

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

*Fiscal Year 2024*  
Cooperative Funding Initiative Applications  
**Northern Region**

Southwest Florida  
Water Management District



Project Name	SWF Project Number	Total Funding
Citrus County Old Homosassa Park Septic to Sewer	WH07	\$1,529,500.00
Citrus County Water Conservation Program	Q356	\$22,850.00
Cotton Plant 3 Watershed Management Plan Update	Q362	\$136,000.00
Gum Swamp & Big Jones Creek Watershed Management Plan Update	Q230	\$507,500.00
Marion County Toilet Rebate Program	Q377	\$44,000.00
Outlet River Watershed Mgmt Plan	Q380	\$375,000.00
Rainbow River Watershed Management Plan Update	Q231	\$769,000.00
West Central Marion Watershed Management Plan Update	Q330	\$400,000.00
<b>Overall - Total</b>		<b>\$3,783,850.00</b>

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Citrus County Old Homosassa Park Septic to Sewer

**Project Number:** WH07

**Cooperator:** Citrus County BOCC

**Contact Person:** Christina Malmberg

**Department:**

**Address:** 3600 W. Sovereign Path

**Phone #:** 3525277616

**City State Zip:** Lecanto, FL 34461

**Ext:**

**Email:** christina.malmberg@citrusbocc.com

**Project Type:**

Water Quality

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Water Quality Maintenance and Improvement

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

Third-party review (TPR), design, permitting and construction of a regional wastewater collection system necessary for the connection of existing properties in the Old Homosassa Downtown Park area of the Homosassa-Chassahowizka Priority Focus Area (PFA). If constructed, a minimum of 55 existing septic systems will convert to County sanitary sewer. Funding was approved in FY2022 for 30% design and TPR. The District required a TPR as this project has a conceptual construction estimate greater than \$5 million. The FY2024 funding request is to complete design and construction.

**Benefit:**

The contractual Measurable Benefit will be the construction of regional sanitary sewer lines and any necessary components for a fully operational system that will result in the connection of a minimum of 55 existing septic tanks. Construction will be done in accordance with the permitted plans.

**Cost:**

The estimate for total project costs, including design completion, permitting, and construction is \$6,083,000.

District Share: \$1,312,000; County Share: \$1,312,000; FDEP share: \$2,624,000

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

The Cooperator has ordinances in line with F.S. 381.00655 to require sewage hookup within 365 days of availability and with the springs BMAP that restricts new conventional septic tanks within the PFA.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	0	217,500	1,312,000	0	1,529,500
District Share	0	217,500	1,312,000	0	1,529,500
FDEP	0	400,000	2,624,000	0	3,024,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>835,000</b>	<b>5,248,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,083,000</b>

**Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

**Timelines**

Post 30% Design and Permitting	12/6/23
Bidding and Contract Award	3/30/24
CEI	4/30/26

# **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

## **FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form**

### **Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### **Timelines**

Construction	4/30/26
GIS	4/30/26
Final Certification of Completion	6/30/26



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Citrus County Water Conservation Program

**Project Number:** Q356

**Cooperator:** Citrus County BOCC

**Contact Person:** Debra Burden

**Department:**

**Address:** 3600 W Sovereign Path, Suite 202

**Phone #:** 3525277684

**City State Zip:** Lecanto, FL 34461

**Ext:**

**Email:** Debra.Burden@citrusbocc.com

**Project Type:**

Water Supply

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Conservation

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

The Water Conservation Incentive project is submitted by the Citrus County Department of Water Resources for funding consideration by the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board for the FY24 Cooperative Funding Initiative. This project consists of two conservation initiatives. The first will incentivize replacing 62 traditional irrigation controllers with WaterSense® labeled models. This will be the seventh phase of the initiative. More controllers may be installed if funds allow. High-water use residential customers will be targeted. Participants may choose either a sensor-based or signal-based ET controller. The controller installation contractor shall have a FIS level Landscape Irrigation Auditors certificate; or EPA Water Sense Partnership; or Irrigation Association Landscape Irrigation Auditor certification. Maximum costs per installation are not to exceed \$600. All participants will receive phone or in-person training on the function of the new controller; are required to have an automatic in-ground irrigation system connected to the utility's potable water supply; an existing traditional non-WS labeled controller; and provide a photo of the installed controller when an onsite verification is not feasible. The controller initiative will include program promotion, surveys, and post water use data. The second initiative will incentivize replacement of 40 pre-1995 toilets that use 3.5 gallons per flush or greater with Water Sense labeled models that use 1.28 gpf or less. More toilets may be installed if funds allow. The project provides residential and commercial water customers with a \$100 account credit for the first toilet purchased and installed. Residential customers requesting a second replacement toilet will receive a maximum \$75 credit. If more than one commercial toilet is to be replaced, all will be credited at \$100 each. Pre-and post-photo verification will be used for the toilet initiative.

