2020 Applicant Webinar
Small Watershed Grants

Accelerating local implementation of innovative, sustainable, and cost-effective strategies to restore and protect water quality and vital habitats within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

SWG Implementation
SWG Planning and Technical Assistance

Matt Rath, CBP

Agenda

1. Webinar Instructions

2. Overview of Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

3. Review of 2020 Small Watershed Grants RFP

4. How to Submit a Proposal Using Easygrants

Jake Reilly,
Program Director

Stephanie Heidbreder,
Program Manager

Sydney Godbey,
Program Coordinator

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1. Webinar Instructions

- To improve sound quality, all participants will be muted for the duration of the webinar. If you want to ask a question you have two options:

    1. Enter your query where it says "Enter a question for staff" and click send. Syd will type a response or read your question aloud when we pause for Q&A.

    2. Write it down and contact us after the webinar. We have a lot of material to cover, so you may prefer to have a more in-depth discussion later.

- We may ask you to raise your "hand" in the webinar dialogue box to confirm participants can hear us.

- If you experience a technical glitch, please type it into the question box, since we can't hear you. (We may not know about the glitch unless you say something!)
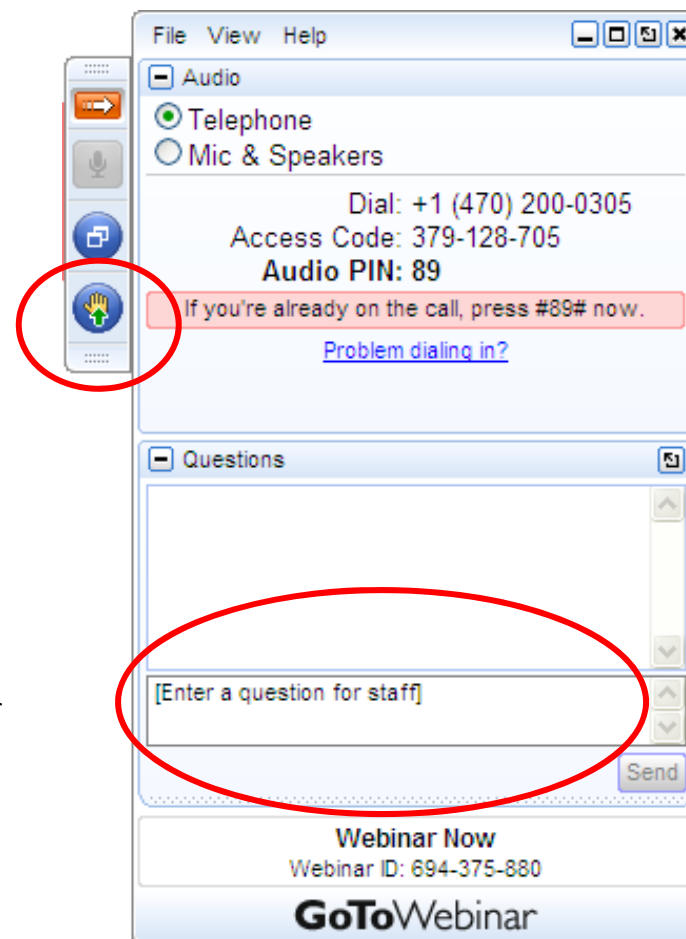
The webinar will be available for download within 48 hrs at NFWF.org/Chesapeake
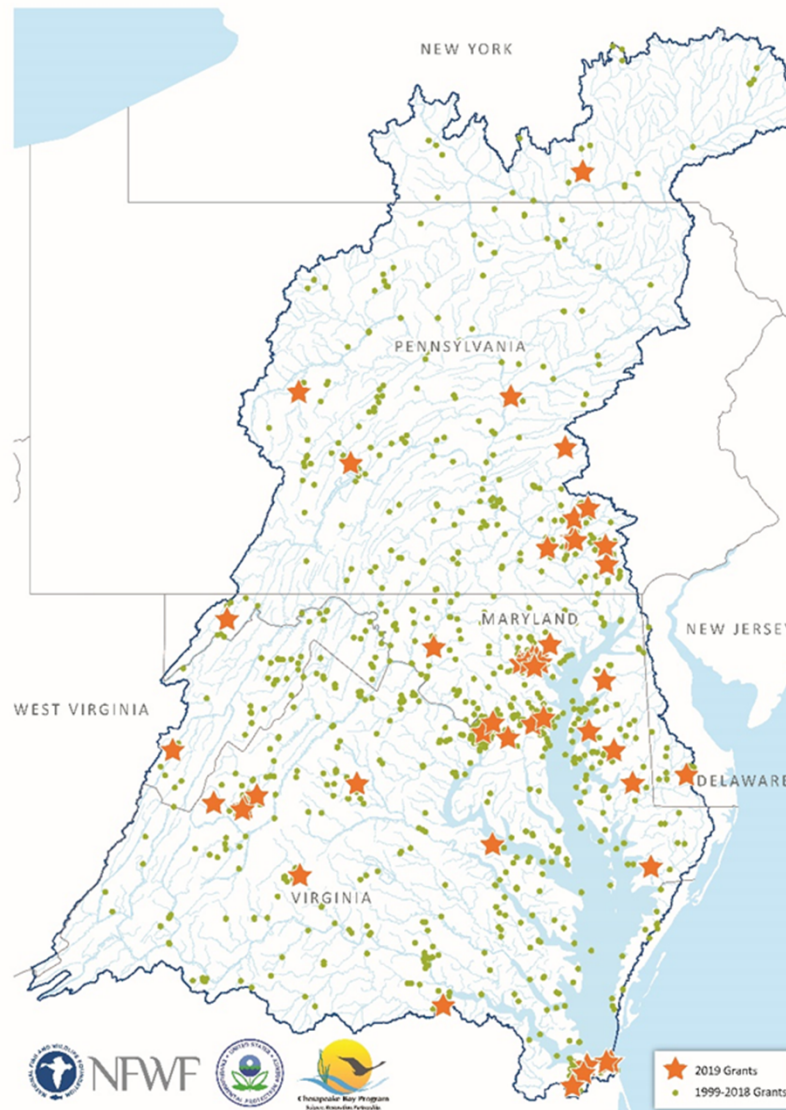
2. Overview of Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Purpose and History

