



# Funding for Water Resource Management

The Arizona Department of Water Resources has created this newsletter to notify stakeholders of funding resources and other opportunities that may be available to the public to assist in local water conservation and infrastructure projects. The Department neither endorses nor affirms opinions expressed or implied in any grant opportunities or resources shared in this newsletter.

## ADWR Updates

If you or your organization have received any grants featured in this newsletter, please reach out to [klane@azwater.gov](mailto:klane@azwater.gov). We'd be happy to highlight your project in a future newsletter and share with other water stakeholders how you're using the funds to improve water resource management in Arizona.

## Technical Assistance

While ADWR cannot provide any advice or assistance with grant applications, entities such as Local First AZ, and the Environmental Protection Agency can and do provide free assistance.

## USDA: Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant Program

- The Rural Development program is accepting applications from nonprofits that have capacity and expertise in promoting safe, productive use of individually-owned household wells, and can act as a lender. This program helps qualified nonprofits and tribes create a revolving loan fund to increase access to clean, reliable water and septic systems for households in eligible rural areas.
  - The fund may be used to construct, refurbish, or service individually-owned household water well and septic systems.
  - Terms for the loans include one percent fixed interest rate, 20-year maximum term, and an \$15,000 maximum loan per household.
  - Grant funds may be used to pay administrative expenses associated with providing drinking water system loans and/or sub-grants.
  - Matching funds are required at 10%, though matching funds from third parties can count.
- **Applications for this program close June 28, 2024.**

### Important Links and Deadlines

[BOR WaterSMART Program Data Portal](#)

[Grants.gov](#)

[ADWR Community Water Systems Resources](#)

[ADWR Rural Programs Funding Sources](#)

[Water Infrastructure Finance Authority](#)

(WIFA)

[AZ Water Protection Fund](#)

[Water Management Assistance Program \(WMAP\)](#)

Deadline: Accepts Applications Year-Round

[Water Supply Development Fund \(WSDF\)](#)

Deadline: Accepts Applications Year-Round

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## WIFA - Water Supply Development Revolving Fund (WSDRF)

- The Water Supply Development Revolving Fund (WSDRF) was created to provide low-cost financing, grants, and technical assistance for water supply development projects outside of Arizona's major urban centers. This fund is specifically designed to meet the unique water supply needs of small, rural communities.
- WIFA can provide up to \$2 million in grant funding and up to \$3 million in the form of a low-interest loan for a total of \$5 million in financial assistance per application.
- Interest rate discounts and grant eligibility will be determined based on the criteria listed in ARS § 49-1274(B)(3), including:
  - **Water Demands:** existing, near-term and long-term water demands compared to the volume and reliability of existing water supplies
  - **Project Benefits:** impact on water supply, benefits to multiple jurisdictions, conservation efforts, BMPs being implemented, and long-term reliability of supply being developed
  - **Project Feasibility:** engineering specs, the cost and effectiveness of the proposal, funding sources, and public comment
  - **Financial Need:** median household income
- **Eligible Entities:** Water providers and political subdivisions located outside of the Phoenix, Tucson, or Pinal AMAs.
- **Applications currently being accepted.**

## Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust Environmental Grants

- The Trust offers a unique opportunity for non-profit 501(c) (3) organizations focused on watershed and environmental health within the State of Arizona.
  - The grant is available primarily to fund operating costs of conservation projects, with rare occasions funding being used for capital support for projects.
  - These funds are not available to local governments or private individuals. Usually only 501(c) (3) organizations that match the organization's requirements are eligible.
- Interested applicants should familiarize themselves with the Trust's website to ensure what projects and groups fit within their funding priorities and geographic areas of interest. If this aligns with your organization,
  - **NOTE:** The first step in the application process is to talk to a Trust program officer. If the Trust program officer believes that your project or organization is a good fit, you will be invited to submit a grant application. Reach out to Laura McBride ([lmcbride@ninapulliamtrust.org](mailto:lmcbride@ninapulliamtrust.org)) to see if your project is eligible.
- Applications are invite only and require contact with the Trust at least two months in advance. **The next application deadline is July 12, 2024, with the following application deadline December 5, 2024.**

