

# WATER RESOURCE FUNDING IN FLORIDA



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) DIVISION OF WATER RESTORATION ASSISTANCE

DEP's [Division of Water Restoration Assistance](#) (DWRA) provides loans and grants to local governments, utilities and sometimes other agencies for projects that improve the quality and quantity of the state's water resources and provide a significant benefit to the environment and local communities. These projects improve stormwater quality, reduce pollutants entering surface water and ground water, conserve energy or water, protect springs, collect and treat wastewater, produce and distribute drinking water, provide alternative water supply, restore potable water for homeowners in areas affected by declining source water quality, and restore habitat/enhance recreation through the [Deepwater Horizon](#) program. For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/wra](http://FloridaDEP.gov/wra).

### Nonpoint Source Management Program

DWRA's [Nonpoint Source Management Program](#) administers federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) grant and state water quality assistance grant funding for projects that reduce stormwater pollution from nonpoint sources, particularly to address impaired waterbodies and meet restoration goals related to Total Maximum Daily Loads and restoration plans. These funds are appropriated at approximately \$11 million per year and are primarily granted to local governments to construct traditional and green stormwater infrastructure projects to treat nutrient pollution in impaired waters. The federal Clean Water Act section 319(h) grant from the Environmental Protection Agency can also be used to implement demonstration of agricultural best management practices, abandon septic tanks and connect residents to sewer, and education campaigns targeting behavior change to reduce personal pollution to waterbodies.

For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/wra/319-tmdl-fund](http://FloridaDEP.gov/wra/319-tmdl-fund) or contact Amanda Peck, Nonpoint Source Management Program Administrator, 850-245-2952, [Amanda.Peck@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Amanda.Peck@FloridaDEP.gov); or Emily Forinash, Nonpoint Source Management Program Grant Coordinator, 850-245-2944, [Emily.Forinash@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Emily.Forinash@FloridaDEP.gov).

### Springs Restoration Funding

DWRA provides [springs restoration funding](#) assistance for projects that improve the quality and quantity of the state's water resources. The division works closely with the [water management districts](#), local governments and other stakeholders to identify and implement springs projects that achieve restoration goals.

For information on how to apply to the water management districts for springs restoration funding, please contact your [local water management district](#) (see water management district section).

## State Revolving Fund

DWRA's largest program is Florida's [State Revolving Fund](#) program, funded through money received from federal grants and state contributions. These funds then "revolve" through the repayment of previous loans and interest earned. While these programs offer loans, grant-like funding is also available for qualified small, disadvantaged communities, which reduces the amount owed on loans by the percentage that the community qualifies. Projects are considered for funding each August, November, February and May, depending on funding, and the initial paperwork to be considered at these meetings must be submitted 45 days in advance of those meetings (the details and paperwork are available at the links, below).

- The [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#) (CWSRF) is Florida's largest financial assistance program for water infrastructure, providing low-interest loans to local governments to plan, design, and build or upgrade wastewater, stormwater, and nonpoint source pollution prevention projects. Certain agricultural best management practices may also qualify for funding. The loan terms include a 20-year amortization and low-interest rates.

Additionally, **Small Community Wastewater Facility Grants** are also available for a financially disadvantaged small community (a county, municipality, or special district that has a population of 10,000 or fewer, and a per capita annual income less than the state per capita annual income). These grants are incorporated into and must accompany a CWSRF loan and are, therefore, linked to the CWSRF program.

For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/wra/srf/content/cwsrf-program](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/wra/srf/content/cwsrf-program) or contact Mike Chase, CWSRF Program Administrator, 850-245-2913, [Michael.Chase@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Michael.Chase@FloridaDEP.gov).

- The [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#) (DWSRF) provides low-interest loans to local governments and certain private utilities to plan, design, and build or upgrade drinking water systems. Discounted assistance for small communities may be available. Principal forgiveness may also be available for disadvantaged communities. The loan terms include a 20-year amortization and low-interest rates.

For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/wra/srf/content/dwsrf-program](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/wra/srf/content/dwsrf-program) or contact Shanin Speas-Frost, DWSRF Program Administrator, 850-245-2991, [Shanin.SpeasFrost@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Shanin.SpeasFrost@FloridaDEP.gov).

