



DIVISION OF WATER RESTORATION ASSISTANCE FUNDING

Nathan Jagoda

Division of Water Restoration Assistance
Springs and Watershed Restoration Program
Florida Department of Environmental Protection

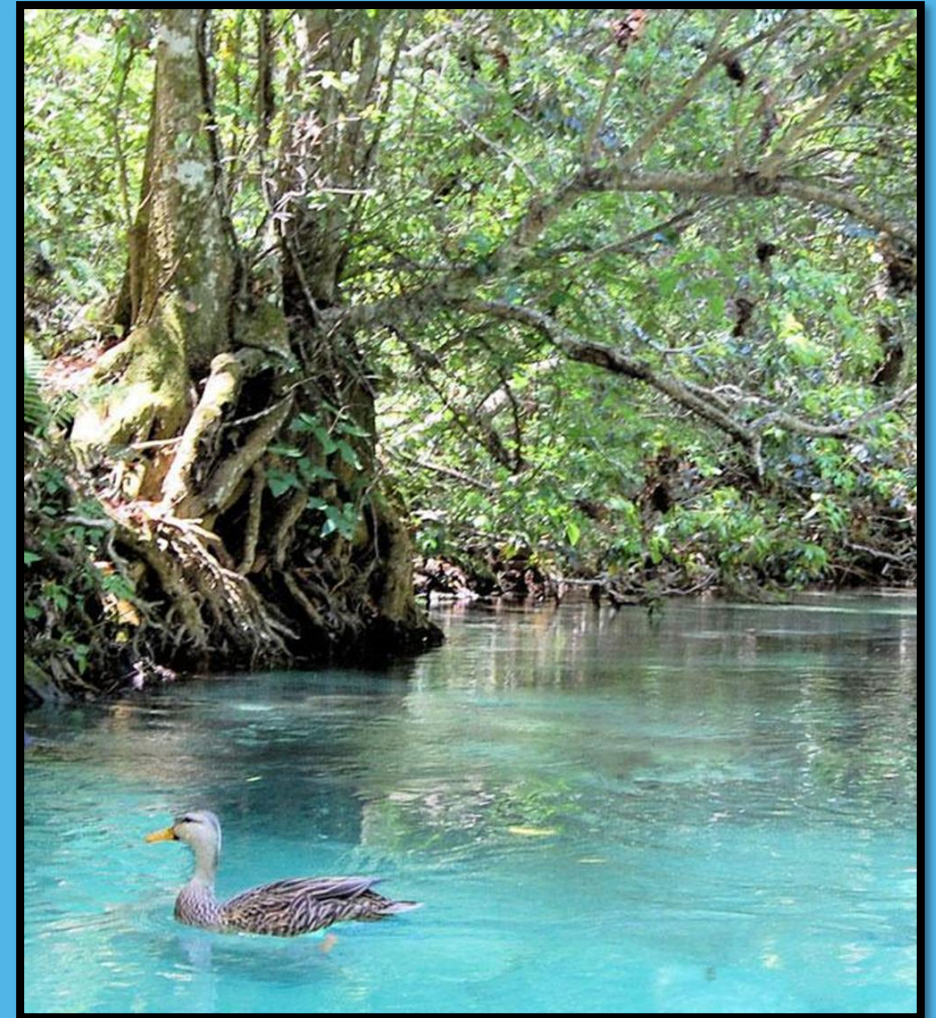
Florida Stormwater Association 2025 Summer Conference | June 12, 2025



