



RENEWABLE
RESOURCE
GRANT
PROGRAM

DRAFT Grant Program Guidelines 2025 Biennium

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

DNRC will be accepting public comment on the Draft Grant Program Guidelines through November 10, 2023.

Please submit comments to DNRCgrants@mt.gov be sure to include “RRG Stakeholder” in the subject line of the email.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

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RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PROJECT GRANTS



PROJECT GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program (RRGL) funds the conservation, management, development and preservation of Montana's renewable resources. The RRG Project Grant Program has funded numerous public facility projects including drinking water, wastewater and solid waste development and improvement projects have received funding through this program. Other renewable resource projects that have been funded include irrigation rehabilitation, dam repair, soil and water conservation and forest enhancement.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any division of state government, tribal government, or other county, city, or local political subdivision. These governmental entities have included:

- cities,
- towns,
- counties,
- water and/or sewer districts,
- conservation districts,
- irrigation districts,
- school districts and universities,
- regional water authority,
- state agencies, and
- tribal governments

Private or non-profit entities are NOT ELIGIBLE for funding but may partner with a local government to submit an application if the project aligns with the sponsor's organization.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible funding types are specified in [85-1-602, Montana Code Annotated \(MCA\)](#).

“Either grants or loans may be provided to fund the following types of projects:

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PROJECT GRANTS

- (a) feasibility, design, research, and resource assessment studies;
- (b) preparation of construction, rehabilitation, or production plans; and
- (c) construction, rehabilitation, production, education, or other implementation effort”

Example Projects:

- Water, Wastewater or Stormwater Infrastructure
- Irrigation Infrastructure
- Dams
- Renewable Energy
- Restoration
- Studies

Ineligible Projects

RRGL Project Grants are not eligible for projects that are eligible for grant funds within another grant program in DNRC, such as Reclamation Development Grants, Aquatic Invasive Species Grants, etc.

If a project is determined to have adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated and does not preserve the state's renewable resources per 85-1-601, MCA, it is ineligible for a grant.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Staff time or professional services associated with grant administration.
- Contracted technical or engineering services for survey, project management, design, project oversight.
- Contracted construction services.
- Equipment, materials, or supplies.
- Project related permits or fees.

DNRC grants require compliance with the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement local rules and regulations.

Ineligible Expenses

DNRC grants do not reimburse:

- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PROJECT GRANTS

- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

The Montana Legislature appropriates funds directly to each project, based on amounts recommended by DNRC. DNRC limits grant funding recommendations to a maximum of \$125,000 for a renewable resource project.

MATCH

RRGL Project Grants do not require financial match. However, DNRC is required to evaluate project applications' financial and technical feasibility which takes into account reasonable project costs and committed matching funds.

HOW TO APPLY

Application materials are available through the DNRC website <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Grant-and-Loan-Programs/Renewable-Resource-Grants-and-Loans/>. **Applications are due May 15, 2024.**

PROJECT TYPE	APPLICATION
Infrastructure, No match	RRG Project Grant Application (Water & Wastewater)
Infrastructure, State and Federal Match ¹	Uniform Application and RRGL Supplement
Irrigation	RRG Project Grant Application (Irrigation & Other)
Other	RRG Project Grant Application (Irrigation & Other)

DNRC requires that applications and supporting materials are submitted **BOTH** online and by mail.

1. **Online:** Applications are available online through <http://grants.dnrc.mt.gov/submit> and are accepted online through the grant management system.

AND

2. **Mail:**

One (1) original Authorizing Statement.

One (1) unbound original application and all supporting documentation. Public Facility Projects will include a copy of the signed Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).

\$250.00 application fee (online or check by mail).

Mail to: MT DNRC RRGL Program, PO BOX 201601, Helena MT 59620

RANKING

Infrastructure and irrigation projects will be ranked separately.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PROJECT GRANTS

Applications will be reviewed and competitively ranked based on the renewable resource benefits of the proposed project. The proposed project must measurably conserve, manage, develop or preserve/protect Montana’s renewable resources. Points will be awarded for public benefits, whether the project implements the state water plan priorities and/or mitigates human health or safety problems.

DNRC must consider technical and financial feasibility as well as the applicant’s ability to manage a project. Projects that are not technically or financially feasible are not eligible. Financial feasibility considers the committed match in relation to total project cost. Technical feasibility includes but is not limited to:

- adequacy of the alternative analysis;
- adequacy of cost estimates for potential alternatives and the preferred alternative;
- preferred alternative selection;
- thoroughness and feasibility of the project’s implementation plan and schedules; and
- quality of supporting technical data submitted with the application.

DNRC solicits, evaluates, and ranks each application and forwards its recommendations for funding to the Governor’s Office before each regular legislative session. With the governor’s approval these recommendations are submitted to the legislature. The legislature makes the final decision on which projects will be funded.

Funds for projects approved by the legislature are awarded according to the funding priority list set by the legislature and are contracted according to available revenue. Not all approved projects will be funded if the total amount requested exceeds available funds.

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter. Failure to meet startup conditions within a 12-month timeframe will result in a rescinded award.