- ➢ Accelerate local restoration actions and spur innovation in watershed restoration
- ➢ Delivered in partnership with EPA and the Chesapeake Bay Program
- ➢ 1,200+ grants totaling roughly $158M and leveraging $238M in additional local matching funds since 1999

Outcomes, 1999-2019

- ➢ Applied 830,000 acres of best management practices for nutrient and sediment reduction
- ➢ Removed 1.7 million square feet of impervious surfaces
- ➢ Engaged over 3 million citizens in conservation efforts
- ➢ Reduced annual nutrient and sediment pollution by 26 million pounds and 892 million pounds respectively

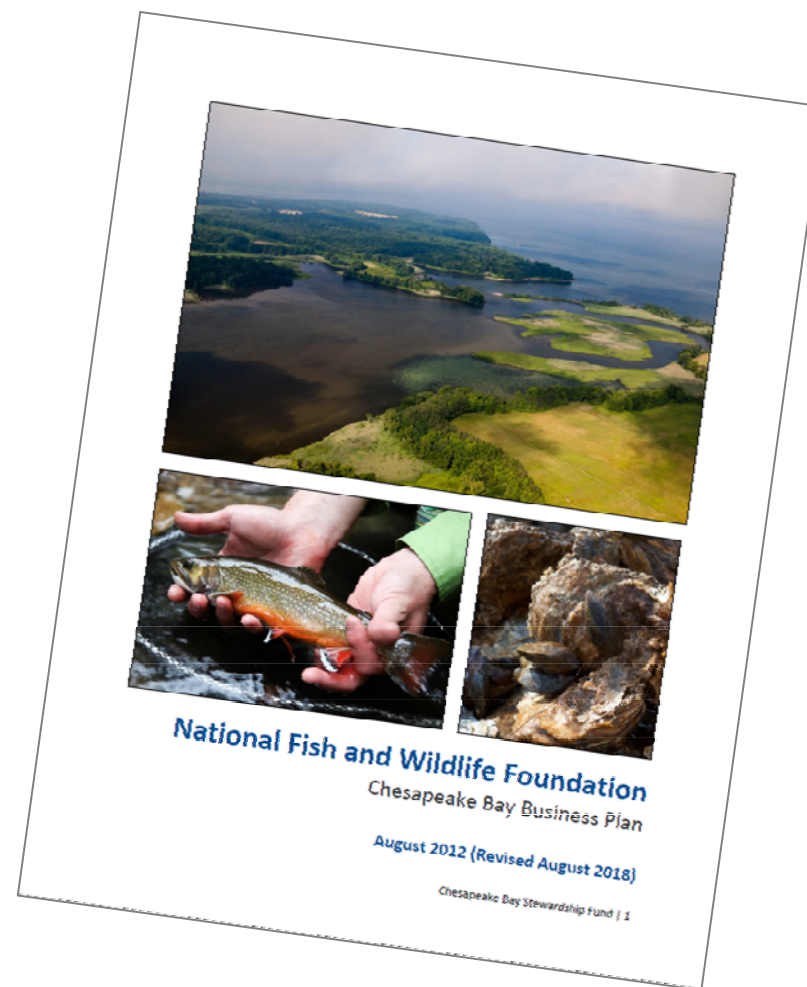

CHESAPEAKE BAY STEWARDSHIP FUND GRANTS 1999-2019

2. Overview of Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Chesapeake Bay Business Plan

➢ Provides a concise blueprint of NFWF's targeted conservation outcomes for the Chesapeake Bay

➢ Articulates NFWF's measurable contributions to goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership

2018 Update

➢ Improved alignment with 2014 Watershed Agreement goals and outcomes

➢ Accounts for existing progress to data

➢ Incorporate new data and science to refine outcomes, strategies, and geographic focus

➢ Incorporated into 2019 INSR/SWG RFPs

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Chesapeake Bay Business Plan

August 2012 (Revised August 2018)

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund | 1

2. Overview of Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Geographic Focus

- ➢ **Water Quality:** Priority subwatersheds with significant opportunity to reduce nutrient and sediment loading, specifically from agricultural and urban sources

- ➢ **Species and Habitat:** Areas where species-specific interventions can help to improve habitat and restore populations of **Eastern brook trout, Eastern oysters, American black duck, and river herring**, especially within priority subwatersheds

- ➢ NFWF will continue to support activities in strategic locations that may be outside of priority subwatersheds

- ➢ Visit NFWF mapping portal for more info
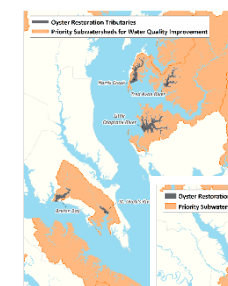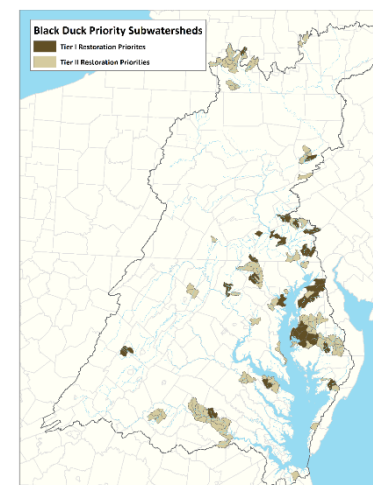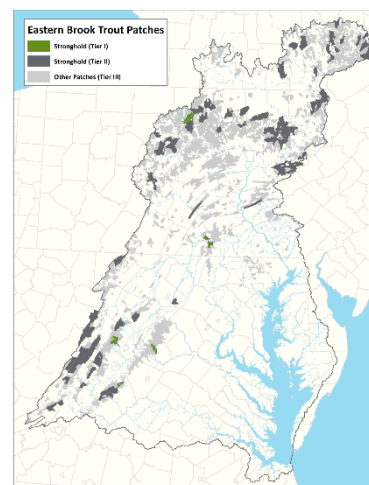
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Funding Partners

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1. Webinar Instructions
2. Overview of Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund
3. Review of 2020 Small Watershed Grants RFP
4. How to Submit a Proposal Using EasyGrants