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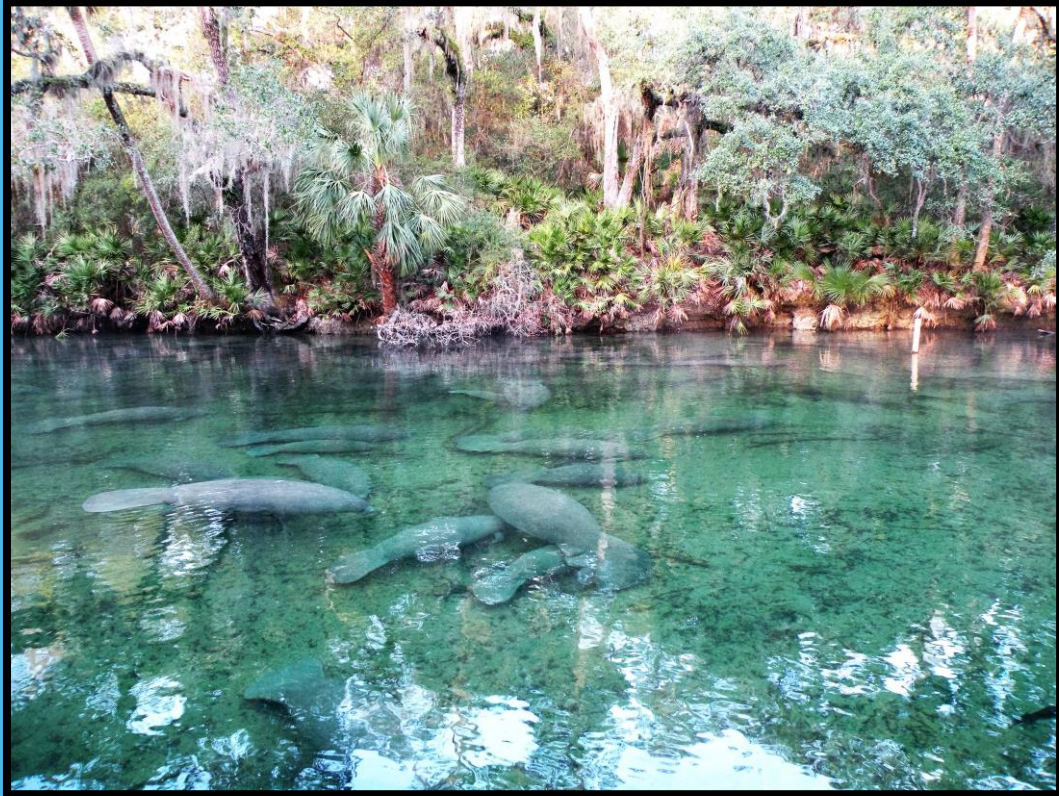
Division of Water Restoration Assistance Funding Programs

- Springs and Watershed Restoration.
- Water Quality Improvement.
- Nonpoint Source Management:
 - EPA 319(h).
 - State Water Quality Assistance Grant (SWAG).
- State Revolving Fund (SRF).
- Alternative Water Supply and Restoration.





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Springs and Watershed Restoration Grant Program (Springs)

Annual state appropriation of at least \$50 million.

Eligible projects are land acquisition and capital projects that protect the quality and/or quantity of water from springs:

- **Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs).**
- **Wastewater.**
- **Water Conservation.**
- **Hydrologic Restoration.**
- **Stormwater.**
- **Other types of Water Quality and Quantity.**



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Springs Grant Submittal Process

Project proposals are submitted to the Protecting Florida Together (PFT) online grants portal.

- Moving forward, Springs Grant project proposals will be submitted solely to the PFT online grants portal.
- PFT online grants portal opens early summer.
- Projects are evaluated by the Department and Water Management Districts (WMD).





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Springs Grant Evaluation

- Factors considered in evaluating projects:
 - Nutrient reduction and cost effectiveness.
 - Water savings.
 - Cost sharing.
 - Readiness to proceed.
 - Whether project is in BMAP area.
 - Whether project impacts spring that has a Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Level (MFL).