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to incurring project expenses eligible for reimbursement. All local procurement and state laws are required to be followed under this agreement. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and monthly or quarterly progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES BILLED PRIOR TO THE GRANT EXECUTION DATE ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PROJECT GRANTS

DNRC requires that grant recipients provide quarterly or more frequent progress reports.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

You can find more materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video ([link](#))- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require final reports, deliverables, and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement. Ten percent (10%) of the total grant will be withheld until the sponsor has submitted an acceptable final report.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
Lindsay Volpe Phone: 406-444-9766 lmvolpe@mt.gov	MCA Sections 85-1-602 and 85-1-605 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 36-17-607 – 36-17-612 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PLANNING GRANTS



PLANNING GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The purpose of the RRGL Planning Grant Program is to provide funding to governmental entities for professional and technical services necessary to produce a high quality RRGL grant application which leads to a project that conserves, manages, develops, or protects Montana’s renewable resources.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any division of state government, tribal government, or other county, city, or local political subdivision. These governmental entities have included:

- cities,
- towns,
- counties,
- water and/or sewer districts,
- conservation districts,
- irrigation districts,
- school districts and universities,
- regional water authority,
- state agencies, and
- tribal governments

Private or non-profit entities are NOT ELIGIBLE for funding but may partner with a local government to submit an application if the project aligns with the sponsor’s organization.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible funding types are specified in [85-1-602, Montana Code Annotated \(MCA\)](#).

“Either grants or loans may be provided to fund the following types of projects:

- (a) feasibility, design, research, and resource assessment studies; and
- (b) preparation of construction, rehabilitation, or production plans;

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PLANNING GRANTS

Example Projects:

- Water, Wastewater or Stormwater Infrastructure Preliminary Engineering Reports (PER)*
- Irrigation Infrastructure PER*
- Capital Improvement Plans (CIP)
- PER* Updates
- Growth Plans
- Sample Collections
- Surveys
- Studies
- Watershed Restoration Plans**
- Watershed Restoration Project Plans**

*Preliminary Engineering Reports must meet the standard as described in the most current Uniform Application for Montana Public Facility Projects or meet the requirements of the RRGL Project Grant Application – Technical Narrative.

**Watershed Restoration Plans and Project Plans must meet standard as described by DEQ's Nonpoint Source Management Program.

Ineligible Projects

RRGL Planning Grants will not be awarded to applications that are eligible for grant funds within another grant program in DNRC, such as Reclamation Development Grants, Aquatic Invasive Species Grants, etc.

If a project is determined to have adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated and do not preserve the state's renewable resources per 85-1-601, MCA, it is ineligible for a grant.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Contracted technical or engineering services.

DNRC grants require compliance with the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement local rules and regulations.

Ineligible Expenses

RRG Planning Grants will not reimburse:

- Grant administration costs.
- Cost for final design.
- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PLANNING GRANTS

or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).

- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

Infrastructure PER	Irrigation PER/ Technical Narrative	PER or Technical Narrative Update	Resource Services (Plans or Studies)	Watershed Restoration Plan	Watershed Restoration Project Plan
\$40,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$15,000	\$40,000	\$30,000

Applicants may submit multiple applications for distinct phases of a project or for multiple projects.

MATCH

No match is required for planning grant applications. Please provide all in-kind or matching funds for the planning to demonstrate financial feasibility to complete the project. Ranking will consider committed cash match.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$3,500,000 for Planning Grants. Application funding is available as revenue is received.

- MCEP/CDBG Planning Grant Match Cycle – October 2023
- Infrastructure Planning Grant Cycle #1 – December 2023
- Irrigation/Watershed Planning Grant Cycle #1 – December 2023

- Infrastructure Planning Grant Cycle #2 – September 2024
- Irrigation/Watershed Planning Grant Cycle #2 – September 2024

Future cycles will be announced at the DNRC's discretion.

HOW TO APPLY

Application materials are available through the DNRC website <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Conservation/Grant-and-Loan-Programs/Renewable-Resource-Grants-and-Loans/>.

RANKING

Infrastructure and irrigation/watershed projects will be ranked separately.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PLANNING GRANTS

Applications will be reviewed and competitively ranked based on the renewable resource benefits of the proposed project. The proposed project must measurably conserve, manage, develop or preserve/protect Montana’s renewable resources. Points will be awarded for public benefits, whether the project implements the state water plan priorities and/or mitigates human health or safety problems.

DNRC must consider technical and financial feasibility as well as the applicant’s ability to manage a project. Projects that are not technically or financially feasible are not eligible. Financial feasibility considers the committed match in relation to total project cost.

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter. Failure to meet startup conditions within a 12-month timeframe will result in a rescinded award.

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to incurring project expenses eligible for reimbursement. All local procurement and state laws are required to be followed under this agreement. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES BILLED PRIOR TO THE GRANT EXECUTION DATE ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

DNRC will reimburse the Planning Grant recipient a maximum of 50% of the total grant amount for incurred expenses once the grant receipt submits a draft planning document. DNRC will reimburse the balance of the grant funds upon receipt of an approved final planning document.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

You can find more materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video [\(link\)](#)- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require deliverables and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PLANNING GRANTS

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DNRC will be offering local governments assistance to apply for planning grants. These funds are designed to assist local governments that:

1. Do not have an established relationship with a professional engineering firm. OR
2. Have not been successful in applying for DNRC planning grants in the prior biennium.

