

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Springs Coast Steering Committee

FY2026

FDEP Springs Funding Process

July 24, 2024

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

Madison Trowbridge, Ph.D.

Springs Scientist

Natural Systems & Restoration

Agenda

- Review and Request Approval for FY26 Springs Funding Process
 - Application
 - Evaluations and Criteria
 - Prioritization and Ranking Process
- Request Approval of Future Meeting Dates

Proposed application

Springs Coast Steering, Management and Technical Committees

There are more than 200 documented springs throughout the District. However, most individual springs cluster around 16 groups of springs, five of which are classified as first-magnitude groups based on the amount of water they discharge.



While recognizing the need to manage all springs, the District places a priority on the five first-magnitude spring groups: Rainbow, Crystal River/Kings Bay, Homosassa, Chassahowitzka, and Weeki Wachee. These spring groups, located in or discharging to an area known as the Springs Coast, collectively discharge more than one billion gallons per day.

Each spring system in the Springs Coast region is a unique, complex system with different sets of challenges, so each one will require different management techniques. To address these issues, the District invited local, regional and state agencies to form the Springs Coast Steering Committee (SCSC). The first goal of the SCSC is to develop management plans tailored for each spring system to identify issues, solutions, costs and responsibilities.

To assist in the effort, the SCSC has created the Springs Coast Management Committee (SCMC) to review technical data and make recommendations to the SCSC. The SCMC is composed of

First Magnitude Springs in West-Central Florida

Chassahowitzka Springs
Crystal River/Kings Bay
Homosassa Springs
Rainbow Springs
Weeki Wachee Springs

Springs Dashboards



View at-a-glance data on the first magnitude springs:

- Chassahowitzka Springs
- Homosassa Springs
- Kings Bay Springs
- Rainbow Springs
- Weeki Wachee Springs

Sign up for Our Springs Newsletter »

For more information, email the Springs Team »

Public Meetings Information »

FY2026 Springs Funding Application
For a pre-application meeting contact Carrieann Adkins.


www.watermatters.org

Menu → Programs and Projects → Springs in West Central Florida → Springs Committees

Download application from link that will be placed on the SWFWMD SCSC Website



Proposed Application



FY2026
FDEP Springs Funding Application
for Projects within the Southwest Florida
Water Management District

This application should be completed and emailed with the appropriate calculations and map to Lisa.Laupert@swfwmd.state.fl.us by 5:00PM on October 4, 2024.

1. Applicant Information

Entity Name:

Is the Entity designated as an economically disadvantaged community? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Project Manager Name:

Project Manager Address:

Project Manager Phone Number:

Project Manager Email Address:

Email Lisa Laupert (SWFWMD) by
5:00 PM October 4, 2024

- Complete application form
- Benefits calculation
- Location map
- Multi-year funding requests (if applicable)
- Supplemental questions for evaluation

Proposed Application – Changes from FY25

- Cost breakdown table (pg. 3)
- Updated contact to Carrieann Adkins (pg. 5)
- Number of households serviced (pg. 6)

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Process

Pre-Submittal Meetings/ Application

FY2025
FDEP Springs Funding Application
for Projects within the Southwest Florida
Water Management District

This application should be completed and emailed with the appropriate calculations and map to Lisa.Laupert@swfwmd.state.fl.us by 5:00PM on October 6, 2023.

1. Applicant Information

Entity Name:

Is the Entity designated as an economically disadvantaged community? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Project Manager Name:

Project Manager Address:

Project Manager Phone Number:

Project Manager Email Address:

2. Project Information

Project Name:

Project Type:

Is this a multiyear project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Note: For multiyear funding request, please download the [multiyear funding request spreadsheet](#), complete the form, and send in with this application.

What is the anticipated start and end date for the work that will be conducted under this funding request (in MM/YYYY)?

Start Date: End Date:

If applicable, list the anticipated start and end dates for the design and construction phases (MM/YYYY).

