



Waseca County Courthouse
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2020 Local Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid: *Grant Overview*

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2020

Waseca County is currently offering \$8,000 to cities, lake associations, schools, non-profit organizations, and/or other management agencies within the County for implementation of actions supporting the *2020 Waseca County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan*. The below narrative describes the following topics pertaining to the request for proposal: eligible actions; grant schedule; minimum/maximum request amount; match requirements; reporting requirements; scoring criteria; and application deadline and submittal information.

Eligible Actions

Actions eligible for funding must “prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all access sites within the county,” in accordance with MN Statutes 477A.19. The *2020 Waseca County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan*, adopted by the Board of Commissioners on December 17, 2019, outlines actions that may be implemented to achieve the above purpose. These actions are organized according to the following goal categories:

- Increase Understanding of AIS associated Risks and Spreading Pathways;
- Develop and Implement Activities that Address Identified Pathways;
- Increase Awareness of and Participation in Prevention and Management Activities;
- Broaden Knowledge of and Participation in Early Detection and Rapid Response ;- Activities;
- Increase County Enforcement Resources; and
- Increase Available Resources and Leverage Partnerships.

Examples of actions directly related to these goals include: installing invasive species disposal stations at public accesses; developing curricula for schools and educational materials for public outreach events; creation of a network of local AIS volunteers to participate in the DNR Volunteer Watercraft Inspector Program, conducting field surveys for priority AIS and monitoring populations, etc. See pages 4 through 13 in the *2020 Waseca County AIS Prevention Plan* for more eligible actions.

****Note:** Chemical and mechanical treatment of AIS populations are also eligible activities; however, priority will be given to innovative actions that result in long term AIS prevention/management. See scoring criteria below for more information.

Grant Schedule

Grantees will be informed of funding awards on March 20, 2020. Following funding notification, awardees must finalize a Grant Work Plan and Grant Contact with Waseca County no later than April 10, 2020. Actions funded must be implemented April – November of 2020. The grant closeout will take place following successful completion of year-end reporting, due December 31, 2020.

Maximum Request Amount

The maximum amount requested is not to exceed \$8,000.

Match Requirements

There is no match required; however, match is encouraged to show organizational support. Match may be demonstrated through direct funding or through in-kind staff/volunteer time.

In-kind staff time: Match must be calculated according to paid hourly wage.

In-kind volunteer time: Match must be calculated according to the allowable volunteer rate (\$27.58 per hour).

To qualify as match, activities must: be necessary for action implementation; directly add value to the funded action; and/or fund materials required for the project. The eligibility of match is at the discretion of Waseca County staff.

Reporting Requirements

Grantees are required to report on the following topics no later than December 31, 2019:

- All fiscal distributions (retain receipts)
- Individuals level of involvement in action implementation
- Timeline of implementation actions
- Success indicators – project specific (ex: number of contacts made, water bodies monitored, disposal stations implemented, acres treated, etc.)

Scoring Criteria

Applications will be scored according to the following criteria:

Ranking Criteria	Maximum Points Possible
<i>Impact:</i> Ability to clearly demonstrate long-term reduction of AIS spread locally and regionally. Clarity of project goals and standards.	20
<i>Relationship to Plan:</i> Project's correlation to efforts outlined in the 2019 Waseca County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan.	15
<i>Success indicators:</i> Means for measuring project success.	10

Timeline/Budget: Project can be completed successfully within grant timeline and budget is justified.

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Application Deadline and Submittal Information

Applications are due by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2019**. Applications should be mailed or hand delivered to Haley Byron at Waseca County Planning and Zoning, East Annex, 300 North State Street, Waseca, MN 56093, or e-mailed in PDF format to: haley.byron@co.waseca.mn.us titled: "2020 AIS Prevention Aid RFP."