

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor
Christopher E. Urbina, MD, MPH
Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Services Division
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530 8100 Lowry Blvd.
Phone (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80230-6928
Located in Glendale, Colorado (303) 692-3090

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

State Revolving Fund Program: Funding Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvements

Each year between April and June, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Water Quality Control Division conducts a survey to identify the capital improvement needs of all publicly-owned water and sewer systems. This includes Wastewater collection and treatment systems, Nonpoint Source Projects, Stormwater Management Systems, Drinking Water treatment and distribution systems, and Drinking Water Systems owned by private, not-for-profit entities. Information from the survey is compiled annually on the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Project Eligibility Lists.

Funding options include Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) loans and Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (WPCRF) loans with interest rates of 0%, 1% and 2%. Loan interest rates are based on population served and a community's median household income. Loan terms typically range from 20 to 30 years. The State also offers grant funding for both water and sewer projects; however, at present the State grant programs are not funded.

If your water or sewer system currently has improvement needs, or foresees financing improvements within the next 20 years, those needs must first be identified on the Project Eligibility List as a prerequisite of securing State grants or loans offered through the SRF programs. State grants and SRF loans cannot be extended to entities who have not responded to this important survey.

Please note: even if your system does not plan to fund water or sewer projects through the SRF program, the Division still desires to have your needs identified for purposes of budget planning and assessing the State's true water and sewer capital improvement needs. There are no obligations associated with listing projects on the Project Eligibility List.

How Does the Survey Process Work?

There are two types of surveys: *Blank Survey* and *Update Survey*. Entities with unfunded capital improvement needs that are not listed should complete a "Blank Survey" now, and return it to the Division no later than June 30, 2011. This will ensure your project(s) are listed on the 2012 Project Eligibility List. Blank Surveys are available at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/financialsolutions/index.html>. Entities with capital improvement projects currently listed will receive an "Update Survey", either by email or by USPS mail. The Update Survey provides these entities the opportunity to modify projects, update cost estimates, and/or inform

the State of project financing issues. Update Surveys will be mailed in April to all systems with projects currently listed. If you have a project listed and do not receive a survey by April 30th, 2011, please contact Erick Worker, Financial Solutions Unit Project Manager, by email or phone for assistance: erick.worker@state.co.us | (303) 692-3594. All surveys must be returned no later than June 30, 2011 to have projects listed on the forthcoming 2012 lists.

How Much Money Is Available?

Average annual executed loan totals over the last decade (2000 – 2009):

WPCRF: \$48.9 million

DWRF: \$24.5 million

What Types of Projects Are Eligible?

The WPCRF provides funding for the planning, design, and construction of new, improvements, upgrades or expansion of wastewater collection and treatment systems, biosolids facilities, reuse systems, stormwater management, nonpoint source projects, onsite (septic) treatment systems and Green projects*. Likewise, the DWRF provides funding for the planning, design, and construction of new, or improvements to, water systems which address public health and compliance issues. Projects not eligible for assistance through the DWRF include: dams, water rights, reservoirs, fire protection and strictly growth-related projects.

* Communities are strongly encouraged to identify and apply for financing of water quality protection projects, such as watershed management and water reuse projects, that address one of the following four, federally-mandated “green” requirements:

- Green Infrastructure – Green stormwater infrastructure includes a wide array of practices at multiple scales that manage wet weather and those that maintain and restore natural hydrology through infiltration, evapotranspiration, and the harvest and use of stormwater.
- Water Efficiency Improvements – Water efficiency improvement is defined as the use of improved technologies and practices to deliver equal or better services with less water. This encompasses conservation and reuse efforts, as well as water loss reduction and prevention, to protect water resources for the future.
- Energy Efficiency Improvements – Energy efficiency improvement is the use of improved technologies and practices to reduce the energy consumption of water quality projects, improved efficiency in energy use, and/or production/utilization of renewable energy.
- Environmentally Innovative Activities – Environmentally innovative projects include those that employ new and/or innovative approaches to deliver services or manage water resources in a more sustainable way.

Complete program information can be found on the Division’s Financial Solutions Unit website at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/financialsolutions/index.html>.