

DATE: October 6, 2026

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Advisor

FROM: Matthew Kaelin
Runoff Management Grants Coordinator
DNR Watershed Management Bureau
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

SUBJECT: DNR Scoring and Ranking of Targeted Runoff Management Applications for Calendar Year 2027 Funding

Recommended Action: DNR staff request that the LWCB make recommendations on the DNR proposed funding of TRM grant applications

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the ranked list for (CY) 2027 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered for calendar year (CY) 2027 funding are presented in the attached tables.

Chapter NR 153, Wis. Adm. Code, which governs the Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) Grant Program, became effective on Jan. 1, 2011, and includes four separate TRM project categories as noted below. Projects are scored individually and ranked against other projects in the same category. Once total available funding is determined, funds are allocated among the four project categories. The maximum possible awards are \$225,000 for Small-Scale projects and \$600,000 for Large-Scale projects.

Scoring And Ranking Summary To Date:

A. Small-Scale Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Nine (9) applications were submitted and are eligible for grant consideration.
- Funding requests for the applications total \$1,739,847.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,739,874 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

B. Small-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

C. Large-Scale TMDL

- Four (4) applications were submitted and are eligible for consideration.
- Funding requests for these applications total \$1,740,509.
- Based on available funding, the department proposes to allocate \$1,740,509 to fully fund grant requests from all projects.

D. Large-Scale Non-TMDL

- No applications were submitted in this project category.

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2026

All projects were scored and then ranked by score for each project category.

The department will include final allocations to counties for TRM projects in the *CY 2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan*. Once the *2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

While the federal government develops the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2027 budget, there is uncertainty about the availability of future of Section 319 funds and potential associated impacts to TRM grant funding. As more information is shared about the FFY 2027 federal budget, the DNR will be sure to notify applicants on the status of Section 319 funding in the 2027 TRM grant cycle and beyond.

All Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications

	Proposed Allocation			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$436,284	\$1,901,323	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$0	\$524,036	\$160,000
Local Assistance	\$0	\$137,336	\$181,077	\$140,000
Total TRM	\$436,284	\$2,038,659	\$705,113	\$300,000

Large-Scale And Small-Scale TRM Applications From Counties

	Proposed Allocation - Counties			
	Bond Revenue	GPR	319	Seg
Structural BMPs (including force account and engineering)	\$436,284	\$1,085,674	\$0	\$0
Non-Structural Practices (e.g., cropping)	\$0	\$0	\$368,036	\$160,000
Local Assistance	\$0	\$137,336	\$28,363	\$140,000
Total TRM	\$436,284	\$1,223,010	\$369,399	\$300,000

Materials Provided:

CY 2027 Small-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank
CY 2027 Large-Scale TMDL TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2027

Table 1. Small-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	West Allis, City	Stabilization of the Orchard Hills Canal, A Tributary to the Root River	SER	163.3	\$146,470	\$146,470
2	Polk County Land and Water Resource Department		NOR	147.4	\$225,000	\$371,470
3	Port Washington, City	Valley Creek Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance - Phase 1	SER	143.4	\$218,393	\$589,863
4	Ashland County Land and Water Conservation Dept	Richardson Project	NOR	132.3	\$225,000	\$814,863
5	Delavan, City	Ray Street Storm Water Filtration Basin	SER	131.0	\$225,000	\$1,039,863
6	Columbia County Land and Water Conservation Dept	Ryan/Grove Farm Grazing Project	SCR	130.0	\$123,960	\$1,163,823
7	Brown County	Prokash Farm Manure Storage	NER	126.5	\$225,000	\$1,388,823
8	Outagamie County Land Conservation Department	Gamers Creek Streambank Stabilization	NER	107.0	\$126,024	\$1,514,847
9	Walworth County Land Use and Resource Management Department	Kauer Properties LLC Manure Storage Project	SER	106.0	\$225,000	\$1,739,847

TRM Scoring by Project Category & Rank for 2027

Table 2. Large-Scale TMDL Project Applications

Rank	Applicant	Project Name	Region	Score	Total State Share Request	Cumulative Requested
1	Green Lake Sanitary District	Big Green Lake Watershed Best Management Practices Grant #2	NER	166	\$534,500	\$534,500
2	Fond du Lac County Land and Water	Silver Creek TRM Grant	NER	164.1	\$447,050	\$981,550
3	St Croix County Land and Water Conservation	Kinnickinnic River TMDL TRM Phase II	NOR	148.5	\$370,000	\$1,351,550
4	Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department	Mill Creek Watershed 9 Key TMDL Project Phase III	WCR	139.7	\$388,959	\$1,740,509

DATE: Oct. 6, 2026

TO: Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) and Adviser

FROM: Matthew Kaelin
Runoff Management Grants Coordinator
Watershed Management Bureau
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

SUBJECT: DNR Scoring And Ranking Of Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Applications For Calendar Year 2027 Funding

Recommended Action: DNR staff request that the LWCB make recommendations on the DNR-proposed funding of UNPS grant applications.

