



Public Meeting Notice

Grant Workshops for the Aquatic Weeds Management Fund and Freshwater Algae Program

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

The Aquatic Weeds Management Fund and Freshwater Algae Program Grant Workshops

9 a.m. to noon

LACEY

**Wednesday
September 26**

Ecology Building
(Room OA 32-34)
300 Desmond Drive

SPOKANE

**Thursday
September 27**

Ecology Eastern
Regional Office
(Second Floor
Conference Room)
North 4601 Monroe
Street, Suite 100

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please contact the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6502.

Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability may call 877-833-6341.

Funding cycle

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce the opening of its Fiscal Year 2008 funding cycle for the Aquatic Weed Management Fund (AWMF) and the Freshwater Algae Program (FAP). Ecology has competitive funds of approximately \$200,000 for freshwater aquatic plant projects, and approximately \$150,000 for freshwater algae projects.

The application period for these funds is Oct. 1 through Nov. 1. Grant applications must be received at Ecology's Lacey office by 5 p.m., Nov. 1.

Ecology has scheduled public workshops to help local governments and others eligible for funding, as well as citizens, understand more about the grant programs and application procedures. Ecology staff will provide workshop participants with information to complete application forms and determine eligibility requirements.

If you are unable to attend a workshop, you may obtain a grant application and guidelines from Joan Clark at jcla461@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-6570, or online at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html for aquatic plant projects and <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/algae/grants/index.html> for freshwater algae projects.

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grant Workshop

The AWMF provides grants to counties, cities, state agencies, tribes, and special purpose districts to reduce the spread of freshwater weeds and manage the problems caused by these weeds. The types of activities funded include: planning, education, monitoring, implementation, pilot/demonstration projects, and mapping and surveillance.

Grant application requirements

Grant applicants are required to provide up to 25 percent of the eligible project costs as a match to state funds. Funds can be used only for water bodies that have public boat launching facilities or are designated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as fly fishing-only lakes. Grants are limited to \$30,000 (state share) for planning grants and \$75,000 (state share) for other projects. Each applicant is limited to \$75,000 per annual grant cycle and \$75,000 for early infestation projects (a total amount of \$150,000 per funding cycle).

Ecology will give funding priority to projects that deal with noxious aquatic weeds such as Eurasian watermilfoil, Brazilian elodea and purple loosestrife.

In water bodies with well-established populations of non-native, invasive aquatic plants, applicants must develop an integrated aquatic plant management plan before Ecology can award grants for implementation (control projects). However, you can apply for funding for the development of integrated aquatic plant management plans.

Freshwater Algae Program Grant Workshop

The Freshwater Algae Program (FAP) provides financial and technical assistance to help manage algae problems in Washington lakes, rivers, and streams. The FAP provides small grants to counties, cities, state agencies, tribes, and special purpose districts to manage the excessive growth of freshwater algae. The types of algae activities funded include: education and outreach, algae control, monitoring, research, nutrient reduction activities, and pilot projects.

Grant Application Requirements

Grant applicants are required to provide up to 25 percent of the eligible project costs as a match to state funds. Applicants may use funds for freshwater lakes, rivers, or streams in Washington state. Grants are limited to \$50,000 (state share). Each applicant is limited to \$50,000 per annual grant cycle.

Ecology will give funding priority to projects involving the treatment of lakes in which harmful algal blooms have occurred within the past three years. Also, Ecology will give higher funding priority to projects dealing with potentially toxic blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) rather than projects dealing with other algae, such as filamentous green algae.

Algal Identification Service

The FAP provides a mail-in algal identification service as part of the algae program. Lake residents, local health districts, conservation districts, and other entities can collect a sample from an algae bloom and coordinate with Ecology for algae identification and toxicity analysis, if applicable. All information about the sample will be posted to Ecology's on-line database at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/algae/monitoring/index.html>.

For further information about these public workshops, contact:

Joan Clark at 360-407- 6570 or jcla461@ecy.wa.gov

Department of Ecology

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Note: Parking is limited at the Lacey Ecology building. We encourage car pooling or alternative forms of transportation.