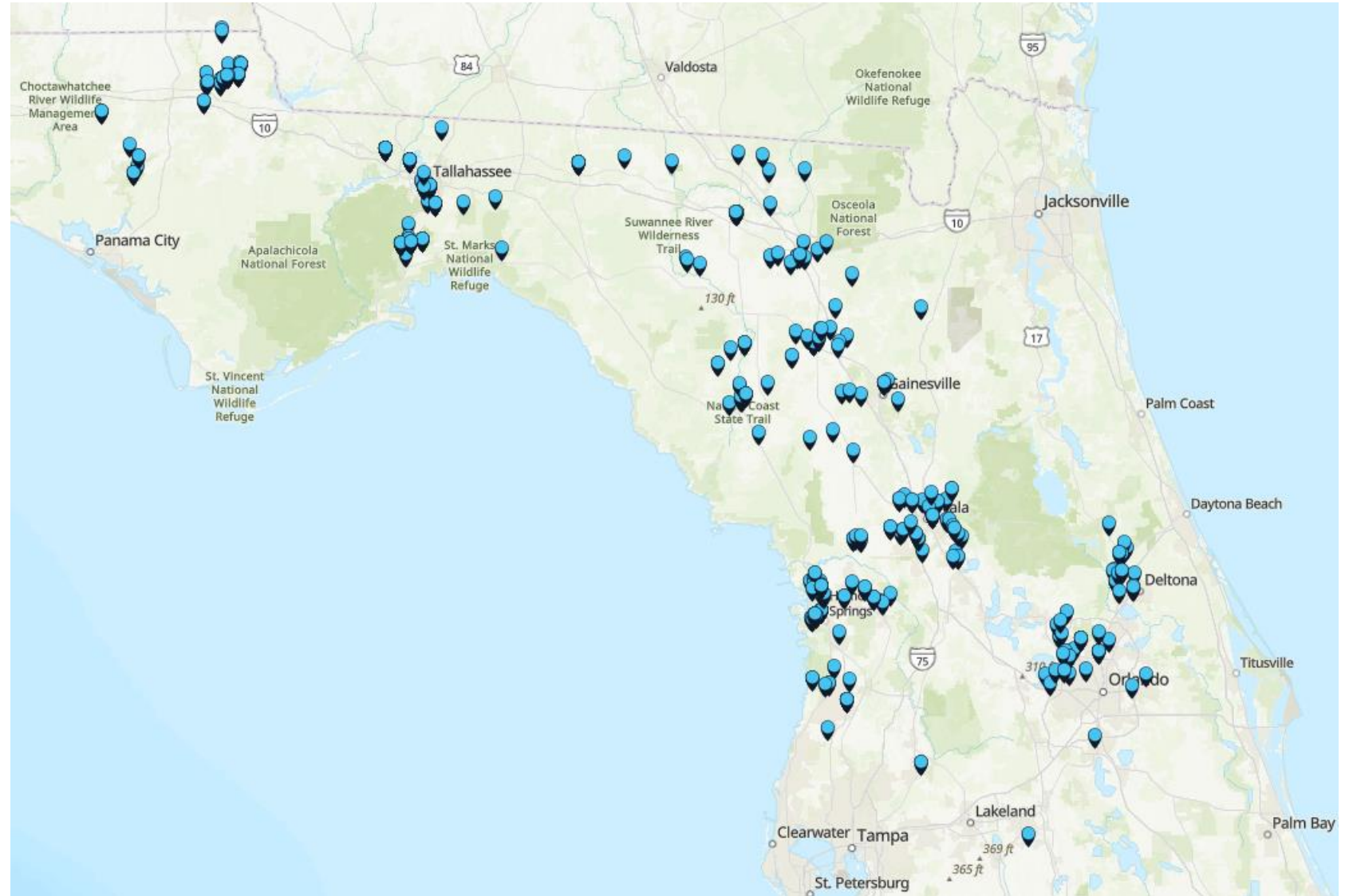


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Springs Awards Summary

(Fiscal Years (FY) 2013-14 through 2024-25)

- Nearly \$584 million awarded for 361 projects.
- 2.2 million pounds per year of Total Nitrogen reduced.
- \$55 million awarded for FY 2024-25.





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Water Quality Improvement Grant

- Established under 403.0673, Florida Statutes (F.S.) (Formerly the Wastewater Grant).
- \$189 million was appropriated for statewide grant for the FY 2024-25 cycle.
 - Separate Water Quality Improvement grant appropriations for Indian River Lagoon, Caloosahatchee River and Biscayne Bay areas.
- To be eligible for funding, a project must improve the quality of waters that:
 - Are not attaining nutrient or nutrient-related standards;
 - Have an established total maximum daily load; or
 - Are located within a Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) or a reasonable assurance plan area adopted by final order, an accepted alternative restoration plan area, or located within a rural area of opportunity.
- Project proposals are submitted through the online PFT grants portal.



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Water Quality Improvement Grant

Eligible projects include:

- Septic to sewer projects.
- Wastewater treatment facility upgrades that result in improvements to water quality.
- Stormwater treatment projects.
- Projects that qualify as a cooperative agricultural regional water quality improvement element as part of a BMAP.
- Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System (OSTDS) upgrades to enhanced nutrient-reducing onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems or other equivalent wastewater system that achieves 65% reduction in total nitrogen.
- Other projects listed in a BMAP.