## Wastewater Grant Program

DWRA's [Wastewater Grant Program](#) (WWGP) provides grants to governmental entities for wastewater projects that reduce excess nutrient pollution within a basin management action plan, alternative restoration plan adopted by final order, or rural area of opportunity (RAO). The program requires at least a 50% match which may be waived by the Department for RAOs. Projects to construct, upgrade or expand wastewater facilities to provide advanced wastewater treatment and connecting septic tanks to sewer systems are prioritized. Consideration is given to nutrient reductions, project readiness, cost

effectiveness, overall environmental benefit, project location, local matching funds and water savings and water quality improvement. Please refer to s. 403.0673, F.S., for the text of the [Wastewater Grant Program statute](#).

Project proposals will need to be submitted via [DEP's Protecting Florida Together Water Protection Grants online portal](#), which is closed for fiscal year 2021-2022. The portal will likely open again for new project proposals in 2022 after the legislative session concludes.

For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/wra/wra/content/wastewater-grant-program](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/wra/wra/content/wastewater-grant-program) or contact Mitch Holmes, WWGP Environmental Administrator, 850-245-2963, [Mitch.Holmes@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Mitch.Holmes@FloridaDEP.gov).

## OFFICE OF RESILIENCE AND COASTAL PROTECTION

DEP's [Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection](#) (ORCP) is committed to helping prepare Florida's communities and habitats for changes resulting from sea level rise by providing funding and technical assistance to prepare Florida's coastal communities and continuing to promote and ensure a coordinated approach to sea level rise planning among state, regional and local agencies. For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/rcp](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/rcp).

- Through [Florida Resilient Coastlines Program](#), DEP continues its efforts to help ensure collaboration among Florida's coastal communities, and to offer technical assistance and funding to coastal communities dealing with increasingly complex flooding, erosion and habitat shifts. Local communities can assess vulnerabilities to projected increases in coastal flooding and erosion and can develop strategies to make affected areas more resilient. Protecting and strengthening natural infrastructure also can help. Coral reefs, mangroves, oyster reefs and marshes are our first lines of defense. For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/rcp/florida-resilient-coastlines-program](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/rcp/florida-resilient-coastlines-program).
- ORCP's [Resilient Florida Program](#) includes a selection of grants that are available to counties, municipalities, water management districts, flood control districts and regional resilience entities. To effectively address the impacts of flooding and sea level rise that the state faces, eligible applicants may receive funding assistance to analyze and plan for vulnerabilities, as well as implement projects for adaptation and mitigation. Please refer to s. 380.093, F.S., for more information on the available grant programs, definitions and required parameters. The [Resilient Florida Grant Portal](#) for FY 2021-22 project submittals is closed. The portal will likely open again for new project proposals in 2022 after the legislative session concludes. For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/rcp/florida-resilient-coastlines-program/content/frcp-resilience-grants](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/rcp/florida-resilient-coastlines-program/content/frcp-resilience-grants) or call/email 850-245-2094/[Resilience@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Resilience@FloridaDEP.gov).
- The [ORCP Project Funding Sources list](#) includes information about grant opportunities that are available for local governments, state agencies and other entities eligible to help plan, design, manage or construct projects such as vulnerability assessments, adaptation plans, beach and inlet management, public access needs, and marina waste pump handling. For more information, visit [FloridaDEP.gov/rcp/rcp/content/resilience-and-coastal-protection-project-funding-sources](https://www.floridaDEP.gov/rcp/rcp/content/resilience-and-coastal-protection-project-funding-sources).

## OFFICE OF WATER POLICY AND ECOSYSTEMS RESTORATION

### ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY GRANTS

Alternative Water Supply (AWS) Grants through [DEP's Protecting Florida Together Water Protection Grants online portal](#) help communities plan for and implement conservation, reuse and other AWS and water resource development projects.

For information on how to apply to the water management districts for funding for FY 2022-23, please contact your local [water management district](#) (see water management district section).

### WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

DEP is responsible for administration of water resources at the state level, and exercises general supervisory authority over the state's five [water management districts](#) (WMDs), which are responsible for the administration of water resources at the regional level. The WMDs offer financial assistance for a variety of water-related projects, for water supply development, water resource development, and surface water restoration. Assistance may be provided from ad valorem tax revenues or from periodic legislative appropriations for Alternative Water Supply Development, Springs Restoration and Surface Water Improvement and Management projects. The amount of funding available, matching requirements and types of assistance may vary from year-to-year.