**Benefit:**

The Water Conservation Incentives project is within a District priority focus area and will favorably affect groundwater water quantities in the Crystal River/Kings Bay, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Springs and Rivers. The Project will aid in reducing per capita of service territories associated with Citrus County Water Use Permits, including WUP No. 9791, with a 2021 per capita rate of 149; WUP No. 7121 with a 2021 per capita rate of 139; and WUP No. 2842 with a 2021 per capita rate of 122. The WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller initiative has a proven history of success. Phases one through four resulted in a 12-month average water use reduction of 38%, 29%, 32% and 34% respectively. Citrus County is conservatively estimating a 20% average water use reduction for the proposed phase. At 62 participants, the controllers are estimated to save 6,147 gallons per day. The WaterSense® labeled toilet credit initiative is a core program with a well-documented savings history throughout the SWFWMD territory. Based on SWFWMD's conservation calculator, the toilet credit program is expected save 655 gallons of water per day. Together, the two initiatives are estimated to save approximately 6,802 GPD and 2,482,730 annually for the next 10-25 years. Using the Districts conservation calculator, the weighted average cost benefit is approximately \$2.59 per thousand gallons.

**Cost:**

The project cost is \$45,700, including project promotion. Citrus County is requesting 50% of project cost reimbursement for a total of \$22,850. The County is again proposing its match be equally split between the County and the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority like previous CFI projects.

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

The Water Conservation projects are consistent with the District's Strategic Plan by supporting the following Conservation Strategic Initiatives: 'Promote water conservation through public engagement programs', 'Support research and implementation of conservation techniques and practices', and 'Utilize financial incentives to further encourage effective conservation practices.' Citrus County's water conservation program has been in place for more than a decade. The County has successfully implemented water conservation incentives, including rain sensor rebates, as well as Water Sense labeled toilet and irrigation controller rebates.

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## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

Additionally, the county provides homeowner irrigation system training and partners with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and the District to provide contracted irrigation evaluations to its customers. The conservation program includes a full-time Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ coordinator that hosts a minimum of 26 classes annually and attends local events to extend reach. Water-saving information is disbursed through monthly bill inserts, emails to customers, event participation and trainings. The County has also participated in the District's CEP initiative and encouraged participation in the WISE program. The County's water restriction ordinance has been in place since 2010. The ordinance is enforced through daily patrol and review of Advanced Metering Infrastructure data by three fulltime staff that issue courtesy notices and monetary violations. For the period of 9/15/21 through 9/15/22, 740 violations were issued. In June 2020, the County adopted a more stringent ordinance limiting irrigation to 1-day per week. Citrus County's indoor and outdoor water-saving initiatives is estimated to have saved over 100 million gallons in 2021. The County completed the Southwest Regional Water Reclamation Facility that reduces nutrient loads within the impaired Chassahowitzka and Homosassa springsheds. Per BMAP requirements, the SRWRF produces reclaimed water at 3 mg/L total nitrogen. The County also operates the Meadowcrest Wastewater Treatment Facility that sends an average half million gallons of reclaimed water per day to the Black Diamond golf course. Per National Flood Insurance Program requirements, Citrus County has adopted a Floodplain Ordinance. All development must comply with Citrus County Land Development Code regulations, Section 4160, titled Floodplain Protection. Citrus County has also adopted stormwater and fertilizer ordinances. The County has not yet pursued high-efficiency standards for new construction. The County has maintained budget and schedules on current CFI funded projects and adhered to contractual obligations of previous agreements. Most of the County's CFI agreements are executed within 90 days of receipt, except for those requiring additional County legal input.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	0	0	22,850	0	22,850
District Share	0	0	22,850	0	22,850
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,700</b>

### Matching Fund Reduction

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### Timelines

Implementation Period	10/1/23
Savings Analysis Begins	10/1/24
Draft Final Report	2/2/26
Final Report	4/2/26

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Cotton Plant 3 Watershed Management Plan Update