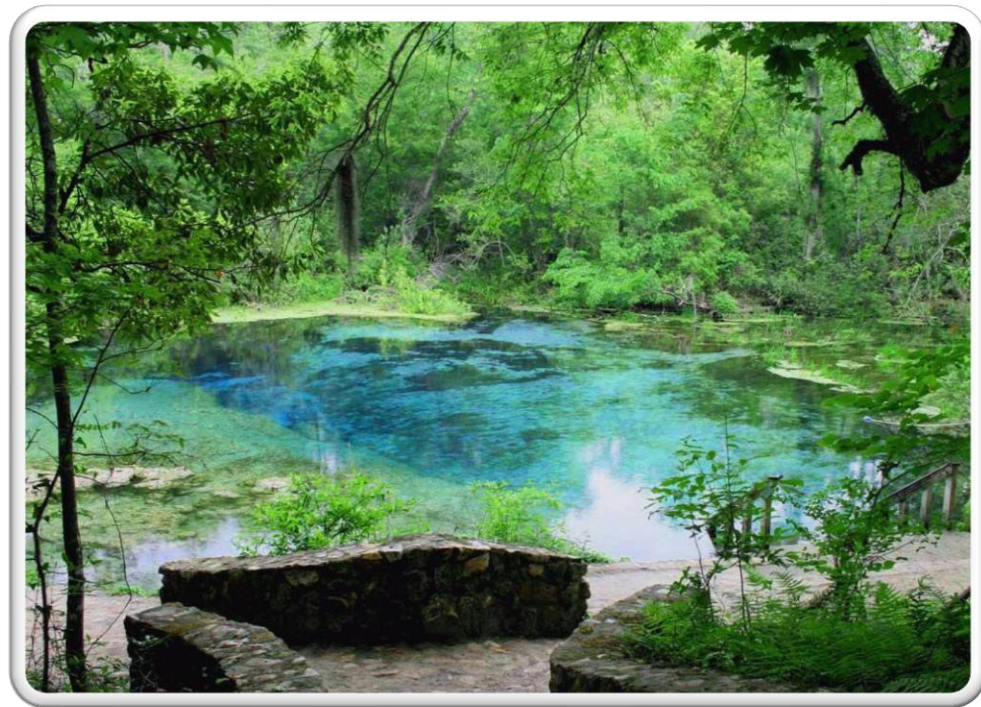


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Water Quality Improvement Grant

Considerations for awarding funding include:

- Nutrient reduction and cost effectiveness.
- Project readiness.
- Local cost share, except for rural areas of opportunity.
- Previous state commitment, including previously funded phases and previous partial appropriations for the proposed project.
- Project is in a location where reductions are most needed to attain nutrient-related standards of an impaired waterbody.

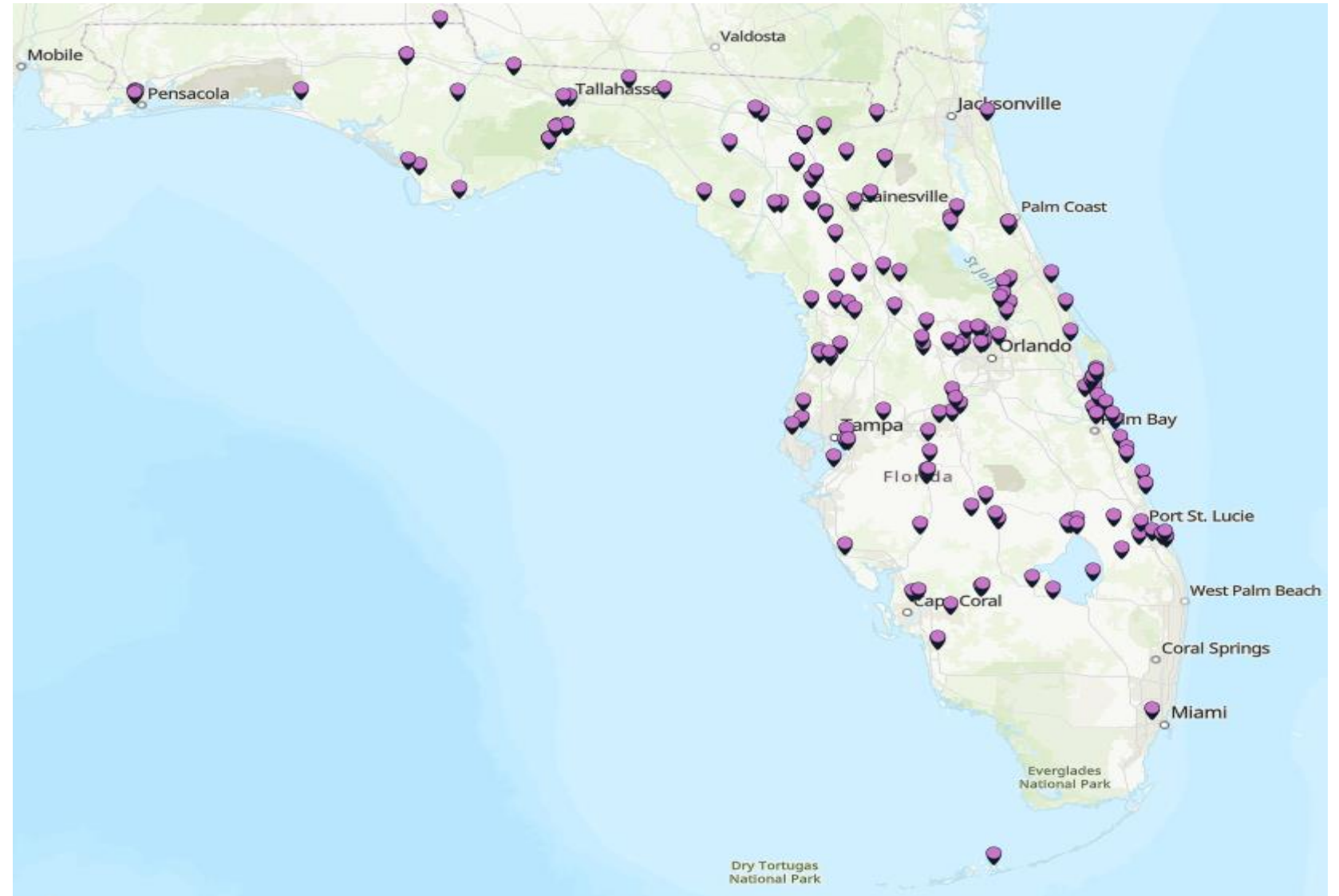




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Water Quality Improvement Grants Awards Summary (FY 2021-22 through 2024-25)

- \$1.2 billion awarded for 164 projects.
 - Includes \$425 million American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) funds.
- 2.4 million pounds per year of Total Nitrogen reduced.
- 610,467 pounds per year of Total Phosphorous reduced.





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Nonpoint Source Management Grant (319)

Federal grant through the U.S. EPA:

- \$3 million total funding.
- Construction, education and monitoring.
- 40% match requirement, may use state grant/loans towards match.
- Planning and design may be eligible for match.
- May take two years to receive grant award.

Eligibility:

- Water quality improvement/restoration.
- Groundwater protection.
- Stormwater BMPs.
- Agricultural BMPs.
- Nonpoint source education.
- Septic to sewer connections (not sewer construction).



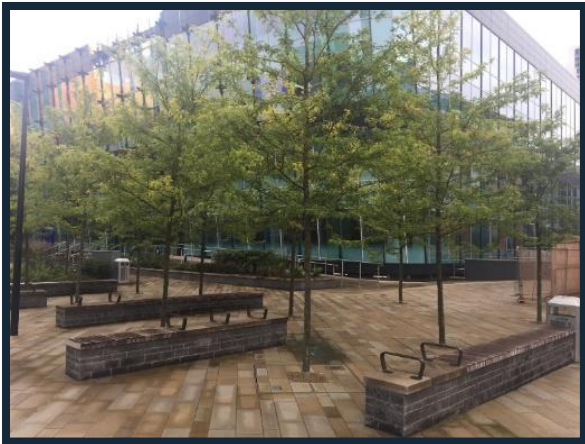


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Nonpoint Source Management Grant (State Water Quality Assistance Grant - SWAG)

State grant for projects that reduce stormwater pollutant loadings in impaired waterbodies.

- \$5-7 million total funding each year.
- Shovel-ready construction projects.
- No required match.
- Faster application to grant award date.