Summary: Through this memo, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is informing the Land and Water Conservation Board (LWCB) of the ranked list for calendar year (CY) 2027 grant funding. Scoring results for projects being considered in CY 2026 are presented in the attached tables.

The DNR funds Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management (UNPS) projects under the authority of s. 281.66, Wis. Stats. The purpose of this program is to control polluted runoff from urban project areas. Funds may be used for two types of projects:

1. Construction projects (may also include land acquisition) and
2. Planning projects. Each project type has its own application process and funding source. Consequently, construction projects and planning projects do not compete against each other for funding.

The DNR has been implementing an alternating schedule for UNPS Planning and UNPS Construction grants since 2016. UNPS Construction grant applications were solicited in 2026 for the CY 2027 award cycle. The UNPS Planning grant application will be available in 2027 for CY 2028 awards. Due to the alternating schedule for the UNPS grants, only the scoring and ranking summary for UNPS Construction projects is provided here.

Scoring and Ranking Summary to Date for UNPS – Construction Projects:

The maximum state cost share per successful application is \$150,000 plus an additional \$50,000 for land acquisition.

- Eighteen (18) applications were submitted; all are eligible for funding.
- Grant requests for the 18 eligible applications total \$2,562,735.
- DNR has \$2,381,832 available in funding for CY 2027.
- Based on available funding, DNR proposes to allocate \$2,381,832 to fully fund grant requests from eighteen (18) of the eighteen (18) projects.
- Additionally, DNR has applied for funding from the USEPA Sewer Overflow and Storm Water Reuse Municipal (OSG) Grants Program. If USEPA awards the OSG grant, the DNR plans to award these funds to eligible UNPS grant applicants (<http://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/sewer-overflow->

[and-stormwater-reuse-municipal-grants-program](#)). With this additional funding (\$1,152,435), DNR would be able to fund five projects. These projects are identified with an * below in the table

- The final ranked list includes the following changes from the preliminary ranked list.
 - OSG funding has been included.
 - Due to grants closing with some underspending, DNR can fund an additional grants on the ranked list.

The attached table shows the current rank order of applications.

Once the *2027 Joint Final Allocation Plan* is signed, the DNR will develop grant agreements for successful applications. During the grant agreement development process, funding amounts may be adjusted as necessary to reflect final cost-share rates and eligible project components.

	Proposed Allocation			
	City	Village	Town	County
Bond Revenue & GPR	\$1,465,585	\$405,000	\$350,000	\$22,025
OSG Funding	\$944,046	\$0	\$0	\$207,975

UNPS Planning Scoring By Rank For 2027

Rank	Applicant	Region	Project Name	Score	State Share + OSG*
1	Washington County*	SER	Washington County Highway Runoff Improvements	127.6	\$230,000
2	Milwaukee Public Schools*	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Lowell International School	121	\$386,115
2	Milwaukee Public Schools*	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Fifty-Third Street School	121	\$386,115
2	Milwaukee Public Schools*	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Morgandale School	121	\$386,115
3	Algoma Town	NER	Leonard Point Pond	115.5	\$200,000
3	Marshfield City	WCR	Mill Creek Business Park Dry to Wet Pond Conversion	115.5	\$150,000
4	Allouez, Village	NER	Riverview Park Pond	112.2	\$150,000
5	Neenah, Town	NER	Town of Neenah 2027 Ditch Amendments	108.9	\$150,000
6	Pewaukee, Village	SER	Street Sweeper	102.3	\$105,000
7	Onalaska, City	WCR	Sand Lake Road/USH 53 Regional Pond	99	\$150,000
8	Beloit, City	SCR	Henderson Storm Water Pond	92.4	\$200,000
9	Port Washington, City	SER	Valley Creek Corridor Green Stormwater Solutions at Upper Lake Park	90.2	\$150,000
9	North Fond du Lac, Village	WCR	Harrison St Pond	90.2	\$150,000
10	Beaver Dam, City	NER	Edgewater Park Shoreline Restoration	89.1	\$119,087
10	Watertown, City	SER	Watertown New Street Sweeper	89.1	\$96,498
11	Rice Lake, City	WCR	Short Street Storm Sewer Re-routing and Treatment Pond	81.4	\$150,000
12	Two Rivers, City	NER	City of Two Rivers Resilient Lake Michigan Waterfront Parkland	69.3	\$77,153
2	Milwaukee Public Schools*	SER	Greener Schools, Soaking Up Stormwater - MPS Wedgewood and Honey Creek School	121	\$298,187

Red = Not Funded

Black = Funded

* = OSG Funded