

# Source Water Protection: New (and Old) Opportunities for Implementation

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February 4, 2020

Great Plains and Midwest Harmful Algal Blooms Conference  
EPA Regions 5,7,8  
Overland Park, KS



OFFICE OF GROUND WATER  
AND DRINKING WATER



**SOURCE WATER PROTECTION**  
INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS TO  
PROTECT DRINKING WATER AT THE SOURCE

# New (and Old) Opportunities for Source Water Protection Planning and Implementation



USDA: 2018 Farm Bill provisions



Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set-Asides



Clean Water State Revolving Fund



Clean Water Act Section 319 (L. Hall's presentation)



# USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



► NRCS' approach combines locally-led solutions with science and research; landowner stewardship; partnerships; and proven conservation practices to produce results for agriculture and the environment.



## 5 Steps to Assistance

How to Get Assistance from NRCS for Farms, Ranches and Forests

- 1 PLANNING**  
Visit your local NRCS field office to discuss your goals and work with staff on a conservation plan.
- 2 APPLICATION**  
With the help of NRCS, complete an application for financial assistance programs.
- 3 ELIGIBILITY**  
As part of applying, we'll file paperwork to ensure you're eligible for assistance.
- 4 RANKING**  
NRCS ranks applications according to local resource concerns.
- 5 IMPLEMENTING**  
Put conservation to work by signing a contract and implementing conservation practices.

# 2018 Farm Bill: Big Win for Source Water Protection



- 10% of conservation program funds must be used to protect sources of drinking water (except CRP)
- ~ \$4B over a 10 year period
- Source Water Subcommittees of the State Technical Committees (including utility input)
- Local priority source water protection areas for conservation investment
- Establishes Water Source Protection Program in Forest Service



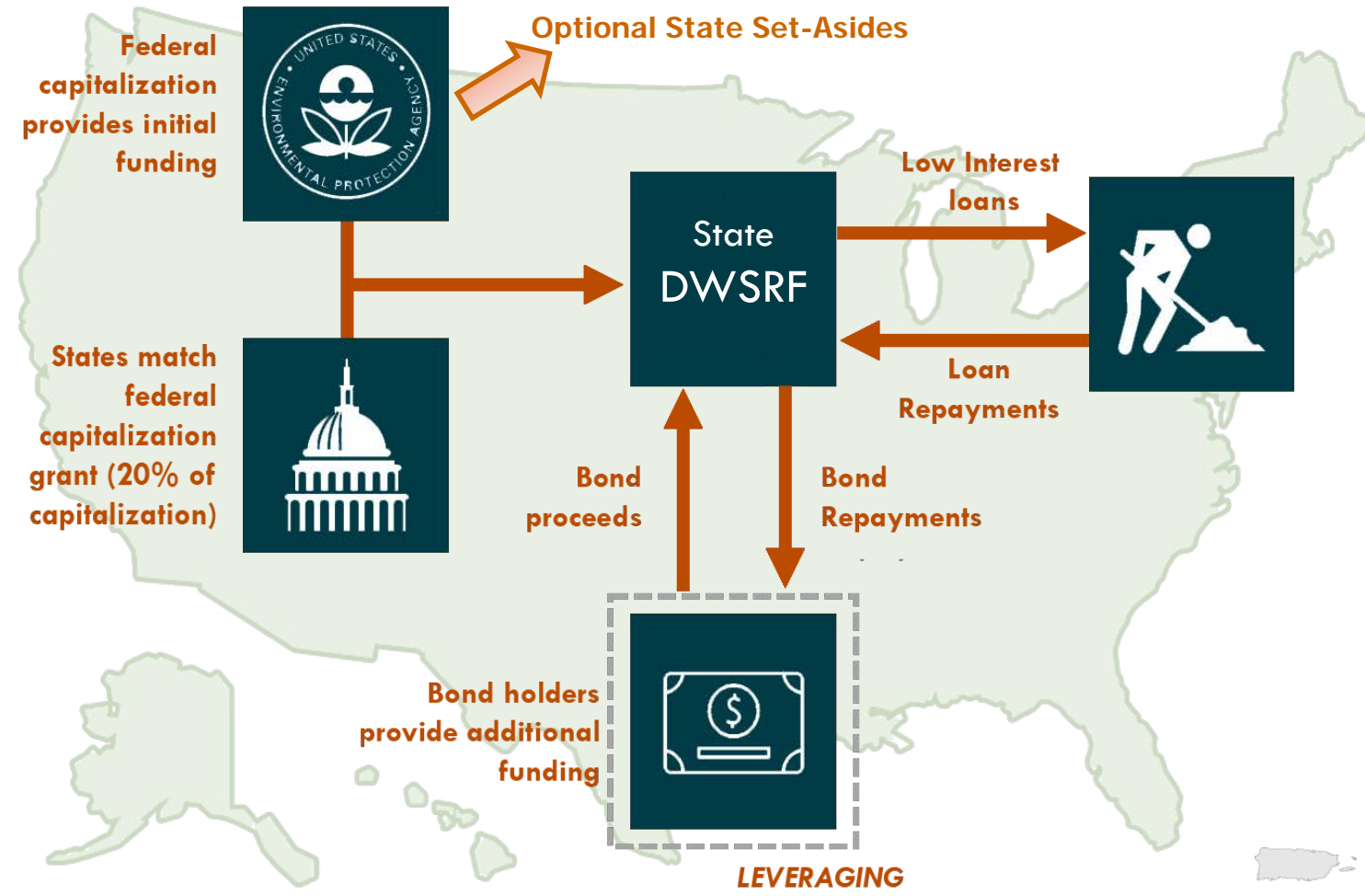
# America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) 2018



