

Funding and Technical Support for Watershed Groups

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Protection (WVDEP)
Watershed Improvement Branch

Topics

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Smaller grants, focused on YOUR agenda

- Stream Partners Program

- West Virginia Rivers Coalition Minigrants

- Try-This West Virginia Mini Grants

Larger grants, with agendas of their own

- Clean Water Act Nonpoint Source Program

- Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program (WCAP)

Topics

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

West Virginia Watershed Network

OTHER

County Commissions

Town Councils

Colleges and Universities

Businesses, Chambers of Commerce

Small Grants, Your Agenda

West Virginia Citizens are the best people to choose what problems are important and how to address them.

Stream Partners

WV Rivers Mini-grants

Try This WV Minigrants

Emphasize supporting your agenda.

Trash Clean-Ups

Educational Displays

Insurance

Festivals

Monitoring Supplies

Rent/Utilities

Signage

Analytical lab fees

Stream Partners

Watershed Groups may apply for \$5,000 grants each year. Projects must be accomplished in one calendar year.

<http://www.wvca.us/stream>

Application deadline: September 15

Performance period: January 1 through December 31

Stream Partners is often the first funding a group gets. It can lead to first victories and powerful momentum.

Contact your Basin Coordinator (see below)

West Virginia Rivers Coalition Mini-Grant Program

Eligibility: Intended for community-based organizations with budgets under \$100,000/year that seek to lead activities with an emphasis on grassroots activism and advocacy. Awards are available up to \$2,500.

Criteria: Activities must occur in WV; empower and engage citizens through activism and advocacy; align with one of our priority focus areas below; and be completed within 1 year.

Potential Projects: Event, training, petition drive, advocacy campaign, community organizing, or other project that empowers citizens to take action for clean water in West Virginia.

<https://wvrivers.org/minigrant/>

Try This WV MiniGrants

<https://www.trythiswv.org/minigrants>

Up to \$3,000

Try This WV emphasizes healthy activity.

It fits with trail and water-trail activities.

It has been used to set up weekly paddling meet-ups, even buying kayaks.

Clean Water Act Nonpoint Source Program—§319

Larger projects, agenda is more constrained.

Money for projects that **decrease nonpoint source pollution**.

Federal money administered by state! Lots of requirements!

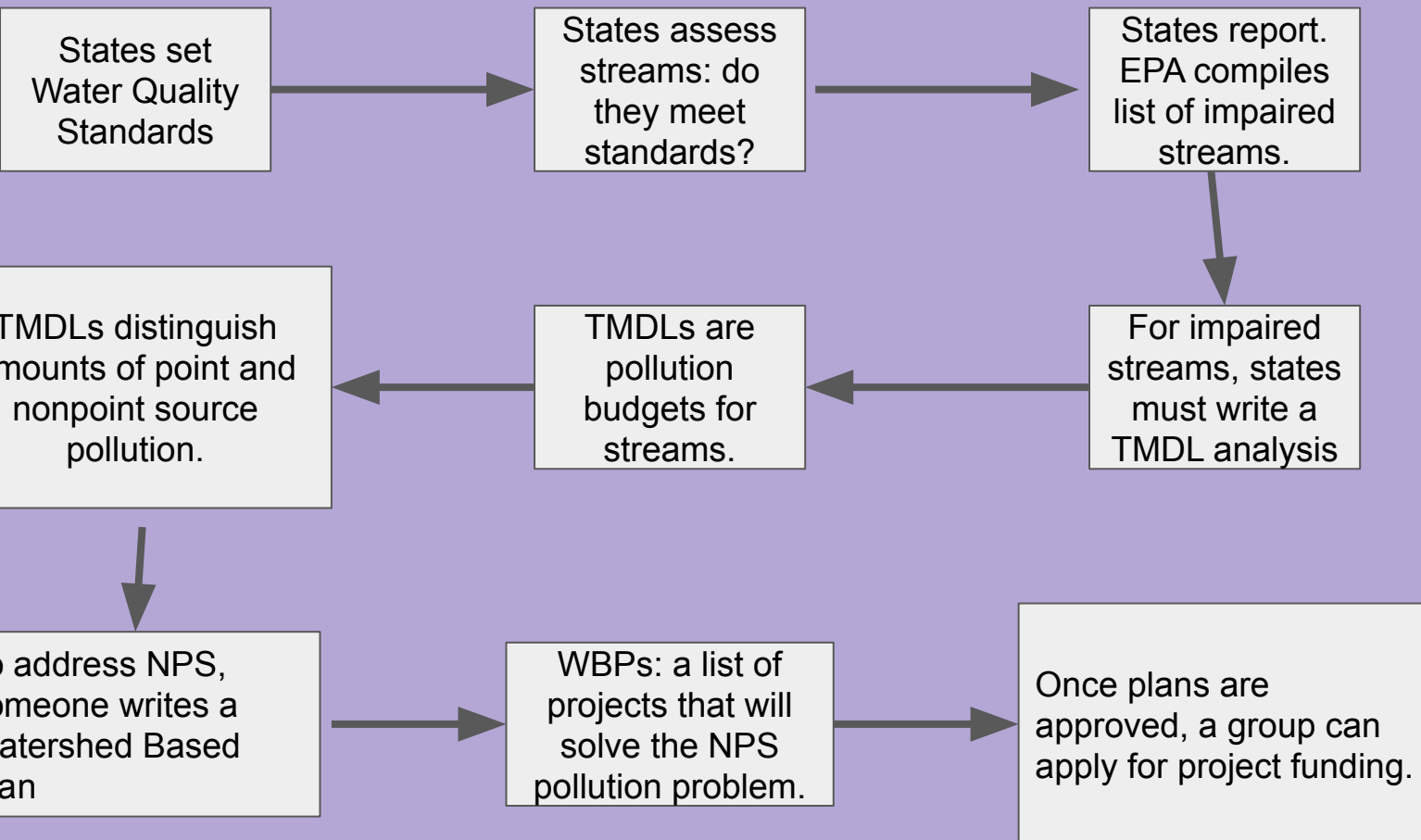
Amounts can be substantial.