DNRC will evaluate requests from local governments for technical assistance based on demonstrated need. If approved, DNRC will assign a contracted technical service provider to assist the local government with a planning grant application. Technical assistance is limited to \$3,000 or 20 hours. Technical service providers will be contracted directly with DNRC and assigned at random as local government requests are approved.

- Technical Assistance – January 2023

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
Lindsay Volpe Phone: 406-444-9766 lvolpe@mt.gov	MCA Sections 85-1-602 and 85-1-605 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 36-17-607 – 36-17-612 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PRIVATE GRANTS



PRIVATE GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

To promote the conservation, development, and beneficial use of Montana's water resources to secure maximum economic and social prosperity for its citizens.

The private water grant program supports water projects for non-government entities such as individuals, associations, and watershed groups.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

As defined in MCA 85-1-102(6)(a), "Private Person" means any individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other non-governmental entity that is not eligible for loans and grants under 85-1-605.

- Individuals/Private Person
- Associations
- Partnerships
- Corporations

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The renewable resource grants to private entities are available for any water-related project that meets the purpose of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program.

Criteria

- Project is economically feasible.
- Project benefits or develops a water resource.
- Project will provide a public benefit.
- Applicant must construct and operate within the state of Montana MCA 85-1-609 (1)(b) (Montana residents only).
- Applicant must hold all necessary lands for the necessary operation and maintenance of the project MCA 85-1-609 (4). (Primary residence only).
- Projects that could not be accomplished without the assistance of a grant or loan must be given preference MCA 85-1-610 (6) (Cannot be an income property).

Example Projects:

- Septic tank replacement or upgrade*

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PRIVATE GRANTS

- Projects that promote water conservation, water quality or beneficial use.
- Dam inspections and repair
- Irrigation system improvements
- Privately owned public water supply improvement
- Abandoning septic tank and connecting to sewer services

*A septic system repair or replacement project must have a letter from a regulatory agency requiring the system repair or replacement to demonstrate public benefit.

Ineligible Projects

- domestic well construction
- new home construction

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Contracted technical or engineering services.
- Contracted construction services.
- Equipment or materials.

Ineligible Expenses

- Grant administration costs.
- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).
- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PRIVATE GRANTS

GRANT LIMITS

Septic system replacement, repair or municipal connection	Septic system upgrade to provide higher level of treatment	Other eligible projects
25% of the total project cost up to \$5,000	25% of the total project cost up to \$7,500	25% of the total project cost up to \$5,000
Private person – 75% of the total project cost	Private person – 75% of the total project cost	Private person – 75% of the total project cost

MATCH

DNRC requires a 75% private cost share to be eligible for grant funds. Cost share is required for non-government entities, [MCA 85-1-614 \(b\)](#). Matching contributions may be in the form of in-kind services or cash from local, state or federal sources. However, all contributions must be targeted for expenditure on the project specifically identified in the application. Matching funds must be substantiated by accounting records and costs that would normally be considered eligible as meeting program requirements.

Eligible in-kind contributions are those project-specific contributions associated directly with project implementation. If your budget includes in-kind labor, always reference the source for your labor value estimate. It may be helpful to use the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website to estimate labor values for Montana: https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_mt.htm.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$100,000 for private grants. Grant cycles are open and awarded until funds have been expended.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications are submitted electronically. Register and apply at www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

The applicant will need to complete the following forms provided in the application:

- A Grant Authorization Statement that certifies that the Grant Recipient is authorized to enter into an Agreement with the DNRC.
- A Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service Form W-9.

RANKING

DNRC considers the following criteria for project eligibility:

- The extent and desirability of the renewable resource public benefits.
- The extent to which the project will effectively utilize water resources and promote the conservation and efficient use of the water resource must be evaluated and considered.
- Projects that could not be accomplished without the assistance of a loan or grant must be given preference.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – PRIVATE GRANTS

GRANT MANAGEMENT

The private grant recipient/authorized representative is required to enter into a grant agreement with the DNRC.

Once the project is complete the recipient will submit all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement to DNRC. These invoices/receipts will be used to create the funding amount of the grant agreement.

Grant recipients that have not shown any progress within 12 months of the signed agreement will be requested to provide justification to prevent forfeiture of the grant. Failure to show progress within a 12-month term will be cause for termination of the agreement.

Grant Closeout

Once the grant disbursement is complete the grant will be closed.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
David Larson Phone: 406-444-2951 dclarson@mt.gov	MCA Sections 85-1-602 and 85-1-605 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 36-17-607 – 36-17-612 (Administrative Rules of Montana)



EMERGENCY GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

To promote the conservation, development, and beneficial use of Montana’s water resources to secure maximum economic and social prosperity for its citizens.