- [Northwest Florida Water Management District](#): 1-800-913-1518 (toll-free) or 850-539-5999  
For more information, visit [NFWWater.com](#).
- [South Florida Water Management District](#): 1-800-432-2045 (Florida only) or 561-686-8800  
For more information, visit [SFWMD.gov](#).
- [Southwest Florida Water Management District](#): 1-800-423-1476 (Florida only) or 352-796-7211  
For more information, visit [SWFWMD.State.FL.US](#).
- [St. Johns River Water Management District](#): 1-800-451-7106 (Palatka headquarters)  
For more information, visit [SJRWMD.com](#).
- [Suwannee River Water Management District](#): 1-800-226-1066 or 386-362-1001  
For more information, visit [MySuwanneeRiver.com](#).

### WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING PROGRAMS

#### Department of Economic Opportunity

The Florida [Department of Economic Opportunity](#) (DEO), in collaboration with its partners, assists the governor in advancing Florida's economy by championing the state's economic development vision and by administering state and federal programs and initiatives to help visitors, citizens, businesses, and communities.

- DEO's [Florida Small Cities Community Development Block Grant](#) (CDBG) Program is a competitive grant program that awards funds to units of local government in small urban and

rural areas. Florida receives \$18 - \$26 million dollars annually from HUD to award subgrants to eligible units of local government.

The program provides an excellent opportunity for communities to obtain funds for projects that they cannot otherwise afford. CDBG funds can also provide administrative support for local governments that may not have the staffing resources necessary to administer their projects. Examples of CDBG-funded projects include water and sewer improvements; rehabilitation of substandard housing; street and sidewalk improvements; economic development activities that create jobs for low- and moderate-income people; downtown revitalization, including facade improvements, streetscaping, and underground utilities; park facilities and community centers; and drainage/stormwater improvements. For more information, visit [FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/assistance-for-governments-and-organizations/florida-small-cities-community-development-block-grant-program](https://FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/assistance-for-governments-and-organizations/florida-small-cities-community-development-block-grant-program).

- [CDBG-CV Small Cities and Entitlement Programs](#) - These funds are federally awarded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and designed to help local governments prepare for, prevent, or respond to the health and economic impacts of the [Corona Virus (CV)] pandemic. The activities must be critical to their locality and primarily for the benefit of low- and moderate-income residents. Local governments are encouraged to include activities that benefit workforce housing, training, and sustainability, as well as broadband infrastructure and planning. Nearly \$42 million is available through the CDBG-CV Small Cities program and \$51 million is available through the CDBG-CV Entitlement program.

For more information, visit [FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/assistance-for-governments-and-organizations/community-development-block-grant-program/community-development-block-grant---coronavirus-relief-funding](https://FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/assistance-for-governments-and-organizations/community-development-block-grant-program/community-development-block-grant---coronavirus-relief-funding).

- DEO's [Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program](#) (LIHWAP) is a federally funded program that helps income-qualified families with water and wastewater costs. DEO has been identified as the Grantee to administer the LIHWAP program from June 1, 2021 – September 30, 2023 for the state of Florida.

LIHWAP funds will be issued and administered by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which also federally administers the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHWAP will closely model LIHEAP, utilizing the existing Community Action Network in addition to the current LIHEAP policies, processes, and procedures.

LIHWAP will provide much-needed relief to low-income families that spend a high proportion of their household income on water utility services. Assistance to households will be accomplished by providing funds to owners or operators of public water systems or treatment works to reduce arrearages of and rates charged to such households for such services.

The primary goal of LIHWAP is to retain continuity of water services to low-income households in Florida with an emphasis on prevention of disconnection and restoration of water services to households whose water services were previously disconnected. This will be available for past, present and prepayment.

For more information, visit [FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/community-services/low-income-household-water-assistance-program](https://FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/community-services/low-income-household-water-assistance-program) or email [LIHWAP@DEO.MyFlorida.com](mailto:LIHWAP@DEO.MyFlorida.com).