Design: - Construction: -

Estimated design completion at time of application (enter 0 if design is not yet started): % complete

Are permits required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If permits are required, please describe the required permits and the status at the time of application.



Preliminary Evaluation

Project No:	APP91	Spring County Wastewater Treatment Project	FY2023
Project Type:	Wastewater Collection & Treatment	Multyear Contract:	No
Description: Design, permitting, and construction of a new 3 mgd advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Spring County development, a lift station, wastewater force main, a biosolids treatment facility, and other necessary appurtenances to replace the existing 1 mgd conventional WWTP. Funding is also requested for reclaimed water infrastructure including 7 mg storage tank a pump station, transmission main, and control appurtenances.			
Costs:	Total project cost: \$50,000,000 (Design, permitting, and construction) Applicant share: \$10,000,000 DEP share: \$40,000,000 Other share: \$0 District share: The county has requested \$15,000,000 from the District through the cooperative funding program. If approved, this will reduce the FDEP share to \$25,000,000.		
PROJECT INFORMATION			
Spring Information:	Benefitting spring: Rainbow		
	High	Yes Benefitting spring is an OFS?	
	High	Yes Project located within the BMAP?	
	High	Yes Project located within the PFA?	
Project Benefit:	The spring is approximately 2 miles from the project location.		
	High	The benefit for this water quality project is the reduction of pollutant loads by an estimated 2000 lbs/yr TN.	
Cost Effectiveness:	High	The estimated cost for this project is \$ 123/lb of TN.	
Related Strategies:	High	Project is listed in the BMAP list of projects or is anticipated to be listed in the BMAP in the next update?	
	High	Yes	
	High	Benefitting spring has an MFL?	
	High	No Project is part of a specific water quality or water quantity improvement plan?	
Local Match:	Notes: The project is anticipated to be listed in the BMAP projects in the next update.		
	High	Percent match is: Greater than 25%	
Project Readiness:	High	Notes: The project includes a local match in the amount of \$10,000,000, which is 20% of the total project cost.	
	High	Construction is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested.	
Project Readiness:	High	Notes: The project is expected to begin in 2023 and end in 2025.	
	High	OVERALL RANKING	
FUNDING			
Funding Source	FY2021	Future	Total
FDEP	\$ 40,000,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000,000
District	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Spring County	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 50,000,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000,000



Final Evaluation

Project No:	APP91	Spring County Wastewater Treatment Project		FY2023
Spring County				
Project Type:	Wastewater Collection & Treatment	Multyear Contract:		No
Description:		DESCRIPTION		
Design, permitting, and construction of a new 3 mgd advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Spring County development, a lift station, wastewater force main, a biosolids treatment facility, and other necessary appurtenances to replace the existing 1 mgd conventional WWTP. Funding is also requested for reclaimed water infrastructure including 7 mg storage tank a pump station, transmission main, and control appurtenances.				
Costs:	Total project cost: \$50,000,000 (Design, permitting, and construction)			
	Applicant share: \$10,000,000			
	DEP share: \$40,000,000			
	Other share: \$0			
	District share: The county has requested \$15,000,000 from the District through the cooperative funding program. If approved, this will reduce the FDEP share to \$25,000,000.			
Spring Information:		PROJECT INFORMATION		
Project Benefit:	High	Benefitting spring: Rainbow		
		Yes Benefitting spring is an OFS?		
		Yes Project located within the BMAP?		
		Yes Project located within the PFA?		
	High	The spring is approximately 2 miles from the project location.		
	High	The benefit for this water quality project is the reduction of pollutant loads by an estimated 2000 lbs/yr TN.		
Cost Effectiveness:	High	The estimated cost for this project is \$ 123/lb of TN.		
Related Strategies:		Project is listed in the BMAP list of projects or is anticipated to be listed in the BMAP in the next update?		
	Yes	Yes		
		Yes Benefitting spring has an MFL?		
	High	No	Project is part of a specific water quality or water quantity improvement plan?	
		Notes: The project is anticipated to be listed in the BMAP projects in the next update.		
Local Match:		Percent match is: Greater than 25%		
Project Readiness:	High	Notes: The project includes a local match in the amount of \$10,000,000, which is 20% of the total project cost.		
		Construction is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested.		
	High	Notes: The project is expected to begin in 2023 and end in 2025.		
		High	OVERALL RANKING	
	High	This project is recommended to be forwarded to FDEP for FY2023 spring funding consideration.		
FUNDING				
Funding Source	FY2021	Future	Total	
FDEP	\$ 40,000,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000,000	
District	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Spring County	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 50,000,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000,000	