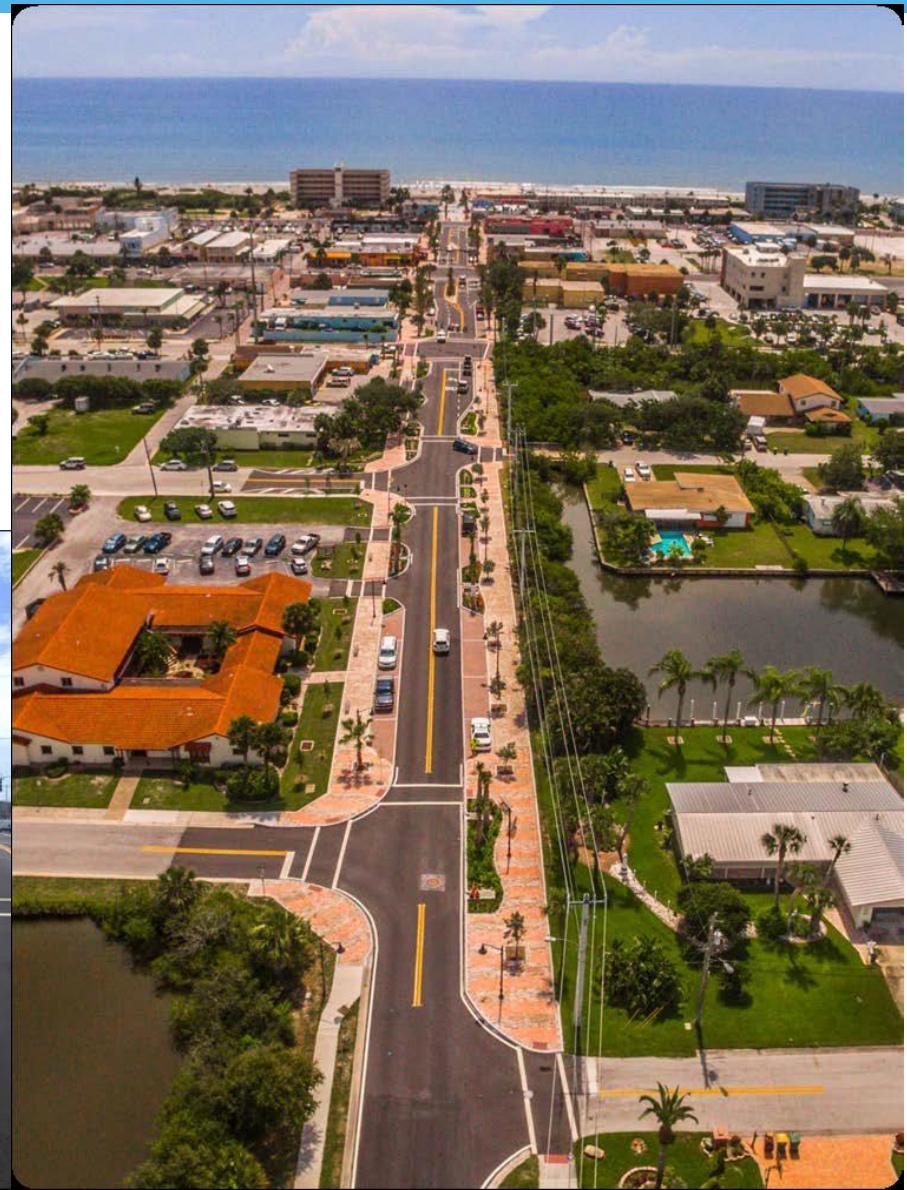
How to submit a proposal:

- One submission for both 319 and SWAG grants through the online PFT grants portal.



MINUTEMEN CORRIDOR STORMWATER LID IMPROVEMENTS

Funding Source	Amount
Federal 319(14)	\$544,540
SWAG	\$450,000
Legislative Appropriation	\$800,000
Project Total	\$1,794,540





SWEETWATER TRAILHEAD LID PARKING AREA

Funding Source	Amount
SWAG (21)	\$39,751.98
SWAG (22)	\$146,748.02
Project Total	\$186,500.00





FAMU WAY PLAYGROUND RESTROOM FACILITY GREEN ROOF

Funding Source	Amount
SWAG (22)	\$62,090.00
Project Total	\$62,090.00





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State Revolving Fund (SRF):

- Florida's largest financial assistance program for water infrastructure, capitalized by federal grants through EPA.
- Low-interest loans to local governments to plan, design, and build or upgrade water, wastewater and stormwater facilities.
- Interest rates on loans are below market rates and vary based on the economic wherewithal of the community.
- Discounted assistance (e.g., very low interest rates, grants, etc.) for small communities is available.
- Federal requirements for fair wages and American Iron and Steel.
- Eligible as match to other grants.