The emergency grant program supports projects which pose an immediate threat to the beneficial management of a renewable resource and may not be made because of the gross negligence or lack of proper maintenance of the state, local, tribal government, or sponsored applicant.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any division of state government, tribal government, or other county, city, or local political subdivision. These governmental entities have included:

- cities,
- towns,
- counties,
- water and/or sewer districts,
- conservation districts,
- irrigation districts,
- school districts and universities,
- regional water authority,
- state agencies, and
- tribal governments

Private or non-profit entities are NOT ELIGIBLE for funding but may partner with a local government to submit an application if the project aligns with the sponsor’s organization.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – EMERGENCY GRANTS

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

The emergency grants to government entities are available for any water-related project that meets the purpose of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program.

Criteria

- Project is economically feasible.
- Project addresses an immediate threat to the beneficial management of a renewable resource.
- If the project is delayed, will cause substantial damage or legal liability to the applicant.
- The emergency is not a result of gross negligence of the applicant.
- The emergency is not a result of lack of or delay of maintenance.
- The applicant demonstrates financial need.
- Project expenses incur within the current biennium.

Example Projects:

- Irrigation
 - Irrigation structure/diversion and headgate repairs after flooding
 - Canal bank failures
- Water and Sewer Infrastructure
 - Frozen line breaks, ice damage, lightning strike on electrical or SCADA system, rocks disabling lifts stations, damage from unintended consequences.
 - Water intake structures and sewer lagoons/dike repairs after flooding.
- Dams – Municipal and Irrigation Storage
 - Operating and guard gate repairs following an earthquake.

Ineligible Projects

- Infrastructure failures resulting from a lack of routine maintenance.
- Improper operation of infrastructure systems that result in damage or failure.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Contracted technical or engineering services.
- Contracted construction services.
- Equipment or materials.

Ineligible Expenses

- Grant administration costs.
- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – EMERGENCY GRANTS

project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).

- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

Low – Moderate Severity Emergency Low – Moderate Financial Need	Moderate – High Severity Emergency Low – Moderate Financial Need
\$10,000	\$30,000
Local government – no match required	Local government – no match required

MATCH

No match is required for emergency grant applications. Please provide all in-kind or matching funds for the planning to demonstrate financial feasibility to complete the project. Grant eligibility will consider committed cash match as part of the financial feasibility.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$300,000 for emergency grants. Grant cycles are open and awarded until funds have been expended.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications are submitted electronically. Register and apply at www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov. The applicant will need to complete the following forms provided in the application:

- A Grant Authorization Statement that certifies that the Grant Recipient is authorized to enter into an Agreement with the DNRC.

RANKING

DNRC considers the following criteria for project eligibility:

- The project will have renewable resource benefits.
- The project will have public benefits.
- The project is technical and financially feasible.
- The project will not have adverse environmental impacts.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM – EMERGENCY GRANTS

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter.

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to requesting reimbursement. All local procurement and state laws are required to be followed under this agreement. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and monthly or quarterly progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES BILLED OUTSIDE THE CURRENT BIENNIUM ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

DNRC requires that grant recipients provide quarterly or more frequent progress reports.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

Program materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video ([link](#))- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require final reports, deliverables, and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement. Ten percent (10%) of the total grant will be withheld until the sponsor has submitted an acceptable final report.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
David Larson Phone: 406-444-2951 dclarson@mt.gov	MCA Sections 85-1-602 and 85-1-605 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 36-17-607 – 36-17-612 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS



IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The Irrigation Development Grant (IDG) Program supports irrigation projects that increase or sustain irrigated agriculture in Montana. Projects must address a need that will result in a benefit to irrigated agriculture.

Irrigation is the dominant commercial use of Montana's water and is a key component of Montana's economy, accounting for 96% of surface and ground water withdrawals. The IDG program was created to increase the value of irrigated crops while preserving natural resources and the environment for future generations.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

As defined in MCA 85-1-102(6)(a), "Private Person" means any individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other non-governmental entity that is not eligible for loans and grants under 85-1-605.

- Individuals/Private Person
- Associations
- Partnerships
- Corporations

Small family on farm projects (MCA 85-1-6010(2)) must be given preference. A family farm is one devoted primarily to agriculture under the ownership and operation of a resident Montana family.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects must:

1. Measurably conserve, manage, develop, or preserve resources.
2. Provide public benefits (MCA 85-1-609 (1)(g)).
3. Address development or sustainment of Montana's irrigated agriculture.
4. Initiate or increase the sponsor's water conservation or measurement efforts.
5. Be constructed, developed, and operated within the state of Montana.

Example Projects:

- Advancement of farming practices that reduce agricultural chemical use.
- Land leveling
- Planning
- New development

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

- Repair and upgrades
- Measurement

Ineligible Projects

- Irrigation projects for lawns or domestic use.
- Irrigation for alfalfa or hay for personal use.
- Projects resulting in adverse effects to renewable resources.
- Grant funds cannot reimburse resalable or moveable equipment, i.e. pivots or pumps.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Contracted technical or engineering services.
- Contracted construction services.
- Equipment or materials.

Ineligible Expenses

- Grant administration costs.
- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).
- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

Irrigation Development Grants may fund 50% of the total project costs up to \$50,000.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

MATCH

A 50% cost share is required for non-government entities, [MCA 85-1-614 \(b\)](#). Matching contributions may be in the form of in-kind services or cash from local, state or federal sources. However, all contributions must be targeted for expenditure on the project specifically identified in the application. Matching funds must be substantiated by accounting records and costs that would normally be considered eligible as meeting program requirements.