- Section 2002: Funding implementation of SWP efforts from DWSRF set-asides
- Section 2015: Reauthorized funding source water assessments from DWSRF set-asides
- Section 2016: Reauthorized SWP Partnership Petition program (SDWA §1454)
- Section 2018: Planning for and Responding to Chemical Releases
- Section 2023: Reauthorization of DWSRF Capitalization Grants

# The State Revolving Fund Infrastructure Model

- 51 state-level “infrastructure banks” make loans with water systems for drinking water projects
  - Water systems apply for funding with their respective state DWSRF program
- States craft their DWSRF program to meet the needs of their state
  - Each of the 51 programs are unique
  - They operate within the federal framework but may target funding more narrowly



# State Program Management (10% Set-Aside)



**Develop and Implement** Drinking Water Protection, Capacity Development, Operator Certification, and Source Water Protection Programs



Often Used to **Fund Staff**

- Source Water Coordinators
- Hydrogeologists



Can also be used by state for source water protection activities







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# Local Assistance and Other State Programs (15%)

## Source Water Protection and Capacity Development Activities

-  ○ Loans to PWS for SWP land acquisition/easements, voluntary, incentive-based SWP measures, and source water petition programs
-  ○ Delineation, assessment, and *updates to assessments for SWP areas*
-  ○ Establishment and implementation of wellhead protection programs and *implementation of efforts to protect source water*
-  ○ Assistance to any PWS as part of a capacity development strategy



