



Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Wes Ward
Secretary of Agriculture

Project Pre-Proposal Form

FY2025 Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source

Implementation Grant

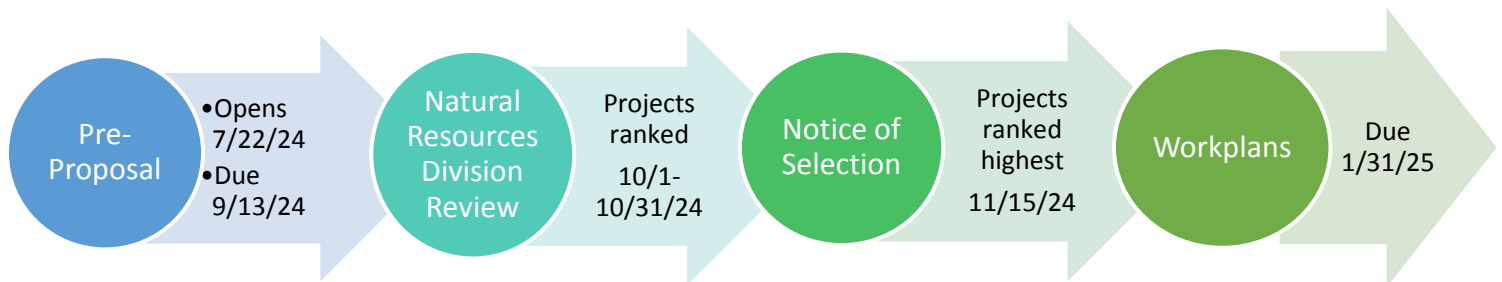
Arkansas Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Division

Water Quality Section

Pre-Proposal Instructions:

- Complete pre-proposal form in its entirety.
- For project location, please use city or county where project work will be completed.
- Please keep project description to one page or less, not including maps or figures.
- Completed pre-proposal does **NOT** guarantee funding.
- Submit completed form via email to the Nonpoint Source Pollution Program at anrc.nonpoint@agriculture.arkansas.gov
- Once accepted and approved by Natural Resources Division staff, the project lead will then be invited to submit a completed workplan proposal packet.



**Project Pre-Proposal Form
FY 2025 Clean Water Act Section 319(h)
Part 1**

1. **Title of Project:** Green Infrastructure for Source Water Protection in Blank Watershed
2. **Project Objective:** Implement recommendations from the Blank Watershed Protection Strategy to reduce nonpoint source sediment and nutrient loads going into Example Lake, through the implementation of three demonstration low impact development (LID) projects. Water quality improvements will be achieved through the voluntary installation of natural design elements within the project area. Education and outreach and regional adoption of LID will be achieved through development of the Smart Growth for Source Water Protection public educational programming.
3. **Watershed and 8 or 12-Digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC):** Blank Watershed (HUC 1111XXXX)
4. **Project Location (City or County):** Sample, Arkansas in Sample County
5. **Waterbody Assessment Category (refer to the most recently approved Integrated Report):**

Category	Definition	Project Description	Selection
1a	Attainment of all criteria and designated uses	Protect water quality and designated uses	
1b	Attainment of all criteria and designated uses, but TMDL is in place	Protect water quality and designated uses	
3	Insufficient data	Collect additional data; Protect water quality and designated uses	
4a	Water quality criteria and designated uses not supported for one or more parameters with a TMDL	Restore and/or improve water quality and designated uses	
4b	Water quality criteria and designated uses not supported for one or more parameters with a TMDL	Restore and/or improve water quality and designated uses; Implement watershed management plan	X
5	Water quality criteria and designated uses not supported for one or more parameters	Restore and/or improve water quality and designated uses	
5-alt	Water quality criteria and designated uses not supported for one or more parameters with an alternative restoration approach	Restore and/or improve water quality and designated uses	

6. Estimated Project Costs:

Federal:	\$600,000
Non-Federal:	\$430,000
Total:	\$1,000,000

7. Project Management:

Organization:	Blank Watershed Partnership				
Project Lead:	Jane Doe				
Mailing Address:	123 Park Avenue				
City:	Sample	State:	AR	Zip:	72XXX
Phone:	501-123-4567				
Email:	Jane.doe@sample.com				