Eligible in-kind contributions are those project-specific contributions associated directly with project implementation. If your budget includes in-kind labor, always reference the source for your labor value estimate. It may be helpful to use the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website to estimate labor values for Montana: https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_mt.htm.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$500,000 for Irrigation Development Grants for the 2025 biennium. Application funding is available as revenue received.

- CYCLE #1 February 2024
- CYCLE #2 November 2024

HOW TO APPLY

All applications are submitted electronically. Register and apply at www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

RANKING

DNRC considers the following criteria for project eligibility and ranking:

- The extent and desirability of public benefits.
 - Irrigated acreage impacted by the project.
 - Economic impacts of the project.
- A water-related project that will be used as part of a family farm must be given preference. A family farm is one devoted primarily to agriculture under the ownership and operation of a resident Montana family.
- A water-related project that will utilize or develop water reserved under 85-2-316 must be given preference.
- Geographic balance in the promotion of renewable resource grant projects.
- The extent to which the project will effectively utilize water resources and promote the conservation and efficient use of the water resource.
- Projects that could not be accomplished without the assistance of a loan or grant must be given preference.
- Financial feasibility. Committed cash match will receive a higher preference than uncommitted match or in-kind match.
- Technical feasibility, the thoroughness and feasibility of the project's implementation plan and schedule.
- If a project is determined to have adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated and does not preserve the state's renewable resources per 85-1-601, MCA, it is ineligible for a grant.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter.

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to requesting reimbursement. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and monthly or quarterly progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES INCURRED OUTSIDE THE CURRENT BIENNIUM ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

DNRC requires that grant recipients provide progress reports with each reimbursement request.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

Program materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video ([link](#))- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require final reports, deliverables, and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement. Ten percent (10%) of the total grant will be withheld until the sponsor has submitted an acceptable final report.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
Ann L Kulczyk Phone: 406-228-4129 akulczyk@mt.gov	MCA Sections 90-9-102 and 90-9-401 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 4.16.101 – 4.16.701 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The Watershed Management Grant (WMG) Program goals are to provide financial support for the development and implementation of locally led watershed related planning and capacity building activities that conserve, develop, manage, or preserve state natural resources. These goals are aligned with Montana Code Annotated (MCA) Title 85, Chapter 1, Part 6.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any division of state government, tribal government, or other county, city, or local political subdivision. These governmental entities have included:

- cities,
- towns,
- counties,
- water and/or sewer districts,
- conservation districts,
- irrigation districts,
- school districts and universities,
- regional water authority,
- state agencies, and
- tribal governments

Private or non-profit entities are also eligible for funding. As defined in MCA 85-1-102(6)(a), "Private Person" means any individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other non-governmental entity that is not eligible for loans and grants under 85-1-605.

- Individuals/Private Person
- Associations
- Partnerships
- Corporations

Sponsorship

A government entity may sponsor a non-government entity for a Watershed Management Grant. The sponsor must submit the application and provide project oversight. Grant sponsors must have a material

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS

connection to the work being performed and are the legal party for purposes of project representation, negotiations, and communications. DNRC will require that a government entity sponsoring a grant for a non-government entity will provide an executed MOU as startup conditions.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Grants will be awarded for planning efforts and capacity building activities identified in a strategic plan, that conserve, develop, manage, or preserve state natural resources. Approved grants shall be an instrument to enhance natural resource benefits.

Example Projects:

- Watershed Group Formation
- Watershed Strategic Plans
- Watershed Group Strategic Plan Program or Initiative
- Hosting a Big Sky Watershed Corps member.

Ineligible Projects

Watershed Management Grants will not fund projects or programs that are eligible for grant funds within another grant program in DNRC, such as Reclamation Development Grants, Aquatic Invasive Species Grants, etc.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

- Staff time for project management.
- Staff time and expenses for grant administration, reporting and expense tracking.
- Costs associated with stakeholder meetings.
- Consultant expenses associated with monitoring, design, grant writing or development of natural resource management plans.
- Conferences or training for staff development.
- Materials.
- Equipment rental or purchase.
- Travel expenses must comply with the State of Montana Travel Policy
- Purchases of goods, services or supplies must meet the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement regulations.

Ineligible Expenses

- Program Costs aka indirect costs:

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS

- "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).
 - Political lobbying or litigation
 - Land or property acquisition
 - Food or beverages
 - Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

Watershed Group Formation	Watershed Group Strategic Plans	Watershed Group Strategic Plan or Initiative	Big Sky Watershed Corps Host Site Cost Share
\$40,000	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$8,000
Local Government – no match	Local Government – no match	Local Government – no match	Local Government – no match
Non-government entity – Up to 50% of the total project cost	Non-government entity – Up to 50% of the total project cost	Non-government entity – Up to 50% of the total project cost	Non-government entity – Up to 50% of the total project cost

MATCH

Watershed Management Grants to a local government entity do not require financial match. However, DNRC is required to evaluate project applications' financial and technical feasibility which considers reasonable project costs and committed matching funds.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS

A 50% cost share is required for non-government entities, [MCA 85-1-614 \(b\)](#). Matching contributions may be in the form of in-kind services or cash from local, state or federal sources. However, all contributions must be targeted for expenditure on the project specifically identified in the application. Matching funds must be substantiated by accounting records and costs that would normally be considered eligible as meeting program requirements.

