



# Rhode Island Rivers Council

One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908  
[www.ririvers.org](http://www.ririvers.org)



## Rhode Island Rivers Council 2017 Stormwater Project Grant Program

The Rhode Island Rivers Council (RIRC) is pleased to announce the availability of funding under the Stormwater Project Grant Program which was initiated in 2015 through funding originally from the RI Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team (BRWCT). (Note: A change in state law eliminated the BRWCT and assigned responsibility for the funding to the RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM).) Please note that in addition to stormwater related projects, the program for 2017 has been modified to allow support for expenses related to participation in the seasonal ambient water quality monitoring program coordinated by the URI Watershed Watch Program. This support is available for one year only, 2017.

The RIRC will allocate the available second year funds for this program to assist our designated watershed councils with identification, development, and completion of stormwater related projects or for their participation in the URI Watershed Watch Program. Designated watershed councils are invited to submit one proposal in one of the three following categories:

- On the Ground Stormwater Implementation Projects
- Educational and Outreach programs related to stormwater management.
- URI Watershed Watch Monitoring

### Available Funding Levels:

Via DEM, the RIRC currently has available up to \$20,000 for projects. Stormwater implementation and outreach projects are limited to \$3,000. Participation in URI Watershed Watch will be limited to \$2,600 or the annual cost for up to 4 monitoring station locations as funding allows(\$650/location).

### Timeline:

#### Year 2 Stormwater Grants:

April 12, 2017	RFP released for Year 2 Projects, 2017
April 21, 2017	If planning a proposal for WW monitoring, email a letter of intent by this date
May 8, 2017	Proposals due
June 14, 2017	Grants awarded for Year 2 projects
September 8, 2017	Project status reports due for all grants
June 15, 2018	Final reports due for all grants

**Applications are due in digital format by 4pm on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Send the digital copy of your application to:**

info@ririvers.org

**Eligibility Requirements:**

Eligibility to participate in the RI Rivers Council's grant program requires:

- 1) Formal recognition as a state designated watershed council by the RI Rivers Council.
- 2) Full compliance with all grants previously awarded by the RI Rivers Council to the applicant unless an extension has been granted.
- 3) Applications received must be complete and follow the guidelines and framework as set forth by the RI Rivers Council.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1) Implementation projects that are related to stormwater management and may include Low Impact Development (LID), green infrastructure techniques, and/or riparian buffers. Specific examples include installation of raingardens, removal of paved surfaces, conversion to sustainable landscaping, or re-vegetation of buffer zones.
- 2) Implementation projects that will not require permits and can be constructed and completed with grant funds and within the grant timeline, and with local volunteer support.
- 3) Implementation projects that will be valuable demonstration projects for education and training for local and state governments, educators, and stormwater managers.
- 4) Educational and outreach projects that are related to stormwater management.
- 5) Sponsorship of existing URI Watershed Watch monitoring stations (up to four stations) with consideration of the length of record of the data. Proposal should indicate whether existing trained volunteers are returning or document recruitment and URI training of any new volunteer.
- 6) Sponsorship of a new URI Watershed Watch monitoring station with demonstrated commitment to carrying out the 2017 seasonal program as evidenced by the recruitment and URI training of at least two volunteers.

**Grant Contracts:**

Successful applicants will receive notification from the RI Rivers Council. Stormwater projects will require a grant agreement contract be developed with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council serving as the RIRC fiscal agent. The grant agreement will work on a reimbursement basis. Watershed councils will have two weeks from the date of the contract to sign and return it to avoid the reallocation of grant funds to another organization.

Applications for participation in URI Watershed Watch will receive written notification of the stations selected for financial support. The payment of the annual fee to URI Watershed Watch on behalf of the watershed council will occur directly between DEM and URI. No grant agreement will be required but a letter of understanding among the parties will be issued.

Applications received after the due dates and times listed, will not be reviewed or considered for funding. The RI Rivers Council reserves the right to work with potential recipients to adjust grant amounts so that the total matches the grant pool available.

If you have questions about the appropriateness of the project you are proposing or about the application process, please feel free to contact the RI Rivers Council at [yamberounsky@uri.edu](mailto:yamberounsky@uri.edu)

## **Grantee Responsibilities:**

Grantees will be responsible for the following:

- 1) Completing an application, narrative description, workplan and budget.
- 2) If proposing a URI Watershed Watch monitoring project, email a letter of intent by April 21, 2017 with number of sites planned, site names, and names of trained monitors or expected training date. Contact Elizabeth Herron at [eherron@uri.edu](mailto:eherron@uri.edu) if need to schedule a training.
- 3) Providing the Rivers Council with a **project status report by September 8, 2017**. This one-page emailed report will summarize project accomplishments and challenges.
- 4) Providing the Rivers Council with a **full project report by June 15, 2018**.  
This final project report will include project accomplishments and evaluation of results. The final report must include:
  - a) Narrative report
  - b) Maps, plans, or exhibits, if applicable
  - c) A full accounting of project expenditures, cash or value of in-kind funds;
  - d) A minimum of three (3) photos, submitted in digital format, showing project activities. (The Rivers Council may use these photos in its reporting.)

