

# Source Water Protection: New (and Old) Opportunities for Implementation

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Source Water Protection: Current Opportunities





**SOURCE WATER PROTECTION**  
INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS TO  
PROTECT DRINKING WATER AT THE SOURCE

# New (and Old) Opportunities for Source Water Protection Planning and Implementation



USDA: 2018 Farm Bill provisions



Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set-Asides



Clean Water State Revolving Fund



Clean Water Act Section 319



# USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service



► NRCS' approach combines **locally-led** solutions with science and research; landowner stewardship; partnerships; and proven conservation practices to produce results for agriculture and the environment.



# 2018 Farm Bill: Big Win for Source Water Protection



- 10% of conservation program funds must be used to protect sources of drinking water (except CRP)
- ~ \$400M/year through 2023
- Source Water Subcommittees of the State Technical Committees (including utility input)
- Establishes Water Source Protection Program in Forest Service



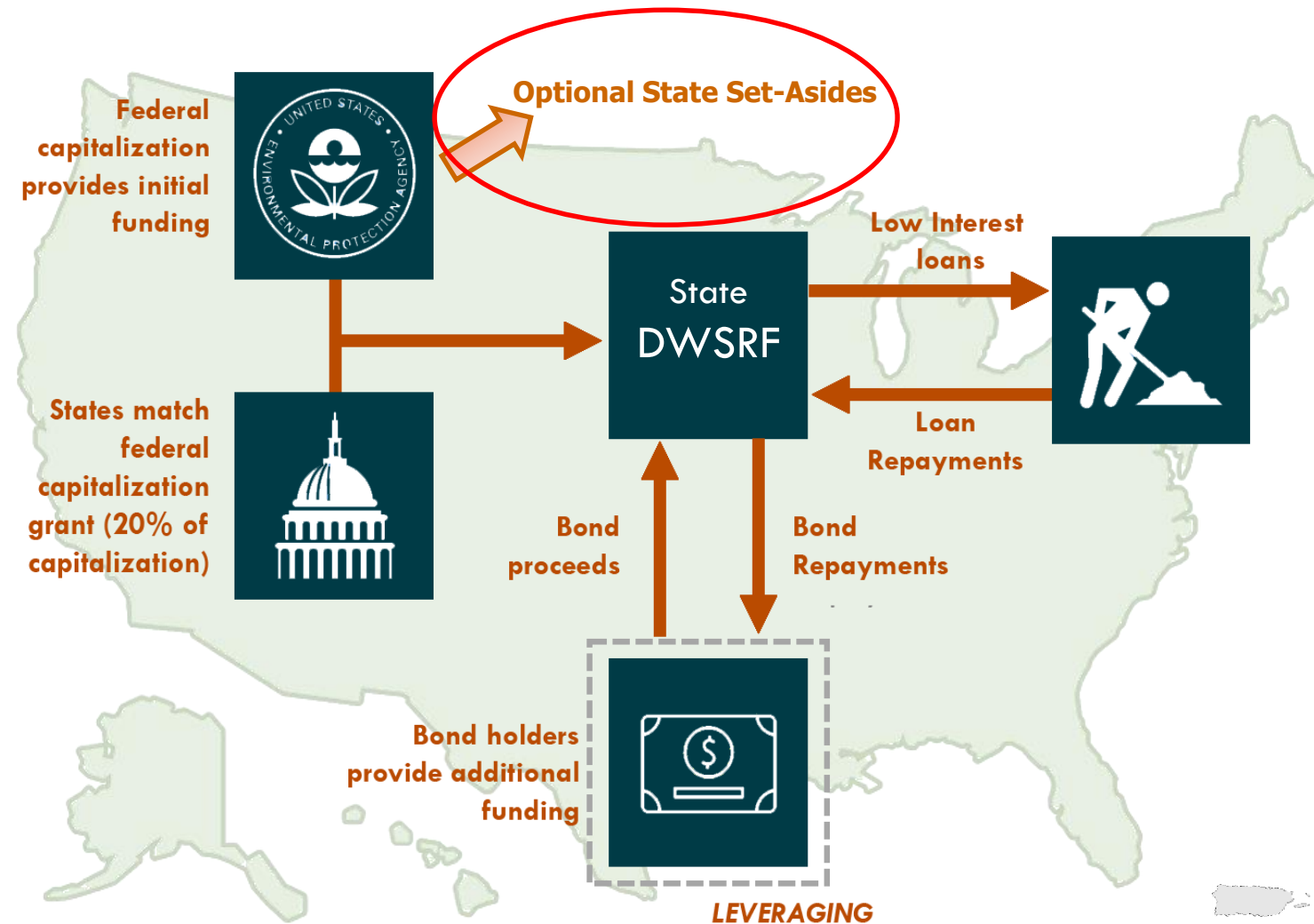
# America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) 2018