Eligible in-kind contributions are those project-specific contributions associated directly with project implementation. If your budget includes in-kind labor, always reference the source for your labor value estimate. It may be helpful to use the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website to estimate labor values for Montana: https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_mt.htm.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$500,000 for Watershed Management Grants for the 2025 biennium. Application funding is available as revenue received.

- CYCLE #1 JANUARY 2024
- CYCLE #2 JULY 2024

HOW TO APPLY

All applications are submitted electronically. Register and apply at www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

RANKING

DNRC considers the following criteria for project eligibility and ranking:

- Potential for renewable resource benefits.
- Potential public benefits. Including implementation of the state water plan priorities.
- Technical feasibility of the proposed plan.
 - Thoroughness of the implementation plan and schedule.
- Financial feasibility of the proposed plan.
 - Financial feasibility considers the committed match in relation to total project cost. Committed cash match will receive a higher preference than uncommitted match or in-kind match.
- The applicant's ability to manage a project as demonstrated in a clear grant management plan.
- Public and stakeholder support.

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter. Failure to meet startup conditions within a 12-month timeframe will result in a rescinded award.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to incurring project expenses eligible for reimbursement. All local procurement and state laws are required to be followed under this agreement. Grant recipients that have not procured planning services within 12 months of the signed agreement will be requested to provide justification to prevent forfeiture of the grant. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and monthly or quarterly progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES INCURRED PRIOR TO AN EXECUTED GRANT AGREEMENT ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

DNRC requires that grant recipients provide quarterly or more frequent progress reports.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

Program materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video ([link](#))- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require final reports, deliverables, and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement. Ten percent (10%) of the total grant will be withheld until the sponsor has submitted an acceptable final report.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
Melissa Downing Watershed Management Grant Program Manager 406-444-0697 melissa.downing@mt.gov	MCA Sections 90-9-102 and 90-9-401 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 4.16.101 – 4.16.701 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

NPS GRANTS



NPS GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Reduction (NPS) Grant Program is to provide financial assistance to projects which measurably preserve Montana's water resources. Projects must improve water quality or water quantity including streamflows and water storage in existing natural systems, such as riparian areas, flood plains and wetlands.

NPS grants can fund projects that provide public benefits such as erosion reduction, water quality enhancement and sediment reduction. Nonpoint source pollution is the contamination or other alteration of the physical, chemical or biological properties of state waters. "State waters" means a body of water*, irrigation system*, or drainage system, either surface or underground.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include any division of state government, tribal government, or other county, city, or local political subdivision. These governmental entities have included:

- cities,
- towns,
- counties,
- water and/or sewer districts,
- conservation districts,
- irrigation districts,
- school districts and universities,
- regional water authority,
- state agencies, and
- tribal governments

Private or non-profit entities are also eligible for funding. As defined in MCA 85-1-102(6)(a), "Private Person" means any individual, association, partnership, corporation, or other non-governmental entity that is not eligible for loans and grants under 85-1-605.

- Individuals/Private Person
- Associations
- Partnerships
- Corporations

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

NPS GRANTS

Sponsorship

A government entity may sponsor a non-government entity for a NPS Grant. The sponsor must submit the application and provide project oversight. Grant sponsors must have a material connection to the work being performed and are the legal party for purposes of project representation, negotiations, and communications. DNRC will require that a government entity sponsoring a grant for a non-government entity will provide an executed MOU as startup conditions.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Project types eligible for funding:

Municipal Sewer Connections to eliminate individual or group septic systems

- Septic systems must be eliminated and reclaimed.
- Grants to government entities must directly offset or eliminate costs for individual homeowners to connect.
- Grants to private entities must meet the match requirement of 50% of the total project cost.
- Priority to connection projects that demonstrate septic risks to state waters.

Nonpoint Source Implementation Projects

- Projects activities must be identified in Montana NPS Appendix A - Best Management Practices
- Projects identified in an approved Watershed Restoration Plan will receive priority.

DEQ 319 Funded Project Match

- Projects must be approved by the DEQ for 319 grant funds.
- Grant funds will be used as non-federal match to meet the 319 grant requirements.
- Grant program meets the same eligibility and other requirements of the 319-grant program.

Ineligible Projects

NPS Grants will not fund projects or programs that are eligible for grant funds within another grant program in DNRC, such as Reclamation Development Grants, Aquatic Invasive Species Grants, etc.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

DNRC grants reimburse eligible project costs:

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM NPS GRANTS

- Professional engineering services for investigation, design, and oversight.
- Contracted construction services.
- Equipment and materials.
- Staff time related to activity planning and project management.
- Staff time and expenses for grant administration, reporting and expense tracking.
- Travel expenses must comply with the State of Montana Travel Policy
- Purchases of goods, services or supplies must meet the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement regulations.

