



Stormwater and Flood Safety & Mitigation Funding Through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund

What is stormwater?

When precipitation occurs (rain, snow, ice), stormwater is created. In undeveloped areas, precipitation typically soaks into the ground. When buildings, parking lots, roads and other hard surfaces are added to the landscape, the ground cannot absorb the water and stormwater runoff can be directed into nearby streams, rivers, or other bodies of water. Stormwater runoff is often worsened by human activities due to deposits of pollutants. If runoff occurs, these pollutants can end up in bodies of water.

What is flood water?

A flood is generally defined as an overflow of water that submerges land which is typically dry. "Flood" is defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as "a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of two or more acres of normally dry land area or of two or more properties (at least one of which is the policyholder's property) from: overflow of inland or tidal waters; or unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source; or mudflow; or collapse. Flood water can be seen as a subset of stormwater but could also occur without immediate precipitation, such as when high winds "push" water as in the case of a storm surge.

What type of funding is available and who can apply?

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provides financial assistance for stormwater projects through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund at below-market interest rates. Financial assistance may be made to cities, counties, districts, river authorities, and other public bodies. A water quality-based priority system, which evaluates the environmental benefits of the proposed project, is used to rank applicants and fund projects.

What is an eligible project?

Stormwater projects may be:

- Publically or privately owned
- Permitted and unpermitted
- May be used for measures to manage, reduce, treat or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water

Activities eligible for funding include, but may not be limited to:

- Structural or engineered control devices and systems to manage, reduce, store, and/or treat storm/flood water
- Stormwater BMPs, both technical and institutional
- Acquisition, protection, and/or rehabilitation of natural waterways
- Low Impact Development (LID)

How can stormwater funds be used?

Funds may be used for **planning**, **acquisition**, **design**, and **construction** of stormwater/flood water activities. Funds may be used for projects specifically required by a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permit, projects outside of a MS4, for “soft” structures (ponds, swales, wetlands, green infrastructure), for “hard” drainage structures (pipes or concrete channels), and for flood control.

Where may I get more information?

For more information, contact the TWDB at (512) 463-8510 or Financial_Assistance@twdb.texas.gov. Additional information on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and other financial assistance programs is also available on the TWDB website at: <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs>.

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