**Project Number:** Q362

**Cooperator:** Marion County

**Contact Person:** Riley Jones

**Department:**

**Address:** 412 SE 25th Ave

**Phone #:** 3526718686

**City State Zip:** Ocala, FL 34471

**Ext:** 8366

**Email:** Riley.Jones@marionfl.org

**Project Type:**

Flood Protection, Water Quality

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Floodplain Management

Water Quality Maintenance and Improvement

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

Marion County is seeking funding through the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) to update the Cotton Plant 3 Watershed Management Plan (WMP). The Cotton Plant 3 WMP was completed for SWFWMD and Marion County in 2011. This is a multi-year funded Project to develop a watershed management plan (WMP) update for the Cotton Plant 3 watershed, which covers an area of approximately fourteen square miles located in southwest Marion County, Florida. The watershed is bordered on the south by the Gum Swamp watershed, on the north and west by State Road 200 watershed, and on the east by Lake Panasoffkee. The watershed is crossed by SW 103rd Street RD and SW 49th AVE. This project will update the WMP using new LiDAR to the current District schema and also provide an updated assessment of flood risks by reclassifying the modeled floodplains based on current FEMA depth criteria. The purpose of this project is to perform maintenance of the watershed information and update the existing WMP. The Cotton Plant 3 WMP update will entail an engineered analysis of the watersheds, including stormwater modeling and modeling of nutrient loads. The need for an update to the existing WMP has been established in the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Cotton Plant 3 WMP update is an integral step in developing an actionable plan to mitigate the risks associated with flooding of roads and property during severe storm events, including tropical cyclones. The Cotton Plant 3 WMP update will identify areas at high risk for flooding, and provide the necessary data for use in the design of flood mitigation projects. The update will also evaluate nutrient loadings to groundwater and provide pertinent information to identify and program Water Quality projects in the future. The Cotton Plant 3 WMP update will identify changes to the location, extents, and depths of flooding within the watersheds which have resulted from the development in the watershed since 2011. The plan will provide benefit to approximately fourteen square miles in the southwest quadrant of Marion County. This project upholds the District's Flood Protection Goal by identifying projects that will minimize flood damage to protect people, property, infrastructure, and investment. It also benefits the District's goal of Water Quality by identifying projects that implement best management practices (BMPs) to improve the quality of water reaching the aquifer through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits.

**Benefit:**

The primary benefit of this project is to update the assessment of flood risks, based on current FEMA depth criteria, and pollutant loadings within the watersheds. This will be valuable to the community as a whole by providing the County with a roadmap to mitigate flooding and improve water quality within the Cotton Plant 3 watershed. By identifying areas of flooding and mitigating those risks, the County will increase the safety and security of its residents and property owners during storm events. Also, modeling of the nutrient loadings will help the County identify hot spots for water quality projects in order to improve the quality of the water entering the groundwater through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits. In addition, the update will allow the WMP data to be provided to engineers and other interested parties in an ICPR4 format that interfaces directly with ArcGIS for the design and construction of new development within the watersheds.

**Cost:**

Marion County is requesting fifty percent cost-share funding for the Cotton Plant 3 Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Update project. The cost of the WMP maintenance is estimated at \$272,000 based on historic costs provided by SWFWMD of \$19,661 per square mile for Element 5. Marion County will identify matching funds in the FY 2024 Budget. The County is requesting fifty percent of the

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## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

WMP

Update costs through the SWFWMD CFI program which is \$136,000, with the County contributing the other fifty percent share to the project.

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

The Marion County Stormwater Section is funded by a yearly stormwater assessment. The program is responsible for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance, watershed management, flood protection studies as well as, management and maintenance of the stormwater system associated with the transportation network. This management and maintenance program also includes an annual street sweeping program. The Marion County Land Development Code (MCLDC) requires stormwater design and permitting on all development activities that exceed 9,000 square feet of impervious surface and includes compensating storage requirements for placement of fill in a floodplain. Marion County maintains a Community Rating System Class 7. In 2008 and 2009, Marion County adopted springs protection, fertilizer, and irrigation ordinances, as well as new MCLDC language for springshed protection. The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Board) established a staff position to promote proactive steps that each citizen can take to reduce consumption of the County's water supply. Through community outreach efforts and water conservation workshops, Marion County citizens are learning about proper use of low-flow devices, Florida-friendly landscaping and compliance with the County's irrigation schedule. The Board also approved the 2021-2022 Stormwater Public Education Plan (SEP) and, with it, goals to increase local awareness of stormwater pollution and promote a reduction in contributing behaviors. The SEP outlines a multi-media approach that consists of a public service announcement (PSA) campaign encompassing radio advertisements coupled with an on-line survey assessing the radio PSA; billboards encouraging proper fertilizer use; creation and implementation of a fertilizer education program in partnership with area businesses; and implementation of other initiatives necessary to meet the NPDES permit requirements for stormwater education and outreach. The planned effort for FY 2022-2023 is over four million educational impressions to our community.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	0	0	68,000	68,000	136,000
District Share	0	0	68,000	68,000	136,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136,000</b>	<b>136,000</b>	<b>272,000</b>

**Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

**Timelines**

Project Development	12/31/23
Watershed Evaluation	8/31/24
Floodplain Analysis	2/28/25
Level of Service	6/30/25
Surface Water Resource Assessment	6/30/25
BMP Alternatives Analysis	9/30/25