Jake Reilly,
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Stephanie Heidbreder,
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Sydney Godbey,
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3. Review of 2020 SWG RFP

SWG – Implementation	SWG – Planning & Technical Assistance *(previously Technical Capacity Grants Program)*
Grant Size: Between $20,000 and **$500,000**	**Grant Size:** Maximum of $50,000
Matching Funds: Non-federal matching contribution equal to one-third of grant request required	**Matching Funds:** No match contribution required
Eligibility: Non-profits, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and K-12 educational institutions	**Eligibility:** Non-profits, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions
Duration: 2 years	**Duration:** 1 year
Outcome: CBSF on-the-ground conservation implementation tied to 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and NFWF Chesapeake Bay Business Plan	**Outcome:** CBSF conservation objectives and planning tied to 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and NFWF Chesapeake Bay Business Plan

Must contribute to goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement and NFWF's Chesapeake Bay Business Plan:

Focus	Outcome	Activity	Geographic Focus
Water Quality	Reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams	- Improve water quality in agricultural areas by implementing best management practices to reduce polluted runoff - Improve water quality in urban and suburban areas by implementing green stormwater infrastructure practices to treat, capture, and/or store stormwater runoff - Restore riparian forest buffer and associated riparian habitat in order to continually increase the capacity of forest buffers to provide water quality and habitat benefits throughout the watershed - Improving the health and function tributary rivers and streams	Priority Subwatersheds for Water Quality Improvement
Eastern Brook Trout	Maintain and increase Eastern brook trout populations in stronghold patches	- Increase habitat integrity in stronghold patches through protection and restoration of riparian areas, stream restoration, nonpoint source pollution controls and land use protections	Eastern Brook Trout Patches (Tier I and II)
American Black Duck	Increase wetland habitat and available food to support wintering black duck populations	- Create, restore, or enhance the function of tidal and non-tidal wetlands to increase black duck carrying capacity through improved food resources - Increase available food resources	Black Duck Priority Subwatersheds (Tier I and II)
River Herring	Restore access and use of high quality migratory river and stream habitat	- Implement high priority, cost-effective connectivity enhancement projects through culvert replacement, fish passage improvements, and dam removal	Priority Culverts for River Herring
Eastern Oyster	Restore oyster populations in priority Chesapeake Bay tributaries	- Restore native oyster reefs in targeted tributaries through spat production and reef construction	Oyster Restoration Tributaries
Capacity and Planning	Motivate individuals in the watershed to adopt behaviors that benefit water quality, species, and habitats	- Enlist individuals in local volunteer events to restore local natural resources and providing hands-on education and skill-building for individual action - Develop or improve conservation, watershed, or habitat management plans that provide guidance to landowners, organizations, or local governments on how to manage properties and communities for improved conservation outcomes	N/A

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Priority Funding Strategies

1. Managing Agricultural and Urban Runoff

2. Riparian and Freshwater Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management

3. Estuarine and Tidal Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management

4. Building Capacity for Landscape-Scale Watershed and Habitat Outcomes

5. Watershed and Habitat Planning, Prioritization, Design, and Permitting

Steve Droter, CBP

1. Managing Agricultural and Urban Runoff

o Managing upland agricultural runoff through farm-scale conservation systems and solutions.

o Managing upland urban runoff through Green Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements (GSI).

o Accelerating innovation in watershed management.

Matt Rath, CBP

2. Riparian and Freshwater Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management

o Restoring riparian habitats through forested buffers, floodplain and wetland reconnection, and stream restoration and habitat improvements

o Increasing habitat integrity for eastern brook trout

o Improving riparian management via livestock exclusion

o Conserving high-quality riparian corridors

Steve Droter, CBP

3. Estuarine and Tidal Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management

o Restoring large-scale oyster reefs

o Restoring River Herring habitat connectivity

o Restoring and conserving wetland and tidal marsh habitat for American Black Duck

