

Fall 2015



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality



Clean Water
State Revolving Fund

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CWSRF Quarterly Newsletter

CWSRF Program Updates

DEQ's Clean Water State Revolving Fund program has been hard at work signing loans, providing technical assistance, doing outreach and making program improvements.

Program manager, Anita Yap has been appointed to represent DEQ on the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities' State/EPA SRF Work Group. This group meets twice yearly to discuss topics affecting the CWSRF program, possible upcoming legislation, funding, federal requirements.

CWSRF staff continue to work on developing policy and guidance to adapt our program to the

changes in the Clean Water Act that were a result of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act passed in 2014. Read further in this newsletter for current rule changes.

Marketing tools are being developed for the program to assist CWSRF staff in outreach to communities that are interested in obtaining funding through DEQ for eligible projects. DEQ is attending events regularly throughout the year to provide program information and connect communities with regional CWSRF staff for technical assistance, application assistance and more in depth program and project specific in-

formation.

The CWSRF Intended Use Plan has been updated and is available on our website. The proposed [Intended Use Plan—Update #1](#) is open for public comment until 5 PM on Monday, Dec. 28, 2015.

Written comments may be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Mail: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality,
Water Quality Program
Attn: Larry McAllister
811 SW Sixth Ave. Portland, OR
97204-1390

Fax: (503) 229-6037

Email: intendeduseplancomments@deq.state.or.us

Rulemaking Update

DEQ's Environmental Quality Commission approved the Clean Water State Revolving Fund's proposed rules on Oct. 15, 2015 the approved rules became effective on Oct. 16, 2015 when they were filed with the Oregon Secretary of State.

The rules were updated to include program changes brought about by the Clean Water Act amendments in 2014.

The approved rules include:

- 30 year loan terms
- Additional subsidization
- Certification of Cost and Effectiveness
- Project eligibilities
- Fiscal sustainability

DEQ will continue to gather input from the CWSRF Advisory Committee during 2016 while working to determine possible future programmatic changes in

relation to the CWA amendments.

The Current CWSRF rules can be located by visiting:
<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/loans/docs/>



CWSRF Quarterly Newsletter

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The MWMC
riparian
shading
enhancement
includes
projects to
reduce heat
from the sun
in local
waterways by
planting
native riparian
trees along the
streams.

New CWSRF Loans

CWSRF has finalized new funding agreements with three borrowers between Aug. 1 and Nov. 15, 2015. These agreements include:

Sutherlin—bond purchase agreement for \$18,500,000 this agreement includes \$500,000 in principal forgiveness for the community.

Gold Hill—agreement for interim financing in the amount of \$1,334,200. The proposed project will address inflow and infiltration issues within the community's collection system.

Prineville—agreement for interim

financing in the amount of \$3,500,000. The project funding will be used for collection system repairs, constructing a wetland and other riparian improvements.

Information on proposed loan activities during state fiscal year 2016 visit our proposed Intended Use Plan—Update #1 which is open for public comment until 5 PM on Monday, Dec. 28, 2015.

The proposed IUP—Update #1 includes information on applications received by CWSRF, a project priority list, funding allocations and various program updates.

Click here to view the proposed [Intended Use Plan—Update #1](#)
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Project Highlight—MWMC's Sponsorship Option

The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, the Eugene/Springfield wastewater management utility, applied for and received a CWSRF loan to implement wastewater facilities improvements and various riparian shading enhancement projects under a sponsorship option.

With DEQ's sponsorship option a community receives funding for a traditional point source wastewater treatment project paired with a nonpoint source project (not including planning) that will

contribute to water quality improvement in a watershed. Communities that receive funding under the sponsorship option receive an interest rate reduced to (as low as) one percent on the loan for the combined projects.

MWMC has an existing plan that includes implementation of riparian improvement projects through the year 2025. The riparian shading enhancement includes projects to reduce heat from the sun in local waterways by planting

native riparian trees along the streams. It is expected that these projects will reduce water temperatures in their watershed and the sponsorship option funding will help MWMC move toward meeting its allocation goal as identified in DEQ's Total Maximum Daily Load for the Willamette River basin.

For more information visit [MWMC's website](#).



Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network

The Oregon Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network is composed of wastewater and water utilities that provide voluntary assistance to each other during an emergency incident.

ORWARN members work together to coordinate short-term deployment of emergency services including personnel, equipment and materials as needed to restore critical operations to utilities that have sustained damages from natural or man-made events. Emergencies go beyond jurisdictional boundaries so effective

coordination is essential in preserving lives and property. ORWARN is part of a national “[utilities helping utilities](#)” effort led by the water and wastewater industry to develop a secure, web-based intrastate resource-sharing tool.

Participating members sign a [Mutual Aid Agreement](#) promoting:

- Increased emergency planning and coordination
- Enhanced access to specialized and vital resources
- Expedited arrival of aid to re-

spond and recover quickly from a disaster

- Reduced administrative conflict
- A mutual assistance program consistent with the [National Incident Management System](#)
- A sense of hope among survivors due to emphasis on restoration of utility services

ORWARN membership is free and resource sharing is voluntary for member utilities.

For more information visit <http://www.orwarn.org>

EPA Launches New Tool to Support Community Interest in Green Infrastructure

EPA has released a new web-based tool that helps local officials and other community members consider the benefits and uses of green infrastructure. Green infrastructure relies on vegetation, soils, and natural processes to manage stormwater and create healthier urban environments. The Green Infrastructure Wizard, or GIWiz, responds to growing community interest in using green infrastructure as a means of addressing water quality and a range

of other local goals. Using a self-guided format, users can find EPA tools and resources to learn the basics of green infrastructure and explore options for financing it; visualize and design rain gardens and permeable pavements, understand how other communities are using green infrastructure to revitalize neighborhoods, and develop public education and outreach campaigns. EPA invites additional input on this version of the product.

Click here to access [GIWiz](#).



EPA’s New Website: Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

EPA launched the Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center in Jan. 2015. The center provides financial advice to help communities make informed decisions on financing drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects. The center does not fund water infrastructure projects. Communities across the country are facing challenges with aging infrastructure. The need for

water sector resiliency is becoming more and more of a focus for utilities across the nation.

The WIRFC has been actively working to identify best practices for innovative financing and provide technical assistance to communities to meet these water financing needs.

[Click here to view the website](#)



The Green Infrastructure Wizard, or GIWiz, responds to growing community interest in using green infrastructure as a means of addressing water quality and a range of other local goals.



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“CWSRF program supports communities and improves water quality statewide.”

- CWSRF Program Charter

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2015
And
2016

Upcoming Events—

Dec. 7—[Sustainable Utility Management Workshop](#), Hood River, OR

Dec. 8— Webcast: [Ahead of the Curve - Implementing Green Infrastructure in Rural and Growing Communities](#)

Dec. 8-9—[NW Environmental Conference and Trade Show](#)

Dec. 8-10—[OAWU 17th Annual End of Year Operator's Conference](#), Hood River, OR

Dec. 11—[CWSRF application deadline](#)

Dec. 25—Christmas Day, DEQ offices closed

Jan. 1, 2016—New Year's Day, DEQ offices closed

Jan. 21—Enabling the water resources utility of the future [webinar series](#)

Jan. 25-27—[International Symposium on Potable Reuse](#), Long Beach, CA

Feb 21-24—NACWA's [2016 Winter Conference](#), San Diego, CA

Feb 24-26—2016 ORWARN [conference](#), Newport, OR

Apr. 8—[CWSRF application deadline](#)