



**ST. JOHNS RIVER
WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
Fiscal Year 2026
Cost-Share Program



St. Johns River
Water Management District

Cost-Share Program Overview

- The District receives and ranks applications to transmit to FDEP for funding determination
- Funding may be provided to assist with the construction / implementation costs of projects addressing:
 - Water supply / alternative water supply
 - Water conservation – (WC)
 - Projects benefiting springs
 - Water quality — nutrient-loading reduction (WQ)
 - Natural systems (NS)
- Applications are submitted online through the District's online application process



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Irrigation and Conditions of Service Requirements for Funding

- Municipalities and counties must have a landscape irrigation ordinance that is consistent with the District's model irrigation ordinance
- Utilities must have a condition of service to address irrigation conservation and have a water conserving rate structure



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Alternative Water Supply Projects

Eligible projects must be of one of the following project types:

- Reclaimed water
- Stormwater
- Surface water
- Brackish groundwater
- Desalination
- Other non-traditional source
- Other water quantity



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Water Conservation Projects

Eligible projects must be of one of the following project types:

- Residential water conservation projects (replacement of older less efficient plumbing fixtures, improving the efficiency of landscape irrigation systems)
- Recreational/aesthetic water use projects (improving the efficiency of irrigation systems or replacing systems with more efficient types)
- Commercial / Industrial / Institutional projects vary from manufacturing and cooling processes to typical indoor and outdoor conservation (plumbing and irrigation)



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Alternative Water Supply & Water Conservation Projects

The District will consider the following factors in the selection of AWS and Water Conservation projects:

- Projects that provide regional benefits
- Projects that benefit water bodies with adopted MFLs, particularly those that are in recovery or prevention
- Projects that provide dual benefits to water supply and water quality
- Projects with complementary efforts, such as AWS projects that also provide flood protection, or recreational benefits
- The return on investment, that is, the amount of funding the state grant will leverage by District and/or local cooperators, while recognizing the funding limitations of REDI or other economically disadvantaged communities



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Springs Protection Projects

Eligible projects can include (but must provide a direct, quantifiable benefit to a spring):

- Water quality projects, including:
 - Those that treat stormwater runoff where no treatment currently exists
 - In-lake or in-stream water quality improvements through implementation of best management practices
 - Improvement of the treatment efficiency of an existing wastewater facility/system
 - Septic-to-sewer
- Natural systems projects
- Projects benefitting MFL waterbodies



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Springs Protection Projects

The District and DEP will consider the following factors in the selection of springs projects:

- Nutrient reductions to improve water quality
- Water savings or measurable quantity improvements
- Applicant match commitment
- Readiness to proceed in a timely manner
- Proximity to a priority focus area (PFA) or spring(s)
- Cost-effectiveness
- Whether the project is part of a restoration, prevention or recovery plan (i.e., BMAP, RAP, or MFL Recovery or Prevention Strategy)
- Whether the project is part of a multi-year program or (phased) project implementation plan



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Fiscal Year 2026 Timeline

- December 13, 2024 - Program announcement
- January 31, 2025 - Applications due by 5 p.m.*
- March 20, 2025 - Staff completes reviews and scoring
- May 13, 2025 - Governing Board selects projects for approval



Application Steps

1. Visit <https://www.sjrwm.com/localgovernments/funding/districtwide/>, and review the funding guidance manual
2. Schedule pre-application meeting
3. Submit application and supporting documentation



Ranking Criteria

- Benefit to District's Core Missions (up to 30 pts.)
- Secondary benefit to multiple missions (up to 10 pts.)
- Project purpose, goals, and success measures (up to 10 pts.)
- Project readiness (up to 20 pts.)
- Cost effectiveness (up to 30 pts.)



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