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Gum Swamp & Big Jones Creek Watershed Management Plan Update

**Project Number:** Q230

**Cooperator:** Marion County

**Contact Person:** Riley Jones

**Department:**

**Address:** 412 SE 25th Ave

**Phone #:** 3526718686

**City State Zip:** Ocala, FL 34471

**Ext:** 8366

**Email:** Riley.Jones@marionfl.org

**Project Type:**

Flood Protection, Water Quality

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Floodplain Management

Water Quality Maintenance and Improvement

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

This is a multi-year funded Project to develop a watershed management plan (WMP) update for the Gum Swamp & Big Jones Creek watershed (Watershed), which covers an area of approximately 52 square miles located in south central Marion County, Florida. The updated WMP will include project development, watershed evaluation, floodplain analysis, and alternatives analysis. These elements are defined in the agreement and summarized below. Project Tasks are to be accomplished according to the Project Schedule and Budget as described in the agreement. The District will manage the Project, which includes retaining consultants to perform the Project Tasks. Currently, flood analysis models are available, the watershed has experienced moderate changes since last study, and the Watershed includes regional or intermediate stormwater systems. The information developed from the Project will assist the Cooperator with floodplain and water quality management as well as planning and development decisions. It will also support the District's Resource Management and Environmental Resource Permitting programs. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT – Development of a project plan to guide both Project execution and Project control. WATERSHED EVALUATION – The systematic acquisition and assessment of watershed data through desktop and field reconnaissance and survey; and development of Geographic Watershed Information System (GWIS) database, or a Geographical Information System (GIS) database in a format approved by the District, for the Watershed features. Watershed Evaluation defines the Watershed's natural conveyance and storage features as well as stormwater infrastructure. It also establishes the complexity of preliminary model features of the Watershed. To provide additional quality assurance, the deliverables will be peer reviewed by an independent and qualified consultant. FLOODPLAIN ANALYSIS – Consists of tasks related to the management of surface water resources. These tasks include developing a watershed model and identifying associated floodplains. The watershed model and floodplain results will be peer reviewed by an independent and qualified consultant. A preliminary floodplain public outreach will be held to solicit public comments. LEVEL OF SERVICE - Task includes establishing flood protection level of service (FPLOS), identifying roadway and structure flooding, and estimating flood damage. BMP ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS – Task includes identifying drainage improvement projects through alternatives analysis and prioritization, as well as identifying best management practices (BMPs) to address water quality concerns of the Watershed.

**Benefit:**

The primary benefit of this project is to update the assessment of flood risks, based on current FEMA depth criteria, and pollutant loadings

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

within the watersheds. This will be valuable to the community as a whole by providing the County with a roadmap to mitigate flooding and improve water quality within the Gum Swamp & Big Jones Creek watersheds. By identifying areas of flooding and mitigating those risks, the County will increase the safety and security of its residents and property owners during storm events. Also, modeling of the nutrient loadings will help the County identify hot spots for water quality projects in order to improve the quality of the water entering the groundwater through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits. In addition, the update will allow the WMP data to be provided to engineers and other interested parties in an ICPR4 format that interfaces directly with ArcGIS for the design and construction of new development within the watersheds.

### Cost:

Marion County is requesting fifty percent cost-share funding for the Gum Swamp & Big Jones Creek Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Update project. The cost of the WMP maintenance is estimated at \$1,015,000 based on historic costs provided by SWFWMD of \$19,661 per square mile for Element 5. Marion County will identify matching funds in the FY 2024 Budget. The County is requesting fifty percent of the WMP Update costs through the SWFWMD CFI program which is \$507,500, with the County contributing the other fifty percent share to the project.

### Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.

The Marion County Stormwater Section is funded by a yearly stormwater assessment. The program is responsible for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance, watershed management, flood protection studies as well as, management and maintenance of the stormwater system associated with the transportation network. This management and maintenance program also includes an annual street sweeping program. The Marion County Land Development Code (MCLDC) requires stormwater design and permitting on all development activities that exceed 9,000 square feet of impervious surface and includes compensating storage requirements for placement of fill in a floodplain. Marion County maintains a Community Rating System Class 7. In 2008 and 2009, Marion County adopted springs protection, fertilizer, and irrigation ordinances, as well as new MCLDC language for springshed protection. The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Board) established a staff position to promote proactive steps that each citizen can take to reduce consumption of the County's water supply. Through community outreach efforts and water conservation workshops, Marion County citizens are learning about proper use of low-flow devices, Florida-friendly landscaping and compliance with the County's irrigation schedule. The Board also approved the 2021-2022 Stormwater Public Education Plan (SEP) and, with it, goals to increase local awareness of stormwater pollution and promote a reduction in contributing behaviors. The SEP outlines a multi-media approach that consists of a public service announcement (PSA) campaign encompassing radio advertisements coupled with an on-line survey assessing the radio PSA; billboards encouraging proper fertilizer use; creation and implementation of a fertilizer education program in partnership with area businesses; and implementation of other initiatives necessary to meet the NPDES permit requirements for stormwater education and outreach. The planned effort for FY 2022-2023 is over four million educational impressions to our community.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	126,875	126,875	126,875	126,875	507,500
District Share	126,875	126,875	126,875	126,875	507,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>253,750</b>	<b>253,750</b>	<b>253,750</b>	<b>253,750</b>	<b>1,015,000</b>

**Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

**Timelines**

Project Development	3/31/22
Watershed Evaluation	3/31/24
Floodplain Analysis	3/31/26
Level of Service	9/30/26
BMP Alternatives Analysis	9/30/27

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Marion County Toilet Rebate Program

**Project Number:** Q377

**Cooperator:** Marion County

**Contact Person:** Rachel Novak

**Department:**

**Address:** 412 SE 25th Ave.

**Phone #:** 3526718672

**City State Zip:** Ocala, FL 34471

**Ext:**

**Email:** Rachel.Novak@Marionfl.org

**Project Type:**

Water Supply

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Conservation

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

Marion County Utilities is seeking fifty percent reimbursement funding to continue offering utility customers with toilet rebates.

**Benefit:**

The Marion County Toilet Rebate program promotes water conservation by assisting home and business owners with upgrading old and inefficient toilets. Converting these fixtures to new water efficient toilets provide substantial water savings with every flush.

**Cost:**

The Marion County Toilet Rebate program offers utility customers a rebate of up to \$100.00 on the first toilet that is replaced, and a rebate of up to \$80.00 if two toilets are replaced. The maximum rebate for residential customers is \$180.00. Business owners are entitled to a rebate of up to \$80.00 for each toilet that is upgraded.

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

Marion County Water Resources has promoted water conservation and water quality by offering rebate and grant programs throughout each year to encourage residents to become more involved with protecting their local water resources. Rebate programs such as the a toilet rebate program, and landscape irrigation rebate program are promoted through various outlets each month in hope of spreading awareness to enhance public participation.

Water Resources also hosts several programs each month within local community center, libraries, and public buildings to promote the efficient use of water both in and around homes. These programs include presentations as well as hands-on workshops.

Marion County promotes water quality by performing several large water quality projects each year, and by offering a septic grant program that is funded entirely by an annual run hosted by the County. The grant program provides residents within unincorporated areas of Marion County with a reimbursement of up to \$200.00 towards the cost of a septic tank pump-out and inspection. The grant program will also offer residents of to \$250.00 towards the cost of a septic tank repair permit.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	32,000	0	12,000	0	44,000
District Share	32,000	0	12,000	0	44,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>64,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88,000</b>

**Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

**Timelines**

Quarterly update on program participation 12/1/23

Quarterly update on program participation 3/1/24

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### **Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### **Timelines**

Quarterly update on program participation 6/1/24

Quarterly update on program participation 9/1/24



# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Outlet River Watershed Mgmt Plan

**Project Number:** Q380

**Cooperator:** Sumter County BOCC

**Contact Person:** Steven Cohoon

**Department:**

**Address:** 7375 Powell Road

**Phone #:** 3526894400

**City State Zip:** Wildwood, FL 34785

**Ext:** 6717

**Email:** steven.cohoon@sumtercountyfl.gov

**Project Type:**

Flood Protection

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Floodplain Management

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

This would be a multi-year project to perform the Watershed Evaluation and Watershed Management Plan elements for the Outlet River Watershed in Sumter County. An additional component of the requested study includes the expansion of the watershed limits to include basins surrounding the CR 309 (southern limit) and CR 300 (northern limit). The project is proposed to begin in FY 2024 and future funding request are anticipated to extend to FY 2028. The project watershed is approximately 30 square miles. A Watershed Management Plan would provide a method to evaluate the capacity of a watershed to protect, enhance, and restore water quality and natural systems, while achieving flood protection. The Watershed Evaluation element is the collection and organization of detailed information such as land elevation, conveyance features such as ditches, culverts and other stormwater management features that affect how water moves within a watershed. The Watershed Evaluation tasks would include the collection of existing data, development of preliminary model features and initiation of formal Peer Review. The information would be organized as a geodatabase that defined the watershed's natural conveyance and storage features and stormwater infrastructure. The Watershed Management Plan would include model parameterization, computer modeling, floodplain analysis, Peer Review of floodplain results, public notification, public meeting, Governing Board approval of floodplain results, surface water resource assessment (SWRA), establishment of level of service (LOS), and Best Management Practices (BMP) alternative analysis.

