



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

August 1, 2022

Mayors, County Commissioners, Regional Authority Officials, Consulting Engineers, and Interested Citizens

**Re: Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF)
Call for Project Nominations for Program Year 2023 (January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023)**

The Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance (DEFA) is pleased to announce the WPCLF Program Year 2023 (PY2023) call for nominations and invite you to submit projects for financial assistance. It is anticipated that sufficient loan funds will be available to award all eligible projects that are ready to proceed within PY2023 with a continued focus on nutrient reduction, unsewered areas, and regionalization.

Over the next five years, the WPCLF program will receive additional funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). For PY2023, up to \$75.4 million in principal forgiveness funding will be made available including approximately \$49 million from BIL. Principal forgiveness is the portion of a loan that does not require repayment. To be considered for principal forgiveness funding, entities must meet the WPCLF program affordability criteria benchmarks. Further, projects are evaluated based on a competitive ranking system and readiness-to-proceed. A readiness-to-proceed reference document and information on affordability criteria is available along with the nomination materials on the WPCLF webpage: <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/environmental-financial-assistance/financial-assistance/wpclf>.

On August 10th at 1:30 p.m., Ohio EPA will host a webinar with an update on BIL funding as well as the WPCLF call for nominations. Registration is available at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3503993349430397710>. The presentation will be recorded and available online following the webinar.

To be considered for WPCLF funding in PY2023, all nominations must be received no later than August 31, 2022. Submit nominations via email to defamail@epa.ohio.gov. To send large files (over 10MB), a file share system and document drop-site are available [online](#).

Planning and design projects as well as nutrient reduction (NRD) projects may be nominated at any time during the program year. Please note, to ensure timely review and award, projects with an anticipated loan award in the first quarter of PY2023 (Jan-Mar) should submit no later than the August 31st deadline.

As a reminder, for those entities with potential Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) projects, the deadline for nomination submission is August 15, 2022. More details and supporting documents, including the nomination form, are available at <https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/environmental-financial-assistance/financial-assistance/water-resource-restoration-sponsor-program>.

Thank you for your continuing interest in improving Ohio's water resources. If you have questions, please contact our office at defamail@epa.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Bernstein

Jon Bernstein, P.E., Chief
Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance