



BWSR CWF Multipurpose Drainage Management (MDM) Grants

Connecting Drainage Authorities to “External Sources of Funding”

July 2016

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to facilitate multipurpose drainage management practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce peak flows and flooding, and improve water quality, while protecting drainage system efficiency and reducing drainage system maintenance for priority Chapter 103E drainage systems. Practices include eligible on-field, on-farm, and on-drainage system practices within the benefited area or the watershed of a priority Chapter 103E drainage system.

These grants can be an “external source of funding” for water quality improvements, wetland restoration or flood control purposes, in accordance with:

1. Section 103E.011, Subd. 5. *Use of external sources of funding*;
2. the multipurpose water management provisions in Section 103E.015 *Considerations before drainage work is done*; and/or
3. other applicable provisions of Chapter 103E.

Clean Water Funds Available

\$875,000

Match

The 25% required match may be provided by a combination of sources including, but not limited to, the applicable Chapter 103E drainage system, cooperating landowners, federal grant funds, or LGU(s).

Budget

The applicant **must** provide a separate total budget amount for each type of activity/practice proposed. These costs shall include all costs related to the design and construction of the activity/practice. A spreadsheet listing practice type and technical assistance cost, construction cost and total cost must be attached to the application. This budget spreadsheet can be found on the Apply for Grants webpage at <http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/grants/apply/index.html>.

Applications submitted without this spreadsheet will not be considered.

MDM Eligibility

Applicant This grant program requires a Chapter 103E drainage authority (County, Joint County Board, or Watershed District) and Soil and Water Conservation District(s) to establish or define a partnership to apply for and use these grant funds.

- One SWCD or drainage authority partner is eligible to apply on behalf of a partnership, but must verify in the application that all the partner(s) are committed to the project.
- The drainage authority involved in an application must have submitted its current Annual Ditch Buffer Strip Report, in accordance with Section 103E.067.

MDM Eligibility (Continued)

Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System

A “Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System” is an existing system that has priority sediment and/or water quality concerns documented in an analysis, study, strategy, plan, or engineer’s repair report, or in an engineer’s preliminary survey report for a drainage project.

Applicant

This grant program requires a Chapter 103E drainage authority (County, Joint County Board, or Watershed District) and Soil and Water Conservation District(s) to establish or define a partnership to apply for and use these grant funds.

- One SWCD or drainage authority partner is eligible to apply on behalf of a partnership, but must verify in the application that all the partner(s) are committed to the project.
- The drainage authority involved in an application must have submitted its current Annual Ditch Buffer Strip Report, in accordance with Section 103E.067.

Eligible Activities

Proposed activities/practices must be conducted adjacent to, on, or within the watershed of, a Priority Chapter 103E Drainage System(s). Ranking criteria include points for projects proposing a combination of eligible activities that increase the overall effectiveness of the implemented practices/activities. Following is a list of eligible conservation practices and activities.

1. 410 *Grade Stabilization Structure.*
2. 412 *Grassed Waterway.*
3. 638 *Water and Sediment Control Basin.*
4. 606 *Open tile inlet replacement.*
5. *Storage and Treatment Wetland Restoration.*
6. CAP 130 *Drainage Water Management Plan.*
7. 587 *Structure for Water Control.*
8. 554 *Drainage Water Management, Implementation/Operation.*
9. 604 *Saturated Buffer.*
10. 605 *Denitrifying Bioreactor.*

Ineligible Activities

- Tile, except for tile outlets required for water and sediment control basins, tile required to make eligible drainage water management practices function, and dense pattern tile to replace open tile inlet(s);
- Ditching not associated with a storage and treatment wetland restoration;
- Grade stabilization structure(s) in and along the centerline of a Chapter 103E drainage system;
- Back-flow preventing flap gates on side inlet structure pipes;
- Bridges or culverts through roads;
- Water quality monitoring;
- Buffers that are required by law (including Drainage Law and Buffer Law), incremental buffer strips under Section 103E.021, Subd. 6, or buffer establishment for a saturated buffer.

Questions

Questions regarding grant applications should be directed to your area Board Conservationist or Clean Water Specialist; a map of work areas and contact information is available at www.bwsr.state.mn.us/contact/BC_areas.pdf. Questions may also be submitted by email to cwfquestions@state.mn.us. Responses will be posted on the BWSR website as a “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQ) document and updated weekly throughout the RFP. The final update will be posted on August 1, 2016.