o Managing shoreline erosion and marsh loss

Leslie Boorhem-Stephenson, CBP

4. Building Capacity for Landscape-Scale Watershed and Habitat Outcomes

o Regional-Scale Partnership Development

o Improving delivery of outreach and technical assistance

Chesapeake Bay Program

5. Watershed and Habitat Planning, Prioritization, Design, and Permitting

- o Assessing local watershed and habitat restoration needs and opportunities

- o Designing and permitting watershed and habitat improvements

Will Parson, CBP

Strategy	Recommended Metric
Managing Agricultural and Urban Runoff (all applicable projects)	• CBSF - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Lbs N avoided (annually)* • CBSF - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Lbs P avoided (annually)* • CBSF - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Lbs sediment avoided (annually)*
Managing Agricultural and Urban Runoff	• CBSF - BMP implementation for nutrient or sediment reduction - Acres with BMPs* • CBSF - BMP implementation for stormwater runoff - Acres with BMPs* • CBSF - BMP implementation for stormwater runoff - Volume stormwater prevented
Riparian and Freshwater Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management	• CBSF - Riparian restoration - Miles restored* • CBSF - Instream restoration - Miles restored* • CBSF - Erosion control - Miles restored* • CBSF - BMP implementation for livestock fencing - Miles of fencing installed* • CBSF - Stream restoration - Miles restored* • CBSF - Floodplain restoration - Acres restored • CBSF - Wetland restoration - Acres restored*
Estuarine and Tidal Habitat Restoration, Conservation, and Management	• CBSF - American oyster - Marine habitat restoration - Acres restored • CBSF - Fish passage improvements - Miles of stream opened • CBSF - Wetland restoration - Acres restored* • CBSF - Erosion control - Miles restored*
Building Capacity for Landscape-Scale Watershed and Habitat Outcomes	• CBSF - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached • CBSF - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people with changed behavior • CBSF - Volunteer participation - # volunteers participating
Watershed and Habitat Planning, Prioritization, Design, and Permitting	• CBSF - Management or Governance Planning - # plans developed • CBSF - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people reached • CBSF - Outreach/ Education/ Technical Assistance - # people with changed behavior

* Selected Easygrants metrics should be consistent with data entered into and/or derived from FieldDoc.org.

FieldDoc

To assist applicants in generating credible nutrient and sediment load estimates, NFWF has partnered with Chesapeake Commons and Maryland Department of Natural Resources to develop FieldDoc, a user-friendly tool that allows consistent planning, tracking, and reporting of selected water quality improvement activities and associated nutrient and sediment load reductions from proposed grant projects.

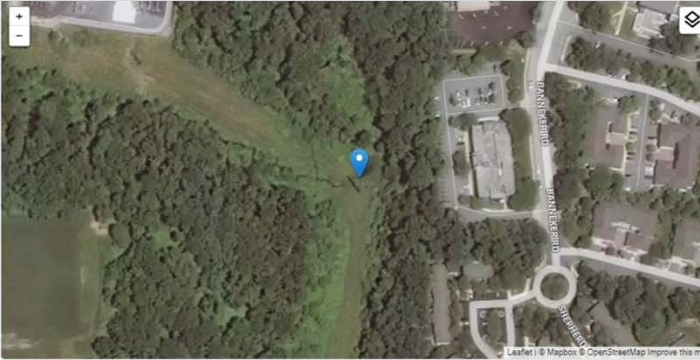NFWF is hosting a demonstration webinar for FieldDoc on Thurs, March 5th at 10:30 AM EST.

Registration for the webinar can be found on NFWF's RFP page at: nfwf.org/chesapeake

Guidelines – The Fine Print

- All applicants with active grants from NFWF must be in good standing in terms of reporting requirements, expenditure of funds, and QAPPs (if required).

- Applicants will be required to indicate the status of all permits required to comply with federal, state or local requirements.

- If projects involve significant environmental monitoring or data collection/generation, applicants will be asked to develop Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) as part of their grant. Applicants should budget time and resources to complete this task if appropriate. Budget for it!

- When procuring goods and services, NFWF recipients must follow documented procurement procedures which reflect applicable laws and regulations.

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Eligibility

Small Watershed Grants – Implementation

✓ Eligible applicants include non-profits, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and K-12 educational institutions.