Ineligible Expenses

- Program Costs aka indirect costs:
 - "Program costs" means non-reimbursable costs not directly related to the project. Program costs include but are not limited to: office rent that will be incurred whether or not the project is implemented; salaries of existing fully funded staff positions unless the work-hours associated with the project are accounted for; or any other costs that pay for ongoing or general services of the applicant. For example: rent, utilities, licenses, reoccurring/regular meetings/newsletters (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), staff time (unrelated to planning or specific capacity development), ongoing cost deemed necessary to continue business (operations).
- Political lobbying or litigation
- Land or property acquisition
- Food or beverages
- Activities that limit lawful access to property (see MCA 85-1-602 (4))

GRANT LIMITS

Municipal Sewer Connections – Local Government	Nonpoint Source Implementation Projects	DEQ 319 Funded Project Match
\$100,000 total \$5,000 per connection	\$50,000	Up to 30% of the total project cost
Local Government – no match	Local Government – no match	
	Non-Government Entity – Up to 50% of the total project cost	

MATCH

NPS Grants to a local government entity do not require financial match. However, DNRC is required to evaluate project applications' financial and technical feasibility which considers reasonable project costs and committed matching funds.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

NPS GRANTS

A 50% cost share is required for non-government entities, [MCA 85-1-614 \(b\)](#). Matching contributions may be in the form of in-kind services or cash from local, state or federal sources. However, all contributions must be targeted for expenditure on the project specifically identified in the application. Matching funds must be substantiated by accounting records and costs that would normally be considered eligible as meeting program requirements.

Eligible in-kind contributions are those project-specific contributions associated directly with project implementation. If your budget includes in-kind labor, always reference the source for your labor value estimate. It may be helpful to use the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website to estimate labor values for Montana: https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_mt.htm.

FUNDING CYCLES

House Bill 6 includes \$3,500,000 for NPS Grants. Application funding is available as revenue is received.

- Municipal Sewer Connections Funding Cycle: March 2024 until expended
- NPS Project Implementation Funding Cycles: September 2024
- DEQ 319 Funded Project Match: Based on DEQ application and award cycles.

HOW TO APPLY

All applications are submitted electronically. Register and apply at www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

To apply for DEQ 319 funds, please visit DEQ.MT.GOV.

RANKING

DNRC considers the following criteria for project eligibility and ranking:

- Renewable resource benefits.
- Public benefits.
- Implementation of the state water plan priorities or will mitigate human health or safety projects.
- Financial feasibility of the proposed plan.
 - Financial feasibility considers the committed match in relation to total project cost. Committed cash match will receive a higher preference than uncommitted match or in-kind match.
- Technical feasibility of the proposed plan.
 - Adequacy of alternatives analysis
 - Adequacy of cost estimates
 - Thoroughness of the implementation plan and schedule.
 - Quality of the technical data submitted with the application.
- The applicant's ability to manage a project as demonstrated in a clear grant management plan.
- Public and stakeholder support.
- If a project is determined to have adverse environmental impacts that cannot be mitigated and do not preserve the state's renewable resources per 85-1-601, MCA, it is ineligible for a grant.

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM

NPS GRANTS

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Awards

DNRC will provide an award letter to successful applicants. The applicant will be responsible for providing the necessary startup conditions within the timeframe identified in the award letter. Failure to meet startup conditions within a 12-month timeframe will result in a rescinded award.

Contracting

DNRC grant recipients are required to enter into an agreement with the DNRC prior to incurring project expenses eligible for reimbursement. All local procurement and state laws are required to be followed under this agreement. Grant recipients that have not procured planning services within 12 months of the signed agreement will be requested to provide justification to prevent forfeiture of the grant. DNRC may require a project kickoff call and monthly or quarterly progress meetings to ensure project success.

Reimbursement & Reporting

PROJECT EXPENSES INCURRED PRIOR TO AN EXECUTED GRANT AGREEMENT ARE INELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT.

DNRC requires that grant recipients provide quarterly or more frequent progress reports.

DNRC requires that grant recipients submit requests for reimbursement using the state vendor invoice. In addition to the DNRC vendor invoice, the grant recipient will submit copies of all applicable invoices and/or receipts eligible for reimbursement. All reimbursement and reporting are submitted through the online grant management system www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov.

Program materials and information on the DNRC [Resources and Training](#) webpage. Contact your grant manager with any questions or help items. Instructions for submitting reports and reimbursement requests can also be found through this Training Video ([link](#))- Access Passcode: %F8b!jJG.

Grant Closeout

DNRC grants require final reports, deliverables, and invoices in compliance with the agreement in order to process final reimbursement. Ten percent (10%) of the total grant will be withheld until the sponsor has submitted an acceptable final report.

