

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund and Freshwater Algae Control Grant Programs

Funding cycle

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce the opening of the Fiscal Year 2009 funding cycles for the Aquatic Weed Management Fund (AWMF) and the Freshwater Algae Control Program (FACP). This year Ecology has competitive funds of approximately \$350,000 for AWMF projects and approximately \$180,000 for FACP projects.

The application period for these funds is Oct. 1 through Nov. 1, 2008. Ecology must receive all grant applications at its Olympia address by 5 p.m., Nov. 1.

Ecology will not hold workshops on the AWMF and FACP grants this year. However, please contact Ecology if you have any questions. Ask questions and obtain a grant application and guidelines from Melanie Tyler at mety461@ecy.wa.gov or 360-407-7489. Applications for aquatic weed projects also are available online at:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html. The freshwater algae control projects applications are at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/algae/grants/index.html

Aquatic Weeds Management Funds grants

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.

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grants

Applications accepted
October 1 through
November 1, 2008

Freshwater Algae Control Program Grants

Applications accepted
October 1 through
November 1, 2008

Contact information:

Melanie Tyler
360-407-7489
mety461@ecy.wa.gov

Submit grant applications to:

Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Special accommodations:

If you need this publication in an alternate format, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6700. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

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 control projects. However, you can apply for funding for the development of these integrated aquatic plant management plans.

Freshwater Algae Control Program grants

The Freshwater Algae Control Program (FACP) provides financial and technical assistance to help manage algae problems in Washington lakes, rivers, and streams. The FACP 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

Ecology requires grant applicants to provide up to 25 percent of the eligible project costs as a match to state funds. Funds can be used 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 that have had harmful algal blooms within the past three years. In addition, 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 FACP provides a mail-in algae identification service as part of the 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>