**Benefit:**

The project benefits will be the refinement and updating of floodplains, a comprehensive Geographic Information System (GIS) based inventory of pipes, culverts and conveyances, and a hydraulic model that simulates the system response to varying rainfall events. This tool can be used to assess the LOS for roads and structures. The geodatabase would also provide the basis for assessing the SWRA of the watershed. This information is used to develop BMP's to address flooding or water quality concerns. The information also used in review and approval of development within the watershed. The ability to prevent flooding by identifying floodplains and keeping development out of those areas or constructed above flood levels provides a much greater cost benefit then having to implement BMP's to reduce or eliminate flooding of existing infrastructure. Additionally, having a model allows for the continuous updating of the model as development occurs, and can be used in the planning process to assess future growth and land use changes for not only flood protection, but water quality loading, which is vital in ensuring compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulation.

**Cost:**

The total project cost is anticipated to be \$750,000, split equally between SWFWMD and Sumter County. Project costs and allocation through Task Work Assignment (TWA) would be controlled by SWFWMD which would manage the agreement. The allocation through TWAs is based on approved staffing rates and allocated hours to specific tasks, which are closely tied to approved guidelines and specifications standards.

FY 24 = \$100k

FY 25 = \$150k

FY 26 = \$250k

FY 27 = \$175k

FY 28 = \$75k

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

Sumter County has in its Comprehensive Plan a water conservation element to protect and manage water resources within the County. This includes criteria for water conservation and water shortage. The County is eligible for emergency relief under the

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### FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program as it has adopted building guidelines conformant to FEMA requirements for limiting building in flood hazard areas. For instance, all new homes' finished floor elevations are constructed one foot above the 100 year flood elevation. In addition, County codes provide language to protect against development wetlands, seeks preservation of floodplain storage, and protection of aquifer recharge and promotes water conservation, as it references SWFWMD's water conservation and water shortage regulations and guidelines. The County has recognized the value of preventive flood protection and has budgeted funding for watershed studies to address and prevent stormwater issues. This study will be used to undertake updating of flood elevations (FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map) throughout the County. The County has previously, and intends to again, budget funds for implementation of BMP's to address existing problem areas.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Prior Funding</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>	<b>Future Funding</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
Applicant Share	0	0	50,000	325,000	375,000
District Share	0	0	50,000	325,000	375,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>750,000</b>

#### Matching Fund Reduction

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

#### Timelines

Watershed Evaluation	9/30/26
Watershed Management Plan	9/30/28

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

**Project Name:** Rainbow River Watershed Management Plan Update

**Project Number:** Q231

**Cooperator:** Marion County

**Contact Person:** Riley Jones

**Department:**

**Address:** 412 SE 25th Ave

**Phone #:** 3526718686

**City State Zip:** Ocala, FL 34471

**Ext:** 8366

**Email:** Riley.Jones@marionfl.org

**Project Type:**

Flood Protection, Water Quality

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Floodplain Management

Water Quality Maintenance and Improvement

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

This is a multi-year funded Project to develop a watershed management plan (WMP) update for the Rainbow River watershed (Watershed), which covers an area of approximately 78 square miles located in southwest Marion County, Florida. The updated WMP will include project development, watershed evaluation, floodplain analysis, and alternatives analysis. These elements are defined in the agreement and summarized below. Project Tasks are to be accomplished according to the Project Schedule and Project Budget as described in the agreement. The District will manage the Project, which includes retaining consultants to perform the Project Tasks.

Currently, flood analysis models are available, the watershed has experienced moderate changes since last study, and the Watershed includes regional or intermediate stormwater systems. The information developed from the Project will assist the Cooperator with floodplain and water quality management as well as planning and development decisions. It will also support the District's Resource Management and Environmental Resource Permitting programs. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT – Development of a project plan to guide both Project execution and Project control. WATERSHED EVALUATION – The systematic acquisition and assessment of watershed data through desktop and field reconnaissance and survey; and development of Geographic Watershed Information System (GWIS) database, or a Geographical Information System (GIS) database in a format approved by the District, for the Watershed features. Watershed Evaluation defines the Watershed's natural conveyance and storage features as well as stormwater infrastructure. It also establishes the complexity of preliminary model features of the Watershed. To provide additional quality assurance, the deliverables will be peer reviewed by an independent and qualified consultant. FLOODPLAIN ANALYSIS – Consists of tasks related to the management of surface water resources. These tasks include developing a watershed model and identifying associated floodplains. The watershed model and floodplain results will be peer reviewed by an independent and qualified consultant. A preliminary floodplain public outreach will be held to solicit public comments. SURFACE WATER RESOURCE ASSESSMENT – Task includes performing a Surface Water Resource Assessment (SWRA) and estimating pollutant loads. BMP ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS – Task includes identifying drainage improvement projects through alternatives analysis and prioritization, as well as identifying best management practices (BMPs) to address water quality concerns of the Watershed.

**Benefit:**

The primary benefit of this project is to update the assessment of flood risks, based on current FEMA depth criteria, and pollutant loadings within the watershed. This will be valuable to the community as a whole by providing the County with a roadmap to mitigate

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

flooding and improve water quality within the Rainbow River watershed. By identifying areas of flooding and mitigating those risks, the County will increase the safety and security of its residents and property owners during storm events. Also, modeling of the nutrient loadings will help the County identify hot spots for water quality projects in order to improve the quality of the water entering the groundwater through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits. In addition, the update will allow the WMP data to be provided to engineers and other interested parties in an ICPR4 format that interfaces directly with ArcGIS for the design and construction of new development within the watershed.

### Cost:

Marion County is requesting fifty percent cost-share funding for the Rainbow River Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Update project.

The cost of the WMP maintenance is estimated at \$1,538,000 based on historic costs provided by SWFWMD of \$19,661 per square mile for Element 5. Marion County will identify matching funds in the FY 2024 Budget. The County is requesting fifty percent of the WMP

Update costs through the SWFWMD CFI program which is \$769,000, with the County contributing the other fifty percent share to the project.

### Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.

The Marion County Stormwater Section is funded by a yearly stormwater assessment. The program is responsible for National Pollutant

Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance, watershed management, flood protection

studies as well as, management and maintenance of the stormwater system associated with the transportation network. This management

and maintenance program also includes an annual street sweeping program. The Marion County Land Development Code (MCLDC)

requires stormwater design and permitting on all development activities that exceed 9,000 square feet of impervious surface and includes

compensating storage requirements for placement of fill in a floodplain. Marion County maintains a Community Rating System Class 7. In

2008 and 2009, Marion County adopted springs protection, fertilizer, and irrigation ordinances, as well as new MCLDC language for

springshred protection. The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Board) established a staff position to promote proactive steps

that each citizen can take to reduce consumption of the County's water supply. Through community outreach efforts and water conservation workshops, Marion County citizens are learning about proper use of low-flow devices, Florida-friendly landscaping and

compliance with the County's irrigation schedule. The Board also approved the 2021-2022 Stormwater Public Education Plan (SEP) and,

with it, goals to increase local awareness of stormwater pollution and promote a reduction in contributing behaviors. The SEP outlines a

multi-media approach that consists of a public service announcement (PSA) campaign encompassing radio advertisements coupled with an

on-line survey assessing the radio PSA; billboards encouraging proper fertilizer use; creation and implementation of a fertilizer education

program in partnership with area businesses; and implementation of other initiatives necessary to meet the NPDES permit requirements for

stormwater education and outreach. The planned effort for FY 2022-2023 is over four million educational impressions to our community.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	153,800	205,000	205,000	205,200	769,000
District Share	153,800	205,000	205,000	205,200	769,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>307,600</b>	<b>410,000</b>	<b>410,000</b>	<b>410,400</b>	<b>1,538,000</b>

**Matching Fund Reduction**

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

**Timelines**

Project Development	3/31/22
Watershed Evaluation	3/31/24
Floodplain Analysis	3/31/26
Surface Water Resource Assessment	9/30/26
BMP Alternatives Analysis	9/30/27