✗ Ineligible applicants include U.S. federal government agencies, state government agencies, institutions of higher education, businesses, unincorporated individuals, and international organizations.

Small Watershed Grants – Planning and Technical Assistance

✓ Eligible applicants include non-profits, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions.

✓ Applications submitted by state governments agencies, and post-secondary educational institutions must *document support and/or request for proposed activities* by appropriate non-profit organizations, local and municipal governments, Indian tribes and K-12 education institutions.

✓ Non-profit organizations, local and municipal governments, Indian tribes and K-12 education institutions seeking potential service providers may visit https://www.nfwf.org/programs/chesapeake-bay-stewardship-fund/small-watershed-grants for a listing of technical service providers.

✗ Ineligible applicants include U.S. federal government agencies, unincorporated individuals, for-profit entities, and international organizations.

Ineligible Uses of Funds

x   Projects that seek funding for land or easement *acquisition*, political advocacy, lobbying or litigation are NOT eligible.

x   Ongoing efforts to comply with legal requirements (except to improve on baseline compliance, or develop cost-effective programs to implement MS4 permit requirements).

Note regarding policy on indirect:

Grantees may only use grant funds for indirect costs if:

1) The grantee organization has a federally-approved indirect rate; OR

2) They can take the de minimus 10% indirect cost rate without an approved NICRA

Direct administrative expenses are allowed.

Implementation Grant Evaluation Criteria

SWG-Implementation proposals will be reviewed, evaluated, and scored based on *the extent to which* they meet the following criteria:

- Environmental Results

- Priority Strategies and Goals

- Partnership and Community Engagement

- Transferability and Dissemination Plans

- Technical Merit, Work Plan, and Budget

Will Parson, CBP

Planning and Technical Assistance Grant Evaluation Criteria

SWG-Planning and Technical Assistance proposals will be reviewed, evaluated, and scored based on *the extent to which* they meet the following criteria:

- Priority and Overall Context

- Demonstrated Need

- Commitment to Implementation

- Partnership and Community Engagement

- Technical Merit, Work Plan, and Budget

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Timeline for 2020 Grants

- Proposals Due..11:59 PM, April 14th, 2020

(Committee Reviews, Congressional/Board Notification through July)

- Grants Announced..September

- Grant Agreements Issued .... Likely starting in November

Skyler Ballard, CBP

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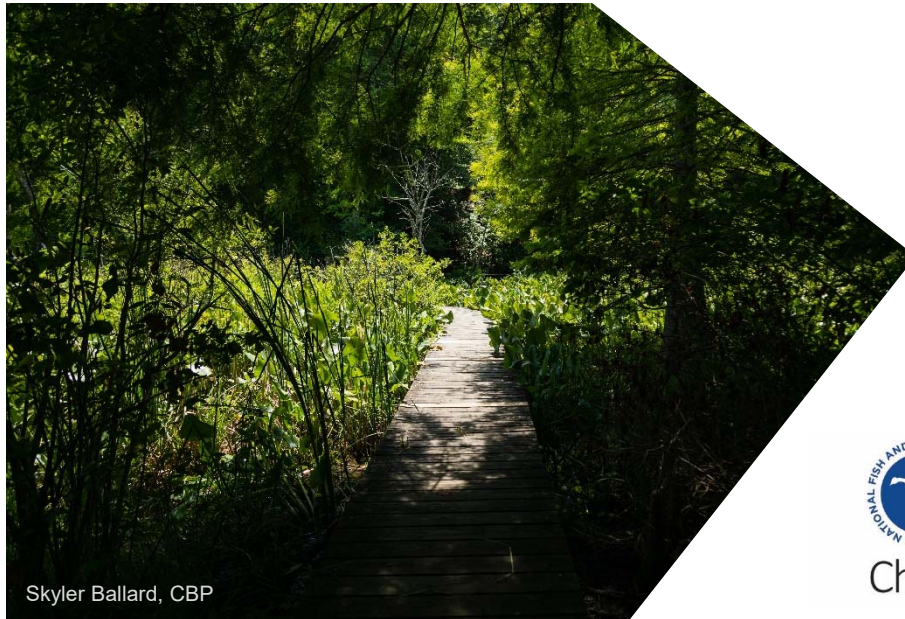
Quick Tips for Applicants

✓ If you've never used Easygrants before, create your login *TODAY* and familiarize yourself with the system (easygrants.nfwf.org)

✓ Turn off your pop-up blockers. If you use Internet Explorer, turn them off again and again…

✓ Print the "Tip Sheet" from the Related Content section of the RFP webpage and use it as a reference tool, field-by-field in Easygrants.

