

# Suffolk County



## Water Quality Protection & Restoration Program

### WQPRP 2025 Funding

MAY 21, 2025

# Suffolk County Department of Economic Development & Planning, Water Quality Improvement Division

## Responsibilities:

- Administer the 1/4% sales tax funded Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program and Land Stewardship Initiatives (WQPRP) under Article XII Suffolk County Drinking Water Protection Program of the Suffolk County Charter
- Provide administrative and technical support to **WQPRP Review Committee**
- Oversee all projects approved for WQPRP grant funding

# WQPRP Overview

- ▶ WQPRP utilizes 11.75% of the total revenues generated each calendar year under the ¼% Drinking Water Protection Program to provide grant funding to municipalities and non-profit organizations for projects to protect and restore the County's groundwater and surface water resources.

# 2025 WQPRP Funding Applications

- Application Deadline: **Friday, June 27, 2025 at 3:00PM**
  - Application materials can be found at:  
<https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Economic-Development-and-Planning/Planning-and-Environment/Water-Quality-Improvement/Water-Quality-Protection-and-Restoration-Program>
  - **Award amounts:** Minimum \$50,000 – Maximum \$250,000  
May include planning/engineering and construction expenses
  - **New for 2025:** Electronic submission of applications
- Non-County projects require a **match of at least 50%** of the total project cost. Matching funds must be demonstrated at the time of the application's submittal.



# 2025 WQPRP Funding Applications

## Priority Project Types for Current Call for Applications:

- Conventional or innovative structural or nonstructural stormwater abatement or prevention
- Establishment and/or testing of innovative and alternative on-site sanitary waste disposal systems
- Wetlands preservation and enhancement
- Integrated marsh management
- Nonstructural shore stabilization and restoration projects
- Preservation and restoration initiatives targeted at protection of rare, threatened, or endangered species, or other priority species or critical natural resource areas identified by the County of Suffolk

# WQPRP Application Project Categories:

- Nonpoint Source Pollution Abatement and Control & Pollution Prevention Initiatives
- Habitat Restoration, Reclamation, and Connectivity
- Land Stewardship Initiatives
- No-Discharge Zone Implementation
- Education and Outreach

## Eligible Applicants:

- County Departments
- Municipalities within Suffolk County
- Non-profit organizations within Suffolk County

## Further:

- Applications submitted by private companies without non-profit status will not be considered
- Applications will not be considered from any applicant or entity with a project that is “not in good standing” (see WQPRP Policy document)
- Applicants with a project(s) “not in good standing”, have the option to withdraw such projects(s), prior to submitting a new application

## All Applications Must Include:

- Detailed work plan by task including deliverables and timeline suitable for insertion into a contract
- Detailed categorized budget including both County (50%) and match (50%) breakdowns of total project suitable for insertion into a contract
- Curriculum vitae of project personnel
- Letter from project sponsor. Non-County applications (municipalities or non-profit organizations) must have a County Department/Agency or Office supporting the project as sponsor.
- Supporting documents – design/engineering work (if applicable), etc.
- All applications must be signed
- Any application deemed incomplete will not be considered for funding



## New for 2025 All Applications Must Include:

- **Non-County Municipalities:** A draft municipal resolution that meets the requirements outlined in the WQPRP Policy Document (#8), to be adopted by the managing entity (i.e., Town or Village Board) prior to the WQPRP Review Committee's recommendation for funding
- **Non-Profit Organizations:** Documentation from your organization meeting the requirements outlined in the WQPRP Policy Document (#9)

# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY

- WQPRP shall fund non-County projects on a 50/50 cost share basis; applicants are responsible for no less than 50% of the total cost.
- The Department is authorized to establish priority project types based on the needs of the County at the time of the call for applications.
- All applicants are encouraged to attend an optional Proposers Conference for which they will receive points in favor of the scoring of their application.

# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY

- All applicants that have had their project recommended for funding by the WQPRP Review Committee are required to submit a formal written response accepting the grant funds.
- Municipalities awarded grant funding must adopt a resolution clearly authorizing the municipality to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with Suffolk County.
- Non-profit organizations awarded grant funding must provide documentation authorizing the organization to enter into a contract with Suffolk County for the project and confirms designation of signing authority on behalf of the organization. Official documents, such as bylaws, should be included to verify signing authority.

# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY

The municipal resolution must also:

- Acknowledge that the County's grant is **reimbursement** based and specify the amount of such reimbursement;
- Specify the non-County entity's matching share which may be in the form of cash, in-kind contributions, or other grant funding;
- Expressly commit the municipality to pay for any and all additional costs of project completion if necessary; and
- Include a State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) determination adopted by the organization's managing entity (e.g. Town or Village Board) which, as lead agency, is responsible for the SEQRA review.



# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY



Documentation submitted by non-profit organizations must also:

- Acknowledge that the County's grant is **reimbursement** based and specify the amount of such reimbursement;
- Confirms that the organization has formally committed to the funding match and specifies the organization's matching share which may be in the form of cash, in-kind contributions, or other grant funding;
- Expressly commit the municipality to pay for any and all additional costs of project completion if necessary; and

# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY

- The County's funding resolution will require that the grantee accomplish a completed project with the combined WQPRP grant and matching funds.
- For projects conducted by a non-County entity, a contract between the County and the applicant must be executed within one year of the effective date of the County funding resolution.
- Contract terms shall be limited to three years.
- Projects will be closed-out three years after the start date of the agreement between the applicant and the County, unless otherwise expressly stated in the contract.

# SUFFOLK COUNTY WQPRP POLICY

- Any expenditure on a project prior to entering into contract with the County is done so at the entity's own discretion.
- Substantial changes to a project/application must be brought to the WQPRP Review Committee for recommendation (and the approval of the Suffolk County Legislature if applicable) within one year of the initial award.
- Previously approved funding may not be transferred to another project. A new competitive WQPRP application must be submitted for any requests for funding for a different project.

## Funding Terms

- Only direct project costs related to the specific WQPRP funded project (such as employee salaries and benefits, materials and supplies costs, equipment/machinery costs, and project related travel expenses) are considered an eligible expense.
- Indirect costs (such as overhead or operating expenses) will not be eligible for County funding but may be used as matching funds.
- For construction projects, cost contingency is an eligible expense as long as it is expressly stated in the WQPRP application.



# Funding Terms

- There is no maximum cap on the % of the grant that can be used to purchase materials and supplies. Materials include items such as parts, components, fuel, and any type of raw material that becomes a component of the product being manufactured. Supplies include basic office items and expenses.
- No more than 20% of the funds requested may be used for the purchase of equipment/machinery with the exception of implementation of No-Discharge Zones. Equipment/machinery is a tangible and durable asset that is used in the production of other goods and services. Any equipment/machinery utilized in an entity's basic, routine operation and maintenance functions is not eligible for WQPRP funding.

# Funding Terms

- If awarded WQPRP funds, the applicant may not use such funds as a match for this project or any other Federal, State, or other grant program unless specifically authorized by written consent from the County.
- Funds expended prior to the WQPRP application may be used as match:
  - Directly related to the project currently being applied for;
  - Spent within two years of the date of the current call for applications; and
  - No more than 50% of the match may come from previously expended funds.

# Projects In Good Standing

- Projects that adhere to all of the “General Requirements” and “Funding Terms” contained in the WQPRP Policy shall be considered **“in good standing”**.
- Any project that does not adhere to all of the “General Requirements” and “Funding Terms” shall be deemed by the Department to be **“not in good standing”**.
- Any entity deemed to have a project “not in good standing” shall be ineligible to apply for future WQPRP funding until it no longer has any projects which are “not in good standing”.
- Any entity deemed to have a project “not in good standing” may choose to rescind the project which is “not in good standing” in order to apply for future funds.

# Complete applications are due Friday, June 27, 2025 @ 3:00PM

Application materials can be found at:

- <https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Economic-Development-and-Planning/Planning-and-Environment/Water-Quality-Improvement/Water-Quality-Protection-and-Restoration-Program>

Please submit completed applications by email to:

**WQPRP@SuffolkCountyNY.gov**



# Water Quality Protection and Restoration Program WQPRP



## Questions?

Additional questions email:

[WQPRP@suffolkcountynv.gov](mailto:WQPRP@suffolkcountynv.gov)