimbursement of design expenses will only be paid following permitted and completed installation of the BAT and drainfield and shall be included on the disbursement request to the Department from the local grant administrators.

See Appendix A for low-and moderate-income criteria.

V. What projects qualify for BRF funding?

A) **Best Available Technology (BAT) - Septic Systems**

1. **Upgrade to a BAT system:** Conversion from an existing onsite sewage disposal system to BAT for nitrogen removal. Many different systems and sizes can be eligible for funding; for more information about classes of BAT systems and rankings, please visit <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Water/BayRestorationFund/OnsiteDisposalSystems/Pages/index.aspx>
2. The cost differential between a conventional onsite sewage disposal system and one that utilizes BAT for nitrogen removal for new construction. For cost differential purposes on new construction, use a statewide average cost of \$1,200 as the cost of a traditional septic tank. Maximum BRF grant = (BAT Cost x % eligibility) - \$1,200
3. **Multi-unit replacement in a community:** The cost of replacing multiple onsite sewage disposal systems in the same community with a new system that is owned by a local government and meets Enhanced Nutrient Removal Standards.

<p>Administrative Requirements: All counties should provide potential recipients with preapproved BAT pricing and rankings (provided by the Department); recipients can select any field verified BAT system for their property in their respective county.</p>
--

<p>REQUIRES PRE-APPROVAL FROM MDE: No</p>
--

B) **Public Sewer Connections**

1. **Connecting property to existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP):** The cost of a sewer connection for a home with a failing septic system as defined in State Law to an existing municipal biological or Enhanced Nutrient Removal WWTP. This project requires 3 bids from separate contractors; the lowest bid should be selected. In the event the contractor selected is not the lowest bidder, MDE will only reimburse the lowest bid amount and the property owner is responsible for the difference.
2. **If an address is determined by MDE to be outside of the Priority Funding Area:** Additional paperwork, a public comment period, and approval from the Sustainable Growth Committee will be required.

Administrative Requirements: See Appendix B for items that should be listed on public sewer connection bids. Public sewer connections require three Contractor Bids, email pre-approval from MDE, and Sewer Connection Survey (Appendix C). If property is outside the PFA more documentation will be requested.
Funding: MDE may approve up to \$25,000 of eligible costs for sewer connections.
REQUIRES PRE-APPROVAL FROM MDE: Yes
Submit pre-approval documentation to Leslie Mitchell -MDE-

c) Holding Tanks

This project requires 3 bids from separate contractors; the lowest bid should be selected. In the event the contractor selected is not the lowest bidder, MDE will only reimburse the lowest bid amount and the property owner is responsible for the difference.

Administrative Requirements: See Appendix B for items that should be listed on holding tank bids. Holding tanks require three Contractor Bids & email pre-approval from MDE.
Funding: MDE may approve up to \$20,000 of eligible costs for holding tanks.
REQUIRES PRE-APPROVAL FROM MDE: Yes
Submit pre-approval documentation to Travis Sterner -MDE-

d) Drainfields – Available for low-and moderate-income households only

If funds are available after allocating funds for BAT upgrades to all applicants irrespective of income, grant funds may be provided for the repair or replacement of drainfields for low-and moderate-income household applicants with a failing onsite sewage disposal system. This option is not available for businesses or non-profits. To see who qualifies please refer to page four of this document under Drainfield Funding Eligibility Process. For Class IV Drainfields, contact MDE.

This project requires 3 bids from separate contractors; the lowest bid should be selected. In the event the contractor selected is not the lowest bidder, MDE will only reimburse the lowest bid amount and the property owner is responsible for the difference.

Administrative Requirements: See Appendix B for items that should be listed on Drainfield bids. Drainfields require three Contractor bids. The lowest bid amount should be awarded to the property owner.
Funding: MDE may approve 100% funding for low-income and up to \$5,000 for moderate income of eligible costs for drainfields.
REQUIRES PREAPPROVAL FROM MDE: No

VI. BAT Selection, Procurement and Price

The county or their coordinating administrative partner will facilitate the grant process between themselves and the property owner for the installation of the selected BAT for a grant eligible fixed unit price. The grant process should include documentation to the county of an agreement between the property owner and the contractor for services to be performed, acceptance of the award, and payment coordination. For BAT Upgrades, the BRF grant funds can only be used towards field-verified BAT technologies approved by MDE. For Class IV System BRF grant funding eligibility and approvals, please contact MDE. For other projects outside of BAT Upgrades, three bids should be sought from contractors/vendors, and the grant eligibility will be limited to the lowest price (or maximum funding cap as designated for each project type.)

