



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

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Director

MEMORANDUM

To: Prospective WQIF Grant Recipients

From: DEQ – Clean Water Financing and Assistance Program

Date: April 1, 2026

Re: Water Quality Improvement Fund – Needs Survey for FY 2026

The 1997 Virginia Water Quality Improvement Act (Code of Virginia §§ 10.1-2117 through 10.1-2134.1) require the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to annually determine an estimate of the amount of Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) matching grants expected to be requested by local governments for eligible projects related to planning, designing, and implementing nutrient reduction technology and conveyance infrastructure (where a conveyance project diverts wastewater from one eligible treatment works to another eligible treatment works for nutrient removal purposes) for dischargers within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

DEQ is seeking input to identify future funding needs for WQIF-eligible nutrient reduction projects in the Commonwealth. This survey intends to capture an estimate of the WQIF funding needed for prospective grantees implementing nutrient reduction technology within the next five fiscal years (i.e. FY 2027 through FY 2031). Please note that respondents reporting needs in FY 2027 are required to submit documentation to substantiate the reported project's cost.

DEQ will use the data obtained from this survey to prepare the estimate of the amount of WQIF matching grants expected to be requested by local governments. The estimate will be included in the Annual Report submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly pursuant to § 10.1-2134 of the Code of Virginia.

The 2026 WQIF Needs Survey is available here: <https://forms.office.com/g/Tziatm2jyy>.

For the 2026 survey, **your submission, including documentation to substantiate costs (if applicable), must be received by May 15, 2026** for DEQ to include your information in the aforementioned reporting. Questions about this survey should be directed to David Taylor at (757) 705-8293 or Lauren Linville at (804) 653-2486 or by emailing cwfap@deq.virginia.gov.

Thank you in advance for your participation.