- Section 2002: Funding implementation of SWP efforts from DWSRF set-asides
- Section 2015: Reauthorized funding source water assessments from DWSRF set-asides
- Section 2016: Reauthorized SWP Partnership Petition program (SDWA §1454)
- Section 2018: Planning for and Responding to Chemical Releases
- Section 2023: Reauthorization of DWSRF Capitalization Grants

# The State Revolving Fund Infrastructure Model

- 51 state-level “infrastructure banks” make loans with water systems for drinking water projects
  - Water systems apply for funding with their respective state DWSRF program
- States craft their DWSRF program to meet the needs of their state
  - Each of the 51 programs are unique
  - They operate within the federal framework but may target funding more narrowly



# State Program Management (10% Set-Aside)



**Develop and Implement** Drinking Water Protection, Capacity Development, Operator Certification, and Source Water Protection Programs



Often Used to **Fund Staff**

- Source Water Coordinators
- Hydrogeologists



Can also be used by state for source water protection activities



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# Local Assistance and Other State Programs (15%)

## Source Water Protection and Capacity Development Activities



- Loans to PWS for SWP land acquisition/easements, voluntary, incentive-based SWP measures, and source water petition programs



- Delineation, assessment, and *updates to assessments for SWP areas*



- Establishment and implementation of wellhead protection programs *and implementation of efforts to protect source water*



- Assistance to any PWS as part of a capacity development strategy



# Local Assistance and Other State Programs (15%)

## Source Water Protection and Capacity Development Activities



- Updating Source Water Assessments with GIS
- Developing Source Water Protection Plans



- Small grant programs
- Technical Assistance through 3<sup>rd</sup> parties
- Implementation of BMPs



- Development of local ordinances
- Public outreach and education







# What Projects are Eligible for CWSRF Assistance?

## Clean Water Act



- 603(c)(1) Construction of publicly owned treatment works (POTW)
- 603(c)(2) Implementation of a nonpoint source management program
- 603(c)(3) Implementation of a national estuary program CCMP
- 603(c)(4) Decentralized systems
- 603(c)(5) Stormwater management
- 603(c)(6) Projects that reduce the demand for POTW capacity through water conservation, efficiency, and reuse
- 603(c)(7) Watershed pilot projects
- 603(c)(8) Projects that reduce the energy consumption needs for POTWs
- 603(c)(9) Reuse of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water
- 603(c)(10) Security measures at POTWs
- 603(c)(11) Technical assistance to small and medium POTWs





**CWSRF assistance recipients have the flexibility to access income from many sources as repayment, including:**



## Flexible Repayment Options

- Identifying a repayment source can be challenging for projects such as stormwater or land conservation, among others.

- Usage based wastewater bill charges
- Special assessments
- Home Owner Association assessments
- Stormwater district fees
- Farming revenues
- Non-profit membership fees
- Home owner fees
- Landfill fees
- For profit company revenue
- Property tax revenue



# Clean Water Act §319

- 319(b) - State Management Programs (NPS Management Programs)
- 319(h)- Grant Program – States, Territories, Tribes
- In addition to CWA, states follow §319 program and grant guidelines  
<http://www.epa.gov/nps/319-grant-current-guidance>



# §319 Funds Fulfill Unique Roles

## Support the operation of state and tribal NPS programs

***State staff manage NPS programs:*** prioritize actions, coordinate with other state and federal programs (e.g., USDA, FEMA), manage RFPs for local water quality projects, oversee these projects, provide technical assistance, monitor water quality, track and document success.

## Catalyst that enables local water quality projects to proceed by supporting:

Local staff (e.g., SWCDs) to plan projects and coordinate with the community

Landowner outreach and technical assistance

Coordination across agencies to secure funding and support for project

Watershed plans that identify and focus on the top sources of NPS runoff, “the right practices in the right places for the right pollutants.”



# Leverage Investments for Greater Impact



Think long-term



Account for multiple benefits



Consider funding sources outside your program





# QUESTIONS?

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[epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection](https://epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection)