

2.2 Public Involvement and Participation

Chippewa County encourages the public to provide input and engagement in the County's MS4 programs by providing opportunities for the public to participate. Since it is the activities of the public within urbanized landscapes that produce non-point source pollution, the public can provide valuable input and assistance to the County's MS4 program. Through participation and volunteer opportunities the public can be actively apart of the implementation of the program.

The Public Involvement and Participation Program not limited to providing updates on the storm water regulations, hosts activities related to storm water management, and offers volunteer opportunities. As part of the public involvement, Chippewa County is a part of the stormwater consortium Rain to Rivers. The group has developed and provides a mini-grant program to encourage public involvement (Attachment 2.2 (A) & (B)). Projects that receive the Rain to Rivers mini-grant focuses on the installation of stormwater BMPs and public education that draws awareness to control practices and the impacts of stormwater.

Measurable Goals

1. Provide at least one opportunity annually for the public to provide input on the annual report, stormwater management program, and when applicable the adoption or amendment of stormwater related ordinances.
2. Provide at least one volunteer activity per year. These activities may include best management practice installation or maintenance, storm drain stenciling, planting community rain garden, clean up event, stream monitoring, citizen committee meeting, public workshop, presentation of stormwater information, or other hands on event.

Attachment 2.2 (A) – Rain to Rivers Brochure

Purpose

Rain to Rivers is an education campaign focused on the coordination of resources and education of residents about stormwater related issues.

Rain to Rivers facilitates the coordination of information and education programs among its members through regular training opportunities, marketing materials, public service announcements and funding support for small stormwater projects.

Learn more online at:
www.raintorivers.org

Resources available to member communities for public education and outreach efforts include the following:

Marketing Materials



Media & Press Kits

Educational Curriculum

Trainings



Small Project Grants

Member Communities

City of Altoona
City Of Chippewa Falls
Chippewa County
Town of Eagle Point
City of Eau Claire
Eau Claire County
City of Hudson
City of Menomonie
City of Rice Lake
City of River Falls
Town of Seymour
Town of Union
Town of Washington

RAIN TO RIVERS

of Western Wisconsin

Partners



UW Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension

Photo on cover: USDA, Ken Hammond



www.raintorivers.org



Clean Water Starts in Your Own Yard...

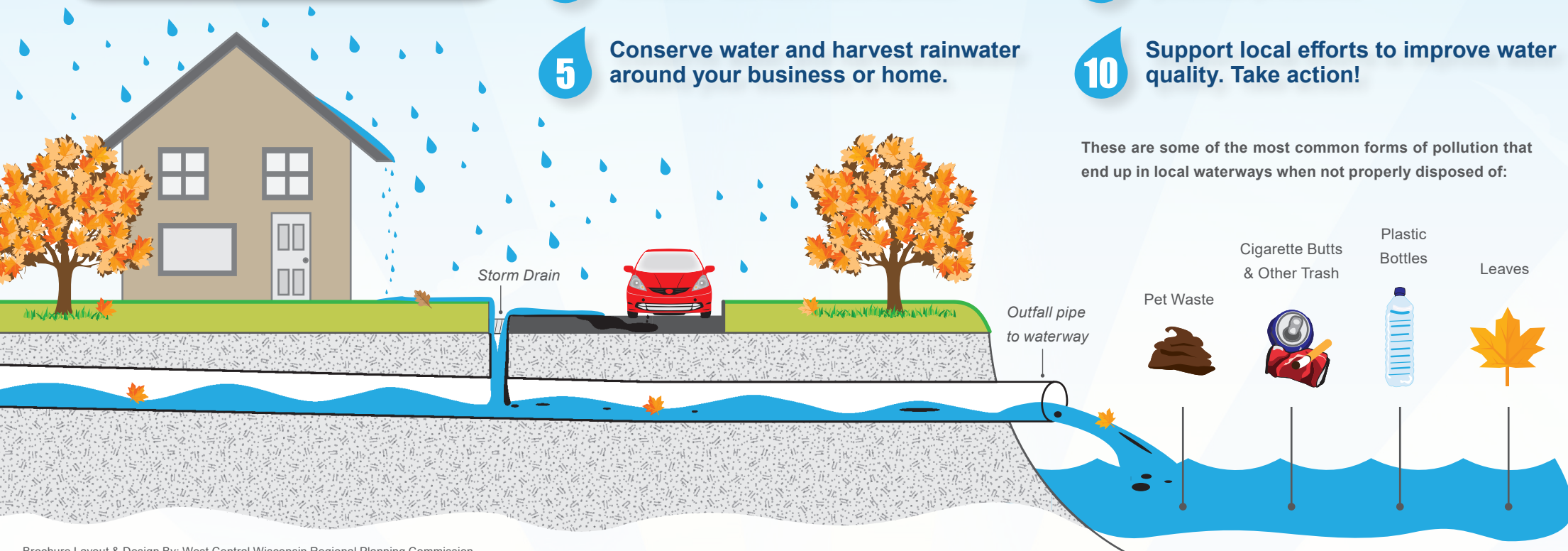
Water pollution has many sources. Up to half of all pollutants come not from factories or wastewater treatment plants, but from many diffuse sources resulting from our own everyday activities. For example, dog waste left on the ground or chemicals sprayed on lawns may get washed into the nearest waterways during the next rain event. Pet waste and pesticides in your yard may not seem like they could have a large effect on local streams and lakes, but our waterways receive stormwater from thousands of homes and properties each time it rains. What we do in our own backyards and our communities can make all the difference to the quality of our lakes and streams.