FDEP FINAL SUBMISSION

Categories

PROJECT INFORMATION		
Spring Information:	Rank	
Project Benefit:	Rank	
Cost Effectiveness:	Rank	
Related Strategies:	Rank	
Local Match	Rank	
Project Readiness:	Rank	
OVERALL RANKING		
	Rank	
FUNDING		

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Water Quality Criteria

Category	Ranking	Definition	Criteria
SPRING INFORMATION	High	All three criteria apply	1-Benefitting spring an OFS?
	Medium	Only 2 criteria apply	2-Project location within a BMAP Boundary?
	Low	Only 1 or none of the criteria apply	3-Project location within a PFA boundary?
PROJECT BENEFIT	High	Top 1/3 applications	Applications sorted by descending order for Nitrogen Reduction
	Medium	Middle 1/3 applications	
	Low	Bottom 1/3 applications	
COST EFFECTIVENESS	High	Top 1/3 applications	Applications sorted by ascending order for the estimated cost per pound of TN removed
	Medium	Middle 1/3 applications	
	Low	Bottom 1/3 applications	
RELATED STRATEGIES	High	Project meets at least one of the criteria	1-Project is listed in the BMAP list of projects or anticipated to be added in the next update
	Low	Project does not meet any of the criteria OR applicant does not require connection to available sewer	2-Benefitting spring has an existing MFL 3-Project is part of a specific water quality or water quantity improvement plan
LOCAL MATCH	High	Greater than 25%	Amount of local match
	Medium	Up to 25%	
	Low	None	
PROJECT READINESS	High	Construction is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	Project time frame
	Medium	Design is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	
	Low	Other elements must be addressed before design or construction may begin	

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Water Quantity Criteria

Category	Ranking	Definition	Criteria
SPRING INFORMATION	High	All three criteria apply	1-Benefitting spring an OFS?
	Medium	Only 2 criteria apply	2-Project location within a BMAP Boundary?
	Low	Only 1 or none of the criteria apply	3-Project location within a PFA boundary?
PROJECT BENEFIT	High	Top 1/3 applications	Applications sorted by descending order for calculated anticipated volume of water (MGD rounded to the nearest tenth)
	Medium	Middle 1/3 applications	
	Low	Bottom 1/3 applications	
COST EFFECTIVENESS	High	Top 1/3 applications	Applications sorted by ascending order for the estimated cost per MGD of water made available
	Medium	Middle 1/3 applications	
	Low	Bottom 1/3 applications	
RELATED STRATEGIES	High	Project meets at least one of the criteria	1-Project is listed in the BMAP list of projects or anticipated to be added in the next update
	Low	Project does not meet any of the criteria	2-Benefitting spring has an existing MFL 3-Project is part of a specific water quality or water quantity improvement plan
LOCAL MATCH	High	Greater than 25%	Amount of local match
	Medium	Up to 25%	
	Low	None	
PROJECT READINESS	High	Construction is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	Project time frame
	Medium	Design is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	
	Low	Other elements must be addressed before design or construction may begin	