✓ Do not mail letters of support to the office – upload electronic copies.

✓ Re-read the RFP. Call us if you're confused.

✓ Talk to people about your project idea. Listen to feedback.

✓ These are competitive grants. Your projects should have a "wow" factor.

✓ Be strategic first, opportunistic second.

✓ Submit your proposal **ON OR BEFORE April 14**th

✓ Note that NFWF staff will not be in the office at 11:50 pm on April 14th!

NFWF 2020 CBSF Grant Program Cheat Sheet

Focus	Chesapeake Bay Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction	Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants – Implementation	Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants – Planning	Pennsylvania Local Government Implementation
Project Focus	**Regional-scale programs, partnerships, and collaboratives** capable of scaling up water quality improvements	**On-the-ground actions** to protect and restore water quality, species, and habitats in the Bay watershed	Enhancing local capacity through **assessment, planning, design, and other technical assistance**-oriented activities	Rapid implementation of **high-priority nutrient and sediment load reduction practices** in selected Pennsylvania communities
Award Size	$500,000 – 1,000,000	$50,000 – 500,000	Up to $50,000	$20,000 – 200,000
Match Requirements	1:1	One-third of grant request	None	15 percent of grant request
Eligible Applicants	State agencies, post-secondary institutions, local governments, nonprofits, tribes	Local governments, nonprofits, tribes	Local governments, nonprofits, tribes	Local governments*; state agencies, post-secondary institutions, nonprofits**
Geographic Focus	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds	Adams, Bedford, Centre, Cumberland, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon and York counties
Annual Program Timeline (est.)	Jan. – RFP released Feb. – Pre-proposals due Mar. – Full proposals invited May – Full proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued	Feb. – RFP released Apr. – Proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued	Feb. – RFP released Apr. – Proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued	Feb. – RFP released Apr. – Proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued

* Include counties, municipalities, cities, towns, townships, and boroughs as well as local public authorities or districts (including conservation districts or regional planning commissions/districts

** Working on behalf of local governments

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QUESTIONS?

(202) 857-0166 | www.nfwf.org/chesapeake

NFWF Chesapeake Staff:

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Sydney.Godbey@nfwf.org

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Easygrants Questions
Easygrants@nfwf.org

Field Liaison Contact	Email	Phone	Sector Expertise
Kristen Saacke Blunk	kristen@headwaters-llc.org	(814) 360-9766	• All Sectors
Kristen Hughes Evans	kristen@susches.org	(804) 544-3457	• Agricultural Conservation
Liz Feinberg	liz.feinberg63@gmail.com	(610) 212-2345	• All Sectors
David Hirschman	dave@hirschmanwater.com	(434) 409-0993	• Stormwater/Urban Sector
Katie Ombalski	katie@woodswaters.com	(814) 574-7281	• Agricultural Conservation • Habitat Restoration

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4. How to submit a proposal
Step One: Create an Account

Please Add a Phone Number!

- Once you have created your Easygrants log-in and or you log-in as an existing user, please visit review your contact details and make sure that you provide a phone number.

Let's try it...

Budget Tips

- **Concise Budget Narrative must be included for *every* line item.**
- Budget should only include the grant amount requested from NFWF
- Must comply with OMB's Uniform Guidance:
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories.
- Avoid lumping costs i.e., All Materials and Supplies: $10,000.
- Total Amount Requested in Project Information section must equal the Budget Grand Total in Budget section

Will Parson, CBP

Financial and Other Documents

All financial documentation must:

- Represent the same fiscal year period

- be the most recent financial information available and *less than* two years old

Further details on document requirements and for FAQs visit our website:

https://www.nfwf.org/apply-grant/application-information

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Questions?

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