# Local Assistance and Other State Programs (15%)

## Source Water Protection and Capacity Development Activities



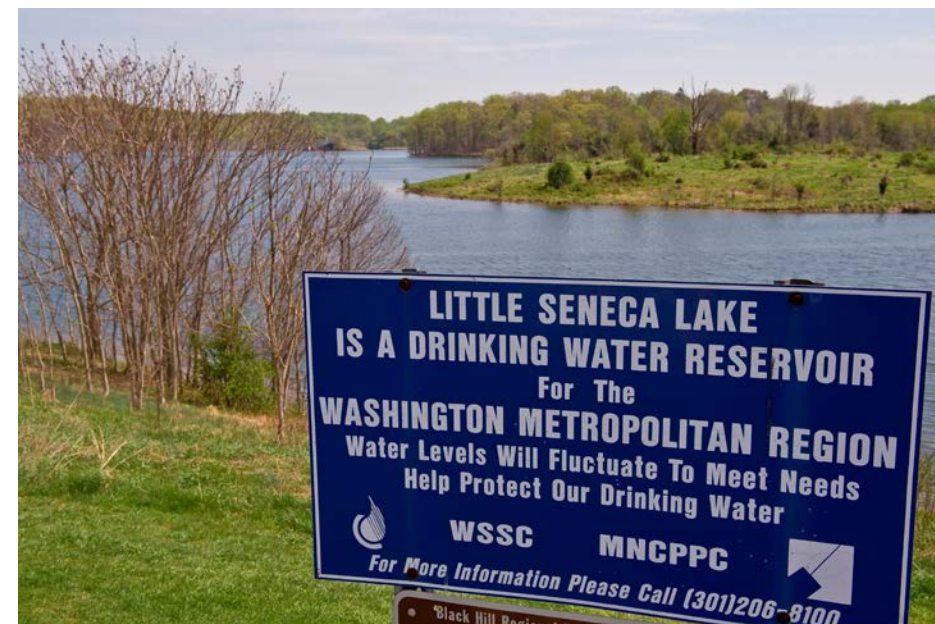
- Updating SWA with GIS
- Developing Source Water Protection Plans



- Small grant programs
- Technical Assistance through 3<sup>rd</sup> parties
- Implementation of BMPs
- Development of local ordinances



- Public outreach and education







# What Projects are Eligible for CWSRF Assistance?

## Clean Water Act

- 603(c)(1) Construction of publicly owned treatment works (POTW)
- 603(c)(2) Implementation of a nonpoint source management program
- 603(c)(3) Implementation of a national estuary program CCMP
- 603(c)(4) Decentralized systems
- 603(c)(5) Stormwater management
- 603(c)(6) Projects that reduce the demand for POTW capacity through water conservation, efficiency, and reuse
- 603(c)(7) Watershed pilot projects
- 603(c)(8) Projects that reduce the energy consumption needs for POTWs
- 603(c)(9) Reuse of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water
- 603(c)(10) Security measures at POTWs
- 603(c)(11) Technical assistance to small and medium POTWs



# Project Categories

- Centralized Wastewater Treatment
- Planning/Assessments and Monitoring
- Energy Conservation
- Landfills
- Water Conservation
- **Habitat Restoration**
- **Stormwater**
- Desalination
- **Agricultural Best Management Practices**
- Decentralized Wastewater Treatment
- Groundwater Protection
- **Surface Water Protection**
- Resource Extraction
- Contaminated Sites

A full listing of CWSRF eligibilities including examples of eligible projects can be found in the “Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities,” which can be downloaded from our website at: <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/overview-clean-water-state-revolving-fund-eligibilities>



# Additional Subsidization



- CWSRFs may provide a portion of their capitalization grant as additional subsidization
- Additional subsidization can be provided in the form of loan forgiveness, negative interest loans, or grants
- Additional Subsidization can be provided to:
  - A municipality or intermunicipal, interstate, or state agency to help address affordability issues
  - Any eligible SRF recipient to implement a project that addresses water or energy efficiency goals; mitigates stormwater runoff; or encourages sustainable project planning, design, and construction



## Flexible Repayment Options

- Identifying a repayment source can be challenging for nontraditional projects such as stormwater or land conservation, among others.

- CWSRF assistance recipients have the flexibility to access income from many sources as repayment, including:

- Usage based wastewater bill charges
- Special assessments
- Home Owner Association assessments
- Stormwater district fees
- Farming revenues
- Non-profit membership fees
- Home owner fees
- Landfill fees
- For profit company revenue
- Property tax revenue



# Leverage Investments for Greater Impact



Think long-term



Account for multiple benefits



Consider funding sources outside your program





# QUESTIONS?

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[epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection](https://epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection)

[epa.gov/dwsrf](https://epa.gov/dwsrf)

[epa.gov/cwsrf](https://epa.gov/cwsrf)