

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grant Program

Funding cycle

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) has approximately \$450,000 in competitive funds for in the fiscal year 2010 funding cycle for the Aquatic Weeds Management Fund (AWMF).

The application period for these funds is October 1 through November 2, 2009. Ecology must receive all grant applications at its headquarters office in Lacey no later than 5 p.m., November 2.

Ecology will not hold workshops on the AWMF grants this year.

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 of aquatic plant management plans.
- Pilot projects (using innovative aquatic weed control technologies).
- Demonstration projects (using new, emerging, or accepted but unfamiliar aquatic weed control technologies).
- Mapping and surveillance.

Grant application requirements

Ecology requires that grant applicants provide up to 25 percent of the eligible project costs as a match to state funds. Grant recipients can use these funds 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 2, 2009

Contact information:

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Special accommodations:

To ask about the availability of this document in a version for the visually impaired call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6502. 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 each 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 may apply for funding to develop integrated aquatic plant management plans.

Evaluation and Grant Award Process

After the application deadline (November 2, 2009), Ecology staff will:

- Contact applicants if there are any questions about their application.
- Distribute the applications to the evaluation team members. Evaluators will review applications based on the criteria described in the *Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grant Guidelines*.
- Conduct an evaluators' meeting to discuss the project proposals and develop an offer and applicant list.
- Publish the offer and applicant list; issue formal offer letters to applicants proposed funding.

Typically, the offer and applicant list for the Aquatic Weeds Management Fund grant is available by mid-December. Applicants must develop a grant agreement with Ecology within six months of the date of the offer letter.

For more information

Please contact Ecology if you have any questions. You can ask questions and obtain a grant application and guidelines from Melanie Tyler at melanie.tyler@ecy.wa.gov or by calling 360-407-7489. Applications for aquatic weed projects are available online at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html.