- DEO's [Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Program](#) (RCDRL) was created by the 1996 Legislature to facilitate the use of existing federal, state and local financial resources by providing local governments with access to financial assistance to further promote the economic viability of rural communities. This program is intended to be highly flexible and the loan amounts will vary depending on the need of applicants. It will provide term loans to local governments, or economic development organizations substantially underwritten by a unit of local government; within counties with populations of 75,000 or fewer or a contiguous county of 125,000 or fewer as stated in section 288.065, Florida Statutes. The long-term goals of the RCDRL include the creation of jobs for the residents of rural Florida and an increase in economic vitality and diversification for these areas.

For more information, visit [FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/Small-and-Minority-Business-Resources/Small-and-Minority-Business-Programs/rural-community-development-revolving-loan-program](https://FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/Small-and-Minority-Business-Resources/Small-and-Minority-Business-Programs/rural-community-development-revolving-loan-program) or contact Tina Grow at 850-717-8533 or [Tina.Grow@DEO.MyFlorida.com](mailto:Tina.Grow@DEO.MyFlorida.com).

- DEO's [Technical Assistance Planning Grants](#) – DEO anticipates that the Florida Legislature will appropriate funding for Community Planning Technical Assistance (CPTA) Grants for state fiscal year (SFY) 2021-2022. The CPTA Grants provide counties, municipalities, and regional planning councils the opportunity to create innovative plans and development strategies to promote a diverse economy, vibrant rural and suburban areas, and meeting statutory requirements for planning, while protecting environmentally sensitive areas. Understanding that many Florida communities have been impacted by hurricanes, CPTA grants may also be used for planning for disaster recovery or resiliency planning, and economic development planning.

For more information, visit [FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/programs/community-planning-table-of-contents/technical-assistance/community-planning-technical-assistance-grant](https://FloridaJobs.org/community-planning-and-development/programs/community-planning-table-of-contents/technical-assistance/community-planning-technical-assistance-grant).

## Enterprise Florida

[Enterprise Florida](#) is a public-private partnership of business and government leaders with the goal to promote Florida as a premier business destination and expand the state's economy through private-sector job creation. Enterprise Florida works closely with a statewide network of economic development partners and is a resource for a variety of public and private projects and activities, including those in rural communities, to facilitate the creation, capital investment, strengthening and diversification of local economies by promoting tourism, trade and economic development. The various Enterprise Florida programs and financial incentives are intended, among other things, to provide additional financial assistance to enable communities to better access other infrastructure funding programs. For more information, visit [EnterpriseFlorida.com](https://EnterpriseFlorida.com).

- Enterprise Florida's [Resources for Rural Communities](#): Enterprise Florida's Rural Expansion Toolkit includes grant opportunities for marketing and training, consulting services and site preparedness in Florida's rural communities, including development and enhancement of sites

to make them build-ready and competitive for site selection projects. Grant funds may be available for, but are not limited to, the following types of activities: matching funds for federal grants; renovation of existing building or demolition of old buildings (county or city-owned); stormwater project for potential commercial sites; phase one environmental study; gas line extension; water and sewer construction or upgrade; access road construction (including engineering or architecture costs); or other approved infrastructure costs.

Grants within this program are eligible for reimbursement up to \$25,000 with a 24-month term beginning upon the execution of the grant contract. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program.

Applications will be accepted from local or regional economic development or community partners located within a rural community – as identified in [Florida Statute 288.0656\(e\)](#) – that can demonstrate a pathway to site readiness. For more information, visit [EnterpriseFlorida.com/rural/resources-rural-communities](https://EnterpriseFlorida.com/rural/resources-rural-communities) to learn more about the Rural Expansion Toolkit as well as other local, state and national economic development resources.

## Environmental Finance Center Network

The [Environmental Finance Center Network](#) (EFCN) is a university-based organization creating innovative solutions to the difficult how-to-pay issues of environmental protection and improvement. The EFCN works with the public and private sectors to promote sustainable environmental solutions while bolstering efforts to manage costs. The [Funding Sources by State or Territory map](#) (select Florida) lists [water and wastewater funding sources](#) in the state. For more information, visit [EFCNetwork.org/about-the-network/](https://EFCNetwork.org/about-the-network/) or [EFCNetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FL-Water-Wastewater-Funds-2020\\_draft.pdf](https://EFCNetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/FL-Water-Wastewater-Funds-2020_draft.pdf).