## **EPA: Building Partner Capacity and Promoting Resiliency and Equity**

- The EPA is soliciting applications from eligible applicants to provide support for training and related activities to build the capacity of agricultural partners, state, and Tribal officials and non-governmental stakeholders in activities to be carried out to support the goals of the Clean Water Act.
  - Only following activities are eligible for this NOFO: conducting or promoting the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys and studies relating to the causes, effects (including health and welfare effects), extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of water pollution.
- Each application submitted under this announcement must address one, and only one, of the five National Priority Areas described below. Applicants may submit more than one complete application package under this announcement as long as each application is separately submitted and addresses only one National Priority Area.
  1. State and Tribal Aquatic Resource Monitoring Technical Training and Capacity Building Workshops.
  2. State and Tribal Territorial Data Management and Data Sharing Training Workshops in Support of CWA Section 303(d), CWA Section 305(b), TMDLs and Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment.
  3. Training Workshops on Recreational Waters and Beach Monitoring Programs.
  4. Nonpoint Source Technical Support for Tribes.
  5. Training Workshop on Fish Monitoring and Advisory Programs.
- For more information on the Educational program visit the official announcement.
- **Applications for this program close on July 17, 2024.**

### **\*NOW EXTENDED\***

## **WaterSMART Environmental Water Resources Projects 2024**

- Reclamation leverages Federal and non-Federal funding to work cooperatively with States, Tribes, and local entities as they plan for and implement actions to increase water supply reliability through investments in existing infrastructure and attention to local water conflicts.
- This NOFO provides funding for water conservation and efficiency projects, water management and infrastructure improvements, and river and watershed restoration projects and nature-based solutions that provide significant ecological benefits, have been developed as part of a collaborative process, and help carry out an established strategy to increase the reliability of water resources.
- Applications originally closed on June 18th, and now closes on June 25, 2024.



## **\*STILL OPEN\***

### **ADEQ 604(b) Surface Water Improvement Grant**

- ADEQ is now accepting applications for the 604(b) Surface Water Improvement Grant for Fiscal Year 2025. The program provides funding (\$168,000 available) as reimbursements to awardees that report their regional water quality management planning accomplishments and expenses to ADEQ.
- Applicants are encouraged to submit project proposals that address:
  - Improving stormwater systems
  - Determining ways to expand green infrastructure programs
  - Determining the nature, extent and causes of point and nonpoint source water pollution problems, and developing plans to resolve these problems.
- Please note that project proposals must be focused on water quality management planning (not projects on-the-ground)
- Applications are due to ADEQ by July 15, 2024. Each applicant will be notified by email of the final status of their application. Additional information and instructions will be given to the selected applicants.

## **\*STILL OPEN\***

### **WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program**

- Reclamation began providing funding for watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design (Phase I). Submit proposals for the second application period for Phase I activities to develop a watershed group, complete watershed restoration planning activities, and design watershed management projects.
- Reclamation will award a successful applicant up to \$100,000 per year for a period of up to three years, with no non-Federal cost-share required.
- Applications are due by 4:00 PM, MDT, on September 4th, 2024.

## **\*STILL OPEN\***

### **WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants (round two)**

- FY24 Water Energy and Efficiency Grants funding opportunity was posted November 14, 2023. The first round of applications were due February 22, 2024 and are currently under review. The second round of applications are due October 30, 2024.
- This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) provides funding for projects that result in quantifiable water savings and wider sustainability goals. These projects will need to conserve and use water more efficiently, mitigate conflict risk in areas at a high risk of future water conflict, and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the Western United States. These grants are available to local and regional governments, Federally recognized Native American Tribal Governments, and irrigation or water districts.



## **\*STILL OPEN\***

### **The Water Is Life Fund**

- Water is Life projects help to expand water, sanitation and hygiene services at the community level in Arizona with a prioritization given to projects focused on the Navajo Nation.
- Projects that are creative, community-led, and long-lasting are preferred. Each project must measurably improve access to water, sanitation, and/or hygiene for the target recipients. The focus must be on human needs, livestock and agricultural water projects are not eligible. If applying on behalf of an organization, the organization must have an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million.
- **Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.** Decisions will be made in June and November. To find more, visit their website or contact Dig Deep at [waterislife@digdeepwater.org](mailto:waterislife@digdeepwater.org) and (424) 285-0773.

## **\*ONGOING\***

### **Individual Water & Wastewater Grants in Arizona**

- Grant funds may be used to connect service lines to a residence, pay utility hook-up fees, install plumbing and related fixtures, e.g., bathroom sink, bathtub or shower, commode, kitchen sink, water heater, outside spigot, or bathroom.
- Applicants must meet the following requirements:
  - Own and occupy a dwelling located in a colonia (Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas) and have evidence of ownership.
  - Have a total taxable income (based on the latest federal income tax form from all individuals residing in the household) that is below the most recent poverty. income guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
  - Have no delinquencies on any federal debt.
- Applications for this program are **accepted year round**. Please apply through your local Rural Development office.

Please contact the Statewide Planning Section if you have any questions related to these funding opportunities. ([statewideplanning@azwater.gov](mailto:statewideplanning@azwater.gov))

Though not directly involved in the application or grant writing process, we may assist with technical questions within the regulatory scope of the Department