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Land Acquisition Criteria

Category	Ranking	Definition	Criteria
SPRING INFORMATION	High	All 3 criteria apply	1-Benefitting spring an OFS?
	Medium	Only 2 criteria apply	2-Project location within a BMAP Boundary?
	Low	Only 1 or none of the criteria apply	3-Project location within a PFA boundary?
PROJECT BENEFIT	High	At least 3 criteria apply	1-Parcel adjoins public lands or easements
	Medium	Only 2 criteria apply	2-Located within a high or medium recharge area
	Low	Only 1 or none of the criteria apply	3-Land remains at low intensity or is reduced to a lower intensity of land use
COST EFFECTIVENESS	High	Meets criteria	Funding request is at or less than the estimated fair market value
	Low	Does not meet criteria	
RELATED STRATEGIES	High	At least 4 of the criteria apply	1-Project is listed in the BMAP list of projects or anticipated to be added in the next update 2-Benefitting spring has an existing MFL
	Medium	2-3 criteria apply	3-Project is part of a specific water quality or water quantity improvement plan 4-Land will be held in conservation in perpetuity
	Low	Only 1 or none of the criteria apply	5-Management plan is in place or will be in place at time of acquisition 6-Acquired land will have public access and/or public education components
LOCAL MATCH	High	Greater than 25%	Amount of local match
	Medium	Up to 25%	
	Low	None	
PROJECT READINESS	High	Acquisition is ongoing or will start before Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	Project time frame
	Medium	Acquisition will start after Dec 31 of the fiscal year funding is being requested	
	Low	Other elements must be addressed before land acquisition may begin	

[illegible]

Recommendations

Approve the FY2026 Springs Funding Application, Evaluation, and Prioritization Process.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Springs Coast Steering Committee

FY2025

Proposed Meeting Dates

July 24, 2024

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

Madison Trowbridge, Ph.D.

Springs Scientist

Natural Systems & Restoration

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Detailed FY2025 Timeline

	JUL '24	AUG '24	SEP '24	OCT '24	NOV '24	DEC '24	JAN '25
Important Dates		FDEP FY25 Project Selection Springs & CFI Apps Available	Pre-app Meetings GB Approves FY25 Budget	(4) Springs & CFI Apps Due			
SCMC	(10) Approve FY26 Funding Process & Meeting Dates			(23) Raw Applications Presented		(4) Preliminary Evals Review #1	(8) Preliminary Evals Review #2
SCSC	(24) Approve FY26 Funding Process & Meeting Dates				(6) Raw Applications Presented		(22) Present Preliminary Evaluations
	FEB '25	MAR '25	APR '25	MAY '25	JUNE '25	JUL '25	AUG-SEP '25
Important Dates			(22) GB Approves FY25 Springs Funding Apps	FDEP receives approved final list	FDEP holds public input period		(AUG) FDEP FY26 Project Selection (SEP) GB Approves FY26 Budget
SCMC	(19) Final Evals Reviewed & Approved			(21) Springs Funding Lessons Learned		(9) Approve FY27 Funding Process & Meeting Dates	
SCSC		(5) Final Evals Reviewed & Approved				(23) Approve FY26 Funding Process & Meeting Dates	

Management Committee Meetings

Dates	Objective
Jul 10, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FDEP Springs Funding FY26 Kickoff• Approve: Meeting Dates• Approve: Funding Process
Oct 23, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review: Raw application information
Dec 4, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review: Preliminary Eval Review #1
Jan 8, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review: Preliminary Eval Review #2
Feb 19, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve: Final Evals
May 21, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present: Springs Funding Lessons Learned
Jul 9, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FDEP Springs Funding FY27 Kickoff• Approve: Meeting Dates• Approve: Funding Process

Steering Committee Meetings

Dates	Objective
Jul 24, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FDEP Springs Funding FY27 Kickoff• Approve: Meeting Dates• Approve: Funding Process
Proposed Dates	Objective
Nov 6, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present: Raw application information
Jan 22, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present: Preliminary Evals
Mar 5, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve: Final Evals
Jul 23, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FDEP Springs Funding FY26 Kickoff• Approve: Meeting Dates• Approve: Funding Process

Recommendations

Approve the future Springs Coast Steering Committee meeting dates.