What can I do?

Top 10 things you can do to keep area waters clean...

- 1** Be a pooper scooper and pick up after your pets.
- 2** Keep soil in your yard and out of our waterways.
- 3** Keep leaves and grass clippings out of ditches and waterways.
- 4** Kick your chemical dependency and consider non-toxic alternatives.
- 5** Conserve water and harvest rainwater around your business or home.
- 6** Don't overfeed your lawn with unnecessary fertilizers or chemicals.
- 7** Practice careful car care by properly disposing of harmful fluids.
- 8** Use a proper container for trash and recyclables.
- 9** Be a watershed watchdog and report potential problems.
- 10** Support local efforts to improve water quality. Take action!

These are some of the most common forms of pollution that end up in local waterways when not properly disposed of:



Attachment 2.2 (B) – Rain to Rivers Mini Grant Application

Rain to Rivers of Western Wisconsin

Storm Water Education & Small Project Fund

Information

Rain to Rivers of Western Wisconsin, as part of its educational efforts, is offering small grants to organizations and entities looking to conduct specific storm water educational efforts.

Organizations such as non-profit groups, schools and government entities are eligible for these grants.

Requirements & Process

- Grants are for the purpose of storm water education
- Grants are small, with a **maximum amount for any one grant of \$1,000**
- Each grant application will be considered and accepted or denied based on its merits and consistency with grant criteria
- Proposals are expected to have a primarily educational purpose
- Public information regarding the activity would be encouraged (press releases, signage, etc.)
- Educational effort or organization is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of Rain to Rivers
- Funds will be distributed to approved projects on first-come, first-served basis
- Grant proposals will be evaluated on a regular basis by members of Rain to Rivers
- Number of grants awarded per year will be limited by availability of funds

Eligible Projects

- Storm water educational workshops/events
- Storm water field trips
- Installation of rain gardens to control storm water runoff
- Construction and installation of rain barrels to control storm water runoff
- Classroom events/lessons focused on storm water education
- Installation of pervious pavers or other pervious surfaces that allow infiltration of rainfall or runoff

Criteria/Considerations

- Strength of Educational Proposal—public exposure, a message consistent with Rain to Rivers messages
- Past Funding—Resources will be spread amongst organizations
- Public outreach and informational effort
- Geographical distribution of projects
- Limit one grant per entity per year
- In-kind and matching support encourage

HOW TO APPLY

Fill out the following application pages with complete information on your proposed project. Use the submission guidance on the final page to submit your materials to the Stormwater Outreach Coordinator.

An award letter will be sent to the applicant upon approval. A final report will need to be submitted upon completion of the project, along with proper documentation of expenses, and Rain to Rivers will then reimburse the applicant for those eligible expenses.



Save...

Print

Note: In order to fill and save this form electronically, it must be opened using Adobe Reader or Acrobat software. Save a copy of the file, open Adobe Reader, select File > Open and browse for the file you saved.

Rain to Rivers of Western Wisconsin, Inc.

Storm Water Education & Small Project Fund



MINI-GRANT PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

Part I. Applicant Information

Project Name

Applicant Name *(unit of government, agency, organization, club)*

Mini-Grant Contact Person *(address info for mailing of grant payment)*

Name

Mailing Address - Street or PO Box

Title

City

Area Code + Phone Number

State

E-Mail Address

Zip Code

Part II. Geographic Location of Proposed Project

Street Address (if available):

Property or Location Type:

Closest Lake or River:

Village/City/Town:

County:

Part III. Project Description

A. Project Schedule *(including completion date)*

B. Budget

Total Cost of Project

Applicant's Internal Funding *(in-kind)*

Funding Requested from Rain to Rivers

Applicant's Outside Funding

A. Description of Project:

B. Project Educational Goals or Objectives:

C. Project Benefit *(How will western Wisconsin benefit from the proposed project?):*

Part IV. Application Certification

Name of Applicant *(please type for signature)*

Date Signed

Submittal Directions

E-mail Completed Form to: **- or -**

Send via USPS to:

Landon Profaizer
lprofaizer@wcwrpc.org

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
Attn. Landon Profaizer
800 Wisconsin St., Mailbox 9
Building D-2, Suite 401
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Email Now