Current Grant Cycle and deadline information is available at www.dnrc.mt.gov
Apply online: www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov

Program Contact	Legal Authority
Lindsay Volpe Phone: 406-444-9766 lvolpe@mt.gov	MCA Sections 85-1-602 and 85-1-605 (Montana Code Annotated) ARM 36-17-607 – 36-17-612 (Administrative Rules of Montana)

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT PROGRAMS 2025 BIENNIUM – SUMMARY TABLE

	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects	Grant Limits	Match	Eligible Expenses	Funding Cycles	Grant Admin	Apply Online	Program Contact
Project Grants	Local Governments	Infrastructure	\$125,000.00	Not required for local governments	Staff time - project management and grant administration Contracted professional services Contracted construction services Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs	Applications due May 15, 2024	Award Letter Startup Conditions Grant Agreement Project Kickoff Meeting Progress Meetings Reimbursement only eligible during executed grant term Quarterly reporting Reimbursement Requests Withhold 10% Final Report	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	Lindsay Volpe 406-444-9766 lvolpe@mt.gov
		Irrigation							
		Dams							
		Renewable Energy							
		Restoration							
		Studies							
Planning Grants	Local Governments	Infrastructure PER	\$40,000.00	Not required for local governments	Contracted professional services	MCEP/CDBG Planning Grant Match Cycle – October 2023	Award Letter Grant Agreement Progress Meetings Reimbursement 50% with draft document Final reimbursement with final document	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	Lindsay Volpe 406-444-9766 lvolpe@mt.gov
		Irrigation PER/ Technical Narrative	\$30,000.00			---			
		PER or Technical Narrative Update	\$20,000.00			Infrastructure Planning Grant Cycle #1 – December 2023			
		Resource Services	\$15,000.00			Irrigation/Watershed Planning Grant Cycle #1 – December 2023			
		Watershed Restoration Plan	\$40,000.00			---			
		Watershed Restoration Project Plan	\$30,000.00			Infrastructure Planning Grant Cycle #2 – September 2024			
		Technical Assistance	\$3,000.00			Irrigation/Watershed Planning Grant Cycle #2 – September 2024			
Private Grants	Private Person	Septic system replacement, repair or municipal connection	\$5,000.00	75% total project cost	Contracted professional services Contracted construction services.	Open and awarded until funds have been expended.	Award One reimbursement Closeout	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	David Larson 406-444-2951 dclarson@mt.gov

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT PROGRAMS 2025 BIENNIUM – SUMMARY TABLE

	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects	Grant Limits	Match	Eligible Expenses	Funding Cycles	Grant Admin	Apply Online	Program Contact
		Septic system upgrade	\$7,500.00		Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs				
		Other projects	\$5,000.00						
Emergency Grants	Local Governments	Emergency Repair or Rehabilitation Projects	\$10,000 - \$30,000	Not required	Contracted professional services Contracted construction services. Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs	Open and awarded until funds have been expended.	Award One reimbursement Closeout	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	David Larson 406-444-2951 dclarson@mt.gov
Irrigation Development Grants	Private Person Small, family, on-farm projects	Irrigation Development Projects	\$50,000.00	50% total project cost	Contracted professional services Contracted construction services. Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs	CYCLE #1 February 2024 CYCLE #2 November 2024	Award Letter Startup Conditions Grant Agreement Reimbursement for eligible expenses during biennium Reimbursement Requests with progress report Withhold 10% Final Report	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	Ann L Kulczyk 406-228-4129 akulczyk@mt.gov
Watershed Management Grants	Local Governments --- Private Non-Government	Watershed Group Formation	\$40,000.00	Not required for local governments --- 50% total project cost for non-government entities	Staff time - project management and grant administration Costs associated with stakeholder meetings. Contracted professional services associated with monitoring, design, grant writing or development of natural resource management plans. Conferences or training for staff development. Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs	CYCLE #1 January 2024 CYCLE #2 July 2024	Award Letter Startup Conditions Grant Agreement Project Kickoff Meeting Progress Meetings Reimbursement only eligible during executed grant term Quarterly reporting Reimbursement Requests Withhold 10% Final Report	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	Melissa Downing 406-444-0697 melissa.downing@mt.gov
	Watershed Strategic Plans	\$25,000.00							
	Watershed Group Strategic Plan Program or Initiative	\$30,000.00							
	Hosting a Big Sky Watershed Corps member.	\$8,000.00	Purchases of goods, services or supplies must meet the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement regulations.						

RENEWABLE RESOURCE GRANT PROGRAMS 2025 BIENNIUM – SUMMARY TABLE

	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects	Grant Limits	Match	Eligible Expenses	Funding Cycles	Grant Admin	Apply Online	Program Contact
Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS) Reduction Grants	Local Governments	Municipal Sewer Connections	\$100,000 total \$5,000 per connection	Not required for local governments	Staff time - project management and grant administration Contracted professional services for investigation, design, and oversight.	March 2024 until expended	Award Letter Startup Conditions Grant Agreement Project Kickoff Meeting Progress Meetings Reimbursement only eligible during executed grant term Quarterly reporting Reimbursement Requests Withhold 10% Final Report	www.grants.dnrc.mt.gov	Lindsay Volpe Phone: 406-444-9766 lvolpe@mt.gov
	Local Governments	NPS Implementation Projects	\$50,000.00	Not required for local governments	Contracted construction services. Equipment, materials, supplies Project related costs Travel expenses must comply with the State of Montana Travel Policy	Cycle #1 September 2024			
	Private Non-Government			50% total project cost for non-government entities	Purchases of goods, services or supplies must meet the Montana Procurement Act and/or local procurement regulations.				
	See DEQ 319 Program Regulations	DEQ 319 Funded Project Match	See DEQ 319 Program Regulations	Up to 30% of total project cost	See DEQ 319 Program Regulations	See DEQ 319 Program Regulations			