## Florida Housing Finance Corporation

The **Florida Housing Finance Corporation** administers the [State Housing Initiatives Partnership](#) program (SHIP), which provides funds to local governments as an incentive to create partnerships that produce and preserve affordable homeownership and multifamily housing. The program was designed to serve very low, low- and moderate-income families. SHIP dollars may be used to fund emergency repairs, new construction, rehabilitation, down payment and closing cost assistance, impact fees, construction and gap financing, mortgage buy-downs, acquisition of property for affordable housing, matching dollars for federal housing grants and programs, and homeownership counseling. SHIP funds may be used to assist units that meet the standards of chapter 553. [Find Local Ship Offices](#) to determine who to contact in a specific city or county. For more information, visit [FloridaHousing.org/programs/special-programs/ship--state-housing-initiatives-partnership-program](https://FloridaHousing.org/programs/special-programs/ship--state-housing-initiatives-partnership-program).

## Florida Legislature

The **Florida Legislature** may solicit applications directly for “**Community Budget Issue Request**” projects, including water projects, in anticipation of upcoming legislative sessions. This process is an opportunity to secure legislative sponsorship of project funding through the state budget. Interested parties should contact their local legislative delegation to determine whether there are opportunities available to fund projects. Information on contacting senators and representatives is available at [Leg.State.FL.US](https://Leg.State.FL.US).

## Florida Rural Water Association

The [Florida Rural Water Association](#) (FRWA) is a nonprofit, nonregulatory professional association that assists water and wastewater systems with every phase of operations including drinking water, wastewater, groundwater protection/source water protection and engineering services. Active members include public water and wastewater systems, such as counties, municipalities, associations, districts, mobile home parks, schools and authorities. For more information, visit [FRWA.net](#).

- The [FRWA Loan Program](#) assists communities in obtaining competitive interim financing for construction projects. To assist borrowers across the state with financing capital construction projects, FWRA, in conjunction with a partner, created an interim construction loan program to provide construction funding for communities which have received a permanent loan commitment from the United States Department of Agriculture-Rural Development (USDA-RD) or permanent loan commitment from DEP's SRF program and needs construction funding. The program structure enables communities access to competitive fixed rate loan funds at a very low cost of borrowing. Loan proceeds are utilized for the construction period only and are paid off with USDA-RD/DEPSRF funds when the project is complete or funded. For more information, visit: [FRWA.net/funding](#) or contact Gary Williams at 850-668-2746 or [Gary.Williams@FRWA.net](mailto:Gary.Williams@FRWA.net).

## Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project

The [Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project](#) (SERCAP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on improving the quality of life for people living in the southeast U.S. SERCAP is responsible for providing safe water, sanitary disposal and structurally sound housing to 450,000+ households across a seven-state region. SERCAP advocates to ensure that everyone living in their service areas has daily access to clean and affordable drinking water, working indoor plumbing and wastewater facilities, and safe and affordable housing. SERCAP serves homeowners, government and community groups, small business owners, job seekers and those interested in training. For more information, visit [SERCAP.org](#) or contact Joan Douglas at 352-379-9802 or [JDouglas@SERCAP.org](mailto:JDouglas@SERCAP.org).

## U.S. Department of Agriculture

The [U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) (NRCS) offers voluntary programs to eligible landowners and agricultural producers to provide financial and technical assistance to help manage natural resources in a sustainable manner. Through these programs the agency approves contracts to provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy, improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land. For more information, visit [NRCS.USDA.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial](#).

- USDA's [Regional Conservation Partnership Program](#) (RCPP) promotes coordination of NRCS conservation activities with partners that offer value-added contributions to expand the collective ability to address on-farm, watershed and regional natural resource concerns. Through RCPP, NRCS seeks to co-invest with partners to implement projects that demonstrate innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements and outcomes tied to the resource concerns they seek to address. [Read the RCPP Fact Sheet](#). For more information, visit [NRCS.USDA.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp](#).