Although we understand the time constraints of your board members and staff, timely reporting is necessary in order for the Rivers Council to effectively execute its administrative duties as required by the State of RI. Therefore, failure to comply with grant reporting requirements will impact future grants awarded to your organization from the RI Rivers Council.

## **Rhode Island Rivers Council 2017 BRWCT Stormwater Project Grant Program**

### **Application**

**Applications must be submitted by 4:00 pm May 8, 2017, in digital format .  
Send the digital copy of your application to:**

[info@ririvers.org](mailto:info@ririvers.org)

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### **Please fill out the following information:**

Date of application:

Organization name:

Board chair or executive director name:  
(contractual agent)

Board officer and member names:  
(can be provided as attachment)

Phone number:

Postal address:

Email address:

Website address:

Approximate organization annual budget:

Project name:

Project location:

Total amount requested for RI Rivers Council in this proposal:

Total project budget:

**Rhode Island Rivers Council  
2017 BRWCT Stormwater Project Grant Program  
Project Narrative**

**Please answer the following questions about your proposed project in an approximately two page project narrative description:**

**For Stormwater Projects:**

1. What is your organization proposing to do?
2. Who will conduct the stormwater project?
3. What is the proposed project timeline?
4. How will you coordinate volunteers for the project?
5. What are the specific goals of the project?
6. What impact will this project have on the watershed?
7. What impact will this project have on your organization?
8. How will you publicize the project?
9. How will you measure and evaluate the project?
10. Provide a budget narrative including project costs and secured and potential match resources
11. What funds other than Rivers Council funds will contribute to the project?
12. Please include a map of the project location, if applicable.
13. Expected Deliverables.
14. Any literature cited.

**For URI Watershed Watch Participation:**

1. Has your organization participated in URI-Watershed Watch in the past? If yes, what level of activity (number of sites) has your organization been involved with and for approximately how many years?
2. If this is a new initiative, what are your plans for sustaining monitoring in future years?
3. How many sites are you seeking support for in the 2017 season with this proposal?
4. List the specific sites (name/location).
5. Do you have trained volunteers identified for the monitoring in accordance with URI protocols?
6. If relying on new volunteers, have they been participating in URI –Watershed Watch training during 2017? (Note: URI Watershed Watch field training may be attended on April 22 or April 29. Contact URI Watershed Watch Program Coordinator Elizabeth Herron for more details at [eherron@uri.edu](mailto:eherron@uri.edu) )
7. How will you coordinate volunteers for the project?
8. Why is this monitoring effort important to watershed and your organization?
9. How will you measure success?

**Rhode Island Rivers Council  
BRWCT Stormwater Project Grant Program**

**Workplan Form**

**Organization:**

**Project:**

**Date:**

<b>Task</b>	
Person(s) Responsible	
Approximate Start Date	
Approximate End Date	
Volunteers Required	
Contract Services Required	
Equipment/Materials Needed	
Cost	
Comments	
<b>Task</b>	
Person(s) Responsible	
Approximate Start Date	
Approximate End Date	
Volunteers Required	
Contract Services Required	
Equipment/Materials Needed	
Cost	
Comments	
<b>Task</b>	
Person(s) Responsible	
Approximate Start Date	
Approximate End Date	
Volunteers Required	
Contract Services Required	
Equipment/Materials Needed	
Cost	
Comments	
Contract Services Required	

Note: Expand table as necessary.

**Rhode Island Rivers Council  
Stormwater Grant Program  
Budget Form**

**Organization:**

**Project:**

**Date:**

Item	Requested Amount from RIRC	Value of Cash or In-kind Services	Total Project Cost
<b>STAFF AND CONSULTANTS</b>			
Salaries and Wages			
Consultants/professional fees			
<b>PROGRAM</b>			
Travel			
Supplies			
Printing and copying			
Postage and delivery			
<b>EQUIPMENT (please describe)</b>			
<b>OTHER (please specify)</b>			
<b>URI Watershed Watch annual fee</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

Note: All expenditures must be specifically related to the implementation of the project you are proposing.