# **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

## **FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form**

**Project Name:** West Central Marion Watershed Management Plan Update

**Project Number:** Q330

**Cooperator:** Marion County

**Contact Person:** Riley Jones

**Department:**

**Address:** 412 SE 25th Ave

**Phone #:** 3526718686

**City State Zip:** Ocala, FL 34471

**Ext:** 8366

**Email:** Riley.Jones@marionfl.org

**Project Type:**

Flood Protection, Water Quality

**Strategic Initiatives:**

Floodplain Management

Water Quality Maintenance and Improvement

**Project Description/Benefit/Cost**

**Description:**

Marion County is seeking funding through the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) to update the watersheds within the West Central Marion area. The West Central Marion WMP is comprised of the Blitchton, Cotton Plant 1, Cotton Plant 2, and Martel watersheds which were completed for SWFWMD and Marion County in 2011. This is a multi-year funded project to develop a watershed management plan (WMP) update for the West Central Marion watersheds, which cover an area of approximately thirty-nine square miles located in west Marion County, Florida. The watersheds are bordered on the north by the Flemington watershed, on the east by the West Ocala watershed, on the west by Hog Prairie and Rainbow River watersheds, and on the south by the Withlacoochee and SR 200 watersheds. The watersheds are crossed by SR40, US 27, and SW 80th AVE. This project will update the WMPs using new LiDAR to the current District schema and also provide an updated assessment of flood risks by reclassifying the modeled floodplains based on current FEMA depth criteria. The purpose of this project is to perform maintenance of the watershed information and update the existing WMP. The West Central Marion WMP update will entail an engineered analysis of the watersheds, including stormwater modeling and modeling of nutrient loads. The need for an update to the existing WMPs has been established in the County's Comprehensive Plan. The West Central Marion WMP update is an integral step in developing an actionable plan to mitigate the risks associated with flooding of roads and property during severe storm events, including tropical cyclones. The West Central Marion WMP update will identify areas at high risk for flooding, and provide the necessary data for use in the design of flood mitigation projects. The update will also evaluate nutrient loadings to groundwater and provide pertinent information to identify and program Water Quality projects in the future. The West Central Marion WMP update will identify changes to the location, extents, and depths of flooding within the watersheds which have resulted from the development in the watersheds since 2011. The plan will provide benefit to approximately thirty-nine square miles in the western portion of Marion County. This project upholds the District's Flood Protection Goal by identifying projects that will minimize flood damage to protect people, property, infrastructure, and investment. It also benefits the District's goal of Water Quality by identifying projects that implement best management practices (BMPs) to improve the quality of water reaching the aquifer through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits.

**Benefit:**

The primary benefit of this project is to update the assessment of flood risks, based on current FEMA depth criteria, and pollutant loadings within the watershed. This will be valuable to the community as a whole by providing the County with a roadmap to mitigate flooding and improve water quality within the West Central Marion watersheds. By identifying areas of flooding and mitigating those risks, the County will increase the safety and security of its residents and property owners during storm events. Also, modeling of the nutrient loadings will help the County identify hot spots for water quality projects in order to improve the quality of the water entering the groundwater through projects such as Bold and Gold Stormwater Retrofits. In addition, the update will allow the WMP data to be provided to engineers and other interested parties in an ICPR4 format that interfaces directly with ArcGIS for the design and construction of new development within the watersheds.

**Cost:**

Marion County is requesting fifty percent cost-share funding for the West Central Marion Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Update project. The cost of the WMP maintenance is estimated at \$800,000 based on historic costs provided by SWFWMD of \$19,661 per square mile for Element 5. Marion County will identify matching funds in the FY 2024 Budget. The County is requesting fifty percent of the WMP Update costs through the SWFWMD CFI program which is \$400,000, with the County contributing the other fifty percent share to the project.

**Describe your complementary efforts in developing, implementing and enforcing water conservation, water quality and flood protection ordinances.**

# SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

## FY 2024 Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Form

The Marion County Stormwater Section is funded by a yearly stormwater assessment. The program is responsible for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) compliance, watershed management, flood protection studies as well as, management and maintenance of the stormwater system associated with the transportation network. This management and maintenance program also includes an annual street sweeping program. The Marion County Land Development Code (MCLDC) requires stormwater design and permitting on all development activities that exceed 9,000 square feet of impervious surface and includes compensating storage requirements for placement of fill in a floodplain. Marion County maintains a Community Rating System Class 7. In 2008 and 2009, Marion County adopted springs protection, fertilizer, and irrigation ordinances, as well as new MCLDC language for springshed protection. The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Board) established a staff position to promote proactive steps that each citizen can take to reduce consumption of the County's water supply. Through community outreach efforts and water conservation workshops, Marion County citizens are learning about proper use of low-flow devices, Florida-friendly landscaping and compliance with the County's irrigation schedule. The Board also approved the 2021-2022 Stormwater Public Education Plan (SEP) and, with it, goals to increase local awareness of stormwater pollution and promote a reduction in contributing behaviors. The SEP outlines a multi-media approach that consists of a public service announcement (PSA) campaign encompassing radio advertisements coupled with an on-line survey assessing the radio PSA; billboards encouraging proper fertilizer use; creation and implementation of a fertilizer education program in partnership with area businesses; and implementation of other initiatives necessary to meet the NPDES permit requirements for stormwater education and outreach. The planned effort for FY 2022-2023 is over four million educational impressions to our community.

Funding Source	Prior Funding	FY2023	FY2024	Future Funding	Total Funding
Applicant Share	0	100,000	100,000	200,000	400,000
District Share	0	100,000	100,000	200,000	400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>

### Matching Fund Reduction

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Check here if requesting a reduction in matching funds requirement pursuant to s.288.06561, F.S.

### Timelines

Project Development	11/30/23
Watershed Evaluation	7/31/24
Floodplain Analysis	3/31/25
Level of Service	5/31/25
Surface Water Resource Assessment	5/31/25
BMP Alternatives Analysis	9/30/25

*The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Human Resources Office Chief, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4747; or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto:ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org). If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at [WaterMatters.org/ADA](http://WaterMatters.org/ADA).*