- USDA’s [Rural Development](#) (USDA-RD) loans, grants and loan guarantees help create jobs and support economic development and essential services such as housing; health care; first responder services and equipment; and water, electric and communications infrastructure. They promote economic development by supporting loans to businesses through banks, credit unions and community-managed lending pools, and offer technical assistance and information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives get started and improve the effectiveness of their operations. For more information, visit [RD.USDA.gov](#).
- USDA’s [Rural Utilities Service Water and Environmental Programs](#) (WEP) provide funding for the construction of water and waste facilities in rural communities and is proud to be the only federal program exclusively focused on water and waste infrastructure needs of communities with populations of 10,000 or less. WEP also provides funding to organizations that provide technical assistance and training to rural communities in relation to their water and waste activities. WEP is administered through national office staff in Washington, DC, and a network of field staff in each state. For more information, visit [RD.USDA.gov/programs-services/all-programs/water-environmental-programs](#).
- USDA’s [Rural Development Rural Utilities Service](#) (RUS) provides much-needed infrastructure or infrastructure improvements to rural communities. These include water and waste treatment, electric power and telecommunications services. All these services help to expand economic opportunities and improve the quality of life for rural residents. For more information, visit [RD.USDA.gov/about-rd/agencies/rural-utilities-service](#).

## U.S. Department of Commerce

The [U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration](#) (EDA) provides economic development financial assistance to communities so they can encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in a way that works best for them. Through its network of regionally-based staff and portfolio of [flexible grant tools](#), EDA helps communities experiencing economic distress, take control of their future and position themselves for economic prosperity and resiliency. For funding opportunity information, visit [EDA.gov/funding-opportunities](#).

## OTHER RESOURCES

### Congress – State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program

The **Congress – State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program** provides the opportunity to secure Congressional sponsorship of project funding, including water project funding, through the annual federal budget process. The program’s stated purpose is to strengthen state, local governments and tribal abilities to address environmental and public health threats while furthering environmental compliance. Information on contacting senators and representatives is available at [GovTrack.US/Congress/members](#). To contact congress members for assistance in pursuing funding, visit [GovTrack.US/Congress/members](#).

### Division of Emergency Management Recovery Bureau

Florida’s [Division of Emergency Management Recovery Bureau](#) works to maximize disaster assistance to eligible public entities, individuals and families through various state and federal disaster assistance programs. These programs help to rebuild lives and communities that have been impacted by a major

disaster and begin the recovery process. After being requested by the Governor, the President may sign a disaster declaration that includes both Individual and Public Assistance programs as authorized by the [Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act](#). For more information, visit [FloridaDisaster.org/dem/recovery](http://FloridaDisaster.org/dem/recovery) or call 850-815-4000.

## **Environmental Protection Agency**

The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) awards more than \$4 billion annually in funding for grants and other assistance agreements. From small non-profit organizations to large state governments, EPA works to help many visionary organizations achieve their environmental goals. With countless success stories over the years, EPA grants remain a chief tool to protect human health and the environment. For more information, visit [EPA.gov/grants](http://EPA.gov/grants).

## **Florida Resource Directory**

The [Florida Resource Directory](#) is a one-stop source for learning about the latest state and many federal programs and resources to help local communities. The directory will help rural and distressed urban communities, as well as community-based organizations find and access sources of assistance for any type of infrastructure project, housing, health services, training, small business and tourism development assistance or help building a community park. For more information, visit [FMW.State.FL.US:8890/apps/REDIHtml/](http://FMW.State.FL.US:8890/apps/REDIHtml/) or call 850-717-8980.

## **Grants.gov**

[Grants.gov](#) provides a centralized location for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities, housing information on over 1,000 grant programs and vetting grant applications for [federal grant-making agencies](#). For more information, visit [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).

## **Sam.gov**

[Sam.gov's Assistance Listings](#) are detailed public descriptions of federal programs that provide grants, loans, scholarships, insurance and other types of assistance awards. Sign in to browse assistance listings across all government agencies to learn about potential funding sources. For more information, visit [SAM.gov/content/assistance-listings](http://SAM.gov/content/assistance-listings).

If you have general questions about financial assistance unrelated to any particular program, contact Traci Klepper, Marketing and Outreach Coordinator at DEP's Division of Water Restoration Assistance: 850-245-2834 or [Traci.Klepper@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:Traci.Klepper@FloridaDEP.gov).