In cases where a “composite” tank in lieu of a concrete tank, or a larger tank is necessary, the county must provide supporting documentation and justification with their payment request to MDE.

BRF grant payments are to be made directly to contractors/vendors and not to homeowners, businesses/applicants.

Change orders or requests for additional funds will only be considered under extenuating circumstances, such as unforeseen site conditions or other factors that could not have been reasonably anticipated at the time of award. No requests for additional funds will be considered based on an increase in supply costs. Any contractor or vendor encountering such conditions must promptly notify the local grant administrators and property owners

for review prior to performing any work outside of the scope of the original bid. Local grant administrators shall contact MDE for preapproval. If MDE determines circumstances do not meet the criteria for consideration, the contractor may choose to proceed with the project as awarded or decline to continue. In the event a contractor elects not to proceed, the project must be competitively rebid in accordance with the criteria outlined in Appendix B, and no payment shall be made to the originally awarded contractor.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

Regarding O&M, a low-income property owner is eligible for a 50% grant to cover the annual O&M cost, beyond the initial O&M period as provided for at time of BAT installation. These can be approved under the guidelines below:

1. Verify homeowners are low-income eligible.
2. Verify the initial BAT/O&M grant period has expired
3. Review the O&M contract for the amount and term being offered by the O&M provider to the homeowner. If the county does not have access to the contract one must be provided by either the homeowner or O&M provider if the homeowner is seeking reimbursement for an O&M payment. **The contract can be for a term of up to five years.**
4. Allocate 50% of O&M cost as grant for payment to O&M provider from your existing FY grant award. The county should use the current fiscal year pricing; a reasonable increase of up to 25% is permitted. Please contact MDE to discuss any increases above this threshold.
5. After proof of payment by the homeowner to O&M provider for their 50% share is provided, payment can be made to the O&M provider.
6. Homeowner may select one of the certified O&M providers which can be found here:

http://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/bayrestorationfund/onsitedisposalsystems/documents/service_provider_companies.pdf

VIII. Projects requiring funds in excess of \$100,000

The county must follow formal bidding procedures if the contract is to exceed \$100,000. A request for bids must be advertised in publications having appropriate widespread circulation. The lowest, responsive, responsible bid should be selected to complete the work. A copy of this procurement should be provided to MDE once all bids have been received.

**MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME QUALIFICATION TABLE
UPDATED APRIL 2026 FOR BRF SEPTICS PROGRAM**

COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY	MHic ¹	Qualified MHic ¹	Qualified for Drainfield Credit up to \$5,000 where MHic is between 50 - 80% of Maryland MHic	Qualified for 100% Drainfield Credit where MHic is < 50% of Maryland MHic ¹
Allegany County	\$51,090	✓	✓	
Barton town	\$60,250	✓	✓	
Cumberland city	\$43,699	✓		✓
Frostburg city	\$44,327	✓		✓
Lonaconing town	\$46,125	✓	✓	
Luke town	\$40,750	✓		✓
Midland town	\$48,750	✓	✓	
Westport town	\$46,288	✓	✓	
Anne Arundel	\$108,048			
Annapolis city	\$92,026			
Highland Beach town	\$125,000			
Baltimore City	\$54,124	✓	✓	
Baltimore County	\$81,846			
Calvert County	\$120,295			
Chesapeake Beach town	\$120,194			
North Beach Town	\$71,932	✓	✓	
Caroline County	\$63,027	✓	✓	
Denton town	\$52,876	✓	✓	
Federsburg town	\$31,532	✓		✓
Goldsboro town	\$47,917	✓	✓	
Greensboro town	\$41,667	✓		✓
Henderson town	\$85,114			
Hillsboro town	\$62,917	✓	✓	
Marydel town	\$35,938	✓		✓
Preston town	\$63,750	✓	✓	
Ridgely town	\$60,000	✓	✓	
Templeville town	No data			
Carroll County	\$104,708			
Hampstead town	\$80,385			
Manchester town	\$97,000			
Mount Airy town	\$136,250			
New Windsor town	\$99,022			
Sykesville town	\$120,083			
Taneytown city	\$75,167			
Union Bridge town	\$60,250	✓	✓	
Westminster city	\$65,816	✓	✓	
Cecil County	\$81,817			
Cecilton town	\$86,563			
Charlestown town	\$82,188			
Chesapeake City town	\$58,958	✓	✓	

**MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME QUALIFICATION TABLE
UPDATED APRIL 2026 FOR BRF SEPTICS PROGRAM**

COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY	MHic ¹	Qualified MHic ¹	Qualified for Drainfield Credit up to \$5,000 where MHic is between 50 - 80% of Maryland MHic	Qualified for 100% Drainfield Credit where MHic is < 50% of Maryland MHic ¹
Elkton town	\$57,682	✓	✓	
North East town	\$76,250			
Perryville town	\$75,491			
Port Deposit town	\$50,833	✓	✓	
Rising Sun town	\$75,735			
Charles County	\$107,808			
Indian Head town	\$73,204			
La Plata town	\$108,043			
Port Tobacco Village town	No data			
Dorchester County	\$55,652	✓	✓	
Brookview town	\$65,833	✓	✓	
Cambridge city	\$40,094	✓		✓
Church Creek town	\$40,417	✓		✓
East New Market town	\$56,250	✓	✓	
Eldorado town	\$45,000	✓		✓
Galestown town	\$36,563	✓		✓
Hurlock town	\$62,292	✓	✓	
Secretary town	\$70,288	✓	✓	
Vienna town	\$77,813			
Frederick County	\$106,129			
Brunswick city	\$96,659			
Burkittsville town	\$64,375	✓	✓	
Emmitsburg town	\$71,583	✓	✓	
Frederick city	\$82,563			
Middletown town	\$141,793			
Myersville town	\$130,833			
New Market town	\$175,982			
Rosemont village	\$102,500			
Thurmont town	\$82,098			
Walkersville town	\$114,340			
Woodsboro town	\$123,333			
Garrett County	\$58,011	✓	✓	
Accident town	\$57,500	✓	✓	
Deer Park town	\$42,589	✓		✓
Friendsville town	\$39,083	✓		✓
Grantsville town	\$35,417	✓		✓
Kitzmiller town	\$43,300	✓		✓
Loch Lynn Heights town	\$52,500	✓	✓	
Mountain Lake Park town	\$51,438	✓	✓	
Oakland town	\$59,250	✓	✓	
Harford County	\$98,495			
Aberdeen city	\$70,885	✓	✓	
Bel Air town	\$64,036	✓	✓	

**MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME QUALIFICATION TABLE
UPDATED APRIL 2026 FOR BRF SEPTICS PROGRAM**

COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY	MHic ¹	Qualified MHic ¹	Qualified for Drainfield Credit up to \$5,000 where MHic is between 50 - 80% of Maryland MHic	Qualified for 100% Drainfield Credit where MHic is < 50% of Maryland MHic ¹
Havre de Grace city	\$86,576			
Howard County	\$129,549			
Kent County	\$64,451	✓	✓	
Betterton town	\$73,750			
Chestertown town	\$44,665	✓		✓
Galena town	\$76,250			
Millington town	\$50,938	✓	✓	
Rock Hall town	\$50,714	✓	✓	
Montgomery County	\$117,345			
Barnesville town	no data			
Brookeville town	\$173,750			
Chevy Chase town	\$250,000+			
Chevy Chase Section 5 village	\$250,000+			
Chevy Chase Section 3 village	\$250,000+			
Chevy Chase View town	\$250,000+			
Chevy Chase Village town	\$250,000+			
Gaithersburg city	\$98,089			
Garrett Park town	\$241,875			
Glen Echo town	\$131,250			
Kensington town	\$132,132			
Laytonsville town	\$168,250			
Martin's Additions village	250000+			
Poolesville town	\$201,607			
Rockville city	\$116,031			
Somerset town	\$250,000+			
Takoma Park city	\$86,644			
Washington Grove town	\$122,386			
Prince George's County	\$91,124			
Berwyn Heights town	\$120,662			
Bladensburg town	\$54,208	✓	✓	
Bowie city	\$127,029			
Brentwood town	\$71,645	✓	✓	
Capitol Heights town	\$85,104			
Cheverly town	\$106,732			
College Park city	\$69,736	✓	✓	
Colmar Manor town	\$90,000			
Cottage City town	\$59,922	✓	✓	
District Heights city	\$69,099	✓	✓	
Eagle Harbor town	\$68,646	✓	✓	
Edmonston town	\$78,750			
Fairmount Heights town	\$68,375	✓	✓	
Forest Heights town	\$86,922			
Glenarden city	\$91,467			
Greenbelt city	\$75,832			

**MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME QUALIFICATION TABLE
UPDATED APRIL 2026 FOR BRF SEPTICS PROGRAM**

COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY	MHic ¹	Qualified MHic ¹	Qualified for Drainfield Credit up to \$5,000 where MHic is between 50 - 80% of Maryland MHic	Qualified for 100% Drainfield Credit where MHic is < 50% of Maryland MHic ¹
Hyattsville city	\$84,763			
Landover Hills town	\$82,083			
Laurel city	\$85,615			
Morningside town	\$75,357			
Mount Rainier city	\$59,268	✓	✓	
New Carrollton city	\$73,629			
North Brentwood town	\$83,462			
Riverdale Park town	\$87,819			
Seat Pleasant city	\$51,122	✓	✓	
University Park town	\$159,464			
Upper Marlboro town	\$99,667			
Queen Anne's County	\$99,597			
Barclay town	\$49,034	✓	✓	
Centreville town	\$94,744			
Church Hill town	\$66,071	✓	✓	
Queenstown town	\$97,083			
Sudlersville town	\$43,250	✓		✓
St. Mary's County	\$102,859			
Leonardtown town	\$126,472			
Somerset County	\$48,661	✓	✓	
Crisfield city	\$36,146	✓		✓
Princess Anne town	\$37,386	✓		✓
Talbot County	\$79,349			
Easton town	\$72,771	✓	✓	
Oxford town	\$71,464	✓	✓	
Queen Anne town	\$67,500	✓	✓	
St. Michaels town	\$69,057	✓	✓	
Trappe town	\$66,181	✓	✓	
Washington County	\$67,349	✓	✓	
Boonsboro town	\$105,196			
Clear Spring town	\$54,728	✓	✓	
Funkstown town	\$38,235	✓		✓
Hagerstown city	\$42,965	✓		✓
Hancock town	\$43,713	✓		✓
Keedysville town	\$124,167			
Sharpsburg town	\$63,068	✓	✓	
Smithsburg town	\$93,295			
Williamsport town	\$50,509	✓	✓	
Wicomico County	\$63,610	✓	✓	
Delmar town	\$66,987	✓	✓	
Fruitland city	\$56,150	✓	✓	
Hebron town	\$61,094	✓	✓	

**MARYLAND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION
LOW AND MODERATE INCOME QUALIFICATION TABLE
UPDATED APRIL 2026 FOR BRF SEPTICS PROGRAM**

COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY	MHic ¹	Qualified MHic ¹	Qualified for Drainfield Credit up to \$5,000 where MHic is between 50 - 80% of Maryland MHic	Qualified for 100% Drainfield Credit where MHic is < 50% of Maryland MHic ¹
Mardela Springs town	\$85,815			
Pittsville town	\$63,347	✓	✓	
Salisbury city	\$48,310	✓	✓	
Sharptown town	\$73,750			
Willards town	\$65,461	✓	✓	
Worcester County	\$71,262	✓	✓	
Berlin town	\$69,955	✓	✓	
Newark	\$89,315			
Ocean City town	\$58,563	✓	✓	
Pocomoke City city	\$45,781	✓	✓	
Snow Hill town	\$50,069	✓	✓	
MD STATEWIDE	\$91,431			
Qualification Criteria (80% of MD MHI)	\$73,145			
(50% of MD MHI)	\$45,716			

¹ MHic US Census American Community Survey ACS-5Yr_ (2017 - 2021) at

https://planning.maryland.gov/MSDC/Pages/american_community_survey/2017-2021ACS.aspx. Qualifies If MHic IS < 80% of MARYLAND

²The Federal Reserve website defines moderate income as the following: Individual income that is at least 50 percent and less than 80 percent of the area median income, or a median family income that is at least 50 percent and less than 80 percent. Level.