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SRF Supplemental Appropriation for Hurricanes Helene and Milton:

In addition to the regular Capitalization Grant and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) General Supplemental

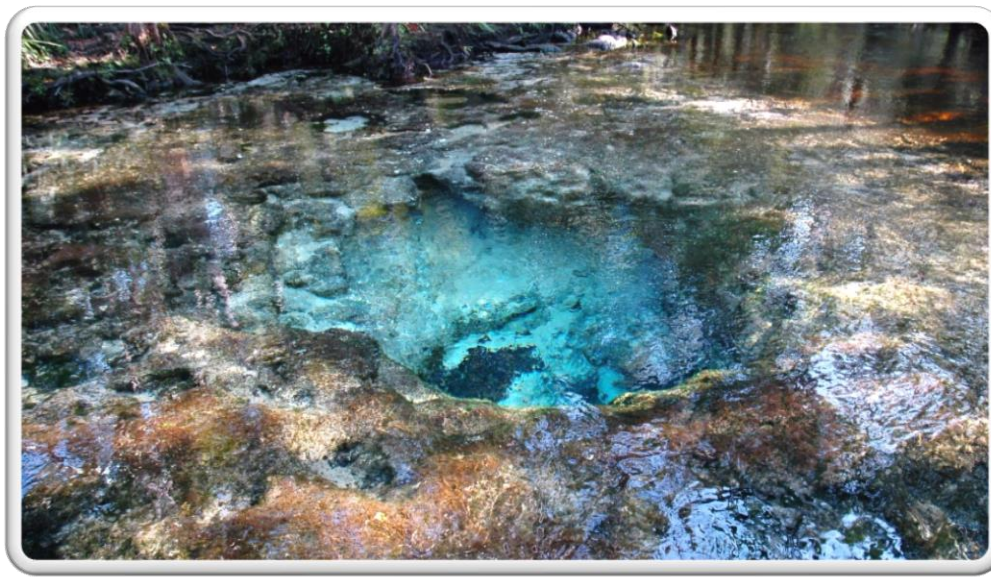
- Approximately \$806 million for Clean Water SRF (CWSRF).
- Approximately \$845 million for Drinking Water SRF (DWSRF).
- Approximately \$36 million for CWSRF Decentralized Projects.
- 0% Finance Rate.
- Principal Forgiveness
 - 50% all communities.
 - 100% financially disadvantaged communities and decentralized projects.
 - CWSRF – Communities Per Capita Income (PCI) < State of Florida's PCI (\$41,055).
 - DWSRF – Communities Median Household Income (MHI) < State of Florida's MHI (\$71,711).



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Alternative Water Supply and Restoration Grant

- \$55 million was appropriated for FY 2024-25 to help communities plan and implement vital conservation, reuse and other alternative water supply projects.
- Examples of eligible projects include:
 - Reclaimed or recycled water.
 - Saltwater and brackish water (desalination projects).
 - Surface or stormwater captured during heavy rainfall.
 - New storage capacity, including Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) projects.
 - Water use efficiency/conservation projects.
 - Any other source designated as non-traditional in a regional water supply plan.
 - Lower Floridan Aquifer supplies (vs. Upper Floridan Aquifer [UFA]).





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Alternative Water Supply and Restoration Grant

- Funding considerations include:
 - Projects that provide regional benefits.
 - Projects that benefit waterbodies with adopted MFLs.
 - Readiness to proceed, cost effectiveness and local cost share.
- Any public or private entity can apply by submitting applications to their WMD for evaluation and approval. DEP also has opportunities for project submissions through the PFT online grants portal.





THANK YOU

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Contact Information:

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Protecting Florida Together (QR Code):

<https://protectingfloridatogether.gov/state-action/grants-submissions>

Division of Water Restoration Assistance:

<https://floridadep.gov/wra>

DEP Funding Opportunities

<https://floridadep.gov/Funding>