

Aquatic Weeds Grants

Fiscal Year 2012 funding cycle

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) will be accepting applications for Aquatic Weeds Management Fund (AWMF) grants for FY2012 beginning October 1, 2010. Ecology must receive all grant applications at its Olympia address by 5 p.m., November 1, 2010.

Ecology expects to have at least \$250,000 in grant funds available for AWMF project work for FY2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012). An additional estimated \$400,000 will be available for project work for the FY2013 funding cycle.

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund 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

Beginning this grant cycle, Ecology will require grant applicants to provide a budget for their projects that identifies costs by state fiscal year. Projects are limited to four years duration. Ecology will make grant awards based on the funds available by fiscal year—an approach that will make optimal use of the funds in the AWMF.

Aquatic Weeds Management Fund Grants

Applications accepted
October 1 through 5:00 p.m.
November 1, 2010

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.

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.

Funding limits

Ecology limits awards 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. Applicants may apply for funding to develop integrated aquatic plant management plans.

Evaluation and grant award process

After the application deadline (November 1, 2010), 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 for funding.

Typically, the offer and applicant list for the Aquatic Weeds Management Fund grants is available by mid-December. Applicants must develop a grant agreement with Ecology within six months of the date of the offer letter. Grants will be effective no earlier than July 1, 2011.

For more information

Applications for aquatic weed projects are available online at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/grants/index.html.

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.