Recommended Criteria for BRF Bids

I. Items excluded from funding (all system types)

The following items will not be funded with BRF septic funds:

- A. Septic permit fees
- B. All site preparation work needed to allow proper access to the site for the installation of the BRF funded project must be excluded for the bid for the project. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - 1. Tree removal, trimming, or adjustments
 - 2. Fence modification, removal and reinstallation
 - 3. Moving of sheds, playground equipment, cars, boats
 - 4. Removal and reinstallation of concrete porches, patio pavers, decks
 - 5. Removal and reinstallation of retaining walls
- C. Repairs or replacement of utilities or other property damaged during a funded installation (including driveways, landscaping, vehicles, etc.)
- D. Landscaping (other than seed and straw to stabilize)

II. Community Sewerage Connections

All contractor bids for connection of buildings served by on-site sewage disposal systems having a documented environmental impact to an approved community sewerage facility **must include** the following:

- A. Property address of project
- B. Itemized scope of work for sewer connection (all bids must have the same scope of work based on the same design)
- C. Itemized materials to be used (pipe, pumps, pump chambers, etc)
- D. Consideration of all site specific challenges
- E. Electrical work (if necessary) to be performed by a licensed electrician
- F. Seed and straw to stabilize disturbed vegetated areas and up to one return visit within a year of the completion of the project to fill in settling of excavated areas (return visit to include seed and straw of those areas affected).

III. Holding Tanks

All contractor bids for installation of sewage holding tanks **must include** the following:

- A. Property address of project
- B. Itemized scope of work for holding tank installation (all bids must have the same scope of work based on the same design)
- C. Itemized materials to be used (tanks, anti-buoyancy features, alarm controls, pipe, etc.)
- D. Consideration of all site specific challenges
- E. Electrical work to be performed by a licensed electrician

- F. Seed and straw to stabilize disturbed vegetated areas and up to one return visit within a year of the completion of the project to fill in settling of excavated areas (return visit to include seed and straw of those areas affected).

IV. Drainfields (Low and moderate income)

All contractor bids for installation of drainfields in conjunction with a BAT system **must include** the following:

- A. Property address of project
- B. Itemized scope of work for drainfield work only (all bids must have the same scope of work based on the same design)
- C. Itemized materials to be used (pump stations, pumps, gravel, sand, pipe, soil, etc.)
- D. Consideration of all site specific challenges
- E. Electrical work (if necessary) to be performed by a licensed electrician
- F. Seed and straw to stabilize disturbed vegetated areas and up to one return visit within a year of the completion of the project to fill in settling of excavated areas (return visit to include seed and straw of those areas affected).

Connecting OSDS/Septic system to an ENR Wastewater Treatment Plant

Property Address: _____

The sewer connection project can be funded with BRF Septic grant funds, only if all of the following conditions are met:

	Answer
1. Are BRF grant funds available to connect OSDS to sewers based on “prioritization” criteria (Item I above)? (For a community of several OSDS, at least 50% OSDS must fall within the qualifying priority criteria)	
2. Is the proposed sewer connection to a BNR or ENR Wastewater Treatment Plant? Please specify plant.	
3. Is the Environmental Impact of the OSDS documented by the local government/health department? Please include a brief description of three indicators of the environmental impact and any documentation that supports this answer.	
4. Is the sewer connection more cost-effective than the cost of repairing/replacing the OSDS with BAT? (e.g., cost is less than \$25K per sewer connection) OR Is the Individual replacement of the OSDS not feasible? (Environmental Health Director certifies individual replacement of more than 50% of existing OSDS is not feasible or County does not allow replacements due sewer availability)	
5. Is the proposed sewer connection consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan and Water/Sewer Plan?	
6. Did the lot receive a certificate of occupancy, or equivalent certificate at least 15 years before July 1 of the year in which the application for funding is made?	
7. Is the OSDS/Septic system being connected to the WWTP located in the State Priority Funding Area?	

In addition to above, for an OSDS system located **outside** the State Priority Funding Area:

- A. The OSDS Proposed for sewer connections must be specifically identified in the County W/S plan as an area of “public health concern” or the County environmental health director must “certify” this as an area of public health concern with the intent to incorporate this in the W/S plan at a later date.
- B. MDE will require additional information (such as public health issues, potential future in-fill development, mitigation measures proposed to limit growth, net nitrogen reduction after accounting for maximum future in-fill development) to

determine if a PFA exception is warranted and provide an opportunity for public comments.

- C. If a PFA exception is approved by the Sustainable Growth Coordinating Committee, the sewer connection project can be funded with BRF Septic grant funds. Special conditions regarding denied access to sewer main, limits on maximum new fill-in development etc. will apply.

Certified by:

Signature _____

Title _____