

Stream & Watershed Enhancement Grant – Frequently Asked Questions

The mission of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) is to enhance public welfare through comprehensive planning, water supply allocation, and management of the water resources of the Susquehanna River Basin.

The **Stream & Watershed Enhancement Grant (SWEG)** offers support to local organizations whose work is in keeping with SRBC’s mission, offering funding for community-based environmental & water resources projects or events that improve, restore or protect our local watersheds.



Who is eligible?

Watershed groups – if unincorporated, must be organized with officers and bylaws
Educational program or school district
Non-profit/501c(3) or equivalent
Municipal or County Governments

How much will be awarded? What is the timeline?

Total grant fund is \$150,000 with individual awards capped at \$5,000, meaning up to 30 grants can be awarded.

The application period is from August 07, 2024 to October 31, 2024. Grant awards will be announced December 2024. Funds may cover activities between August 07, 2024 and December 31, 2025 and must be used by December 31, 2025.

What are some example projects?

- Watershed education/outreach/support (operational or financial)
- Water-based recreation opportunities
- Water resources youth or community education or activities
- Instream and streamside debris management & collection
- Livestock streamside-exclusion fencing
- Restoration of overgrazed streamside lands or degraded streams
- Climate resiliency projects
- Headwater stream protection efforts

Can project activities begin before funds are distributed?

Yes, funds can be applied to activities beginning August 07, 2024 all the way through December 31, 2025. Funds cannot be applied to projects or activities that occur before August 07, 2024.

How do I submit an application?

SRBC uses AmpliFund software for this grant. A user guide can be found on the SRBC grants web page: <https://www.srbc.gov/our-work/grants/>. If an applicant requests a different manner in which to submit an application, please direct that request to Erin Lynam (*Policy Specialist & Environmental Justice Coordinator*) at 717-238-0423, x1226 or elynam@srbc.gov.

Webinars and Technical Assistance

SRBC will be hosting informational webinars on August 21st and October 16th, 2024. Registration for the webinars will be located on the SRBC grants web page: <https://www.srbc.gov/our-work/grants/>

SRBC also offers technical assistance for the grant application on the following dates:

- August 27-28, 2024
- September 24-25, 2024
- October 22-23, 2024

On those dates, a request for assistance can be directed to Erin Lynam (*Policy Specialist & Environmental Justice Coordinator*) at 717-238-0423, x1226 or elynam@srbc.gov.

What makes a strong grant application?

A strong application will have significant ties to the water resources of the Basin, the lands that protect the Basin’s waters, and/or the communities tied to both. A strong application will propose a comprehensive project purpose for watershed improvement, restoration, protection, or outreach. A strong application will involve collaborative efforts with local partners or community engagement, and a reasonable and cost-efficient budget. Extra scoring points are available for a watershed project that engages with or serves an Environmental Justice community.

Are matching funds required? What if my proposed project costs more than \$5,000?

No, matching funds are not required for this grant. AmpliFund will not allow you to enter costs greater than \$5,000 as this is SRBC’s maximum contribution, but please list additional funding you are receiving in the “*Additional Information*” section. We encourage groups that have additional funding, but are seeking smaller amounts to complete their project, to apply. You can also upload a total project budget as an attachment to the application.

Will only one grant be awarded per organization?

Yes, awards are limited to one per organization. However, SRBC would consider applications from different chapters under the same umbrella organization provided the applications were for different watersheds or communities.

Can my project cover more than one location in a watershed?

AmpliFund will only allow you to enter one location, but your project can span multiple locations. Choose a primary project location for the application and provide details later in “*Project Details*”.

What is a project partner?

Project partners include other organizations you have requested funding from or entities outside your organization that are supporting your project non-monetarily.

To apply and for more information including detailed grant guidelines, funding agreement and an informational webinar recording, visit:

<https://www.srbc.gov/our-work/grants/stream-watershed-enhancement-grant.html>

Additional questions? Email grants@srbc.gov