8. Supporting Agencies or Organizations: City of Sample, Example Waterkeeper, United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Arkansas Game Fish Commission (AGFC)

9. Project Period: October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2028

10. Project Type (choose all applicable):

- Stream and Riparian Restoration, including aquatic organism passage
- Urban/Low Impact Development Implementation
- BMP Implementation
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Education and Outreach
- Title X Cost Share
- Unpaved Roads
- Other: _____

11. Build America Buy America (BABA): CWA 319 funds awarded by U.S. EPA after March 2, 2023, are subject to the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions of Public Law 117-58 (the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), signed into law on November 15, 2021). Grant recipients will be required to ensure that, as these terms are defined within and made applicable by Public Law 117-58, (a) all iron and steel used in the Project are produced in the United States; (b) the manufactured products used in the Project are produced in the United States; and (c) the construction materials used in the Project are produced in the United States. US EPA has a BABA FAQ located at this link, <https://www.epa.gov/cwsrf/build-america-buy-america-baba>

a. Is the project requesting less than \$250,000?

- i. If yes, project will qualify for a Small Project Waiver. **Yes**

- ii. If no, will the project utilize covered materials (e.g., iron, steel, PVC, etc.) for permanent infrastructure?

- iii. **If yes, please describe additionally the materials utilized to ensure BABA compliance.** _____All construction materials for low impact development, including, but not limited to PVC and steel grates will meet Build America, Buy America compliance requirements_____
 - 1. If no, project may qualify for No Covered Materials Waiver **No**

- iv. **If yes, will the project occur entirely on public space? Yes**
 - 1. If no, project may qualify for Private Land Waiver **No**

Project Pre-Proposal Form
FY 2025 Clean Water Act Section 319(h)
Part 2

Give a brief general project description (1 page or less):

- 1. Overview of watershed and water quality impairments:** The watershed is 1,192 square miles and includes 17 incorporated municipalities. Historically, the watershed has been characterized by forest and pastureland use with little development; however, over the last two decades nearly one quarter of the watershed land use has changed with significant increases in residential, commercial, and industrial development that have replaced forest, wetlands, prairies, and pastureland. Several stream segments within the watershed are listed on the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment's approved 2018 and draft 2022 303 (d) list. The Blank Watershed is a designated nutrient surplus area, administered by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Division and is a priority watershed for Source Water Protection in the state (Arkansas Dept of Health and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service). Urban sprawl and development are occurring at a rapid rate and local communities are facing watershed management challenges. Rain runoff volumes are increasing with increased impervious surfaces that dominate the landscape and increase the potential for nutrients, sediment, metals, hydrocarbons, pesticides, and litter to flow rapidly and untreated into storm drains and directly to creeks and streams. Within this watershed project area, those "pollutants" flow downstream into Blank Lake, the source drinking water supply for 100,000 people in the region.
- 2. Describe objectives that will be accomplished through the project:** Our primary goal is to reduce nonpoint source (NPS) sediment and nutrient loads into the Blank Watershed through three demonstration low impact development projects in highly visible public locations within the watershed. Further water quality improvements will be achieved through the second goal of developing Smart Growth for Source Water Protection programming. Reducing NPS sediment and nutrient inputs associated with development by incorporating low impact development projects into the Blank Watershed will improve water quality and accelerate programming.
- 3. Measures of success:** Reduced runoff volumes at the site scale measured by engineering plan design specifications at three Low Impact Development (LID) project sites. Three tours at LID project sites with 60 attendees. Developers and municipal/county engagement in Smart Growth for Source Water Protection as well as voluntary implementation of practices. Public engagement in six forums with feedback from 120 diverse stakeholder participants. Regional LID conference co-lead by regional watershed groups and partners, with 100 stakeholders in attendance. Utilization of regional applicable resources provided by the partnership as part of the Smart Growth for Source Water Protection programming. Increased interactions and requests for Smart Growth and Source Water Protection resources and projects, project waiting lists for funding, and technical assistance provided to non-project sites and organizations will also indicate success of this project.
- 4. Please include any equipment over \$5,000 that will be purchased for project completion:** N/A
- 5. Map of watershed or specific area of priority:**