Requires matching resources!

Three to four year timeline.

Allows some operating costs.

Clean Water Act Funding is part of a long chain of steps set up by the Clean Water Act.



Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)

How much pollution (e.g., kg/day) can a stream receive before it fails to meet standards?

TMDLs determine what amount of the pollution load is Point Source, and what amount is Nonpoint Source.

Point Source pollution is addressed by modifying Discharge Permits.

Nonpoint Source pollution is addressed by encouraging installation of best management practices (BMPs)

A1 Cheat River Watershed Metals Load Allocations

Cheat River Watershed Metals Load Allocations

Stream Name	Metal	SWS	ABANDONED MINES				Harvested Forest				Oil and Gas				
			Baseline Load (lbs/yr)	Allocated Load (lbs/yr)	% Reduction	Area (acres)	Baseline Load (lbs/yr)	Allocated Load (lbs/yr)	% Reduction	Area (acres)	Baseline Load (lbs/yr)	Allocated Load (lbs/yr)	% Reduction	Area (acres)	Baseline Load (lbs/yr)
UNT/Cheat River RM 1.85	Iron	13	51362	417	99	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 1.85	Aluminum	14	20389	478	98	28	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 1.85	Iron	14	41999	946	98	28	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 4.07	Aluminum	22	3751	463	88	23	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 4.07	Iron	22	53408	914	98	23	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 7.70	Aluminum	42	52590	2041	96	54	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 7.70	Iron	42	105019	4063	96	54	0.9	0.9	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 8.39	Aluminum	43	121022	2925	98	156	20.7	20.7	0	25	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Cheat River RM 8.39	Iron	43	178324	5802	97	156	230.5	230.5	0	25	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Coles Run	Iron	45	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
UNT/Coles Run RM 0.63	Iron	46	128	128	0	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Coles Run	Iron	47	22	22	0	0	183.8	16.6	91	10	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Coles Run	Iron	48	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Birch Hollow	Iron	49	0	0	0	0	1.6	1.6	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Kelly Run	Iron	50	1650	34	98	24	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Crammeys Run	Iron	51	1160	6	99	17	547.7	43.2	92	32	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Whites Run	Iron	52	194	1	99	3	269.5	20.2	93	15	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Meads Run	Aluminum	53	6927	104	87	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0

A Nonpoint Source pollution project should

Reduce pollution to a particular stream.

Cause a stream segment to stop violating water quality standards.

Have operations and maintenance covered by a different resource or partner.

Supply 40% of the resources for the grant.

Be completed within the performance period.

Funding is reimbursed, not provided up front.

Timeline:

Federal FY2025 10/1/2024-9/30/2025

For FY26 funds, apply

5/1/2025 Submit application

10/1/2026 +/- Funding available

9/30/2030 Drop Dead Deadline to finish project.

For Watershed Based Plan funding, get in touch with your Basin Coordinator, and the WVDEP Nonpoint Source Program Coordinator.

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Watershed Cooperative Agreement Program (WCAP)

- Nonprofit organizations are eligible. In fact, the program is officially called “Not-for-Profit AMD Reclamation.” The program is for non-profits.
- The WCAP goal is to supply only 40% of the resources, as if it is tailored to fill the 60:40 requirement for NPS funding.*
- The contact in West Virginia is Chris Hayner (CHayner@osmre.gov).
- Requirements and instructions are in [Directive GMT-10 Federal Financial Assistance Manual](#) (starting on page A-250).
- Funding is mainly for construction.
- Requirements call for one year of monitoring before you apply.

Technical Assistance: West Virginia Watershed Network

<https://wvrivers.org/resources/watershed/>

Mission: To provide resources helpful to watershed groups and their work,

To provide opportunities for watershed volunteers to meet, learn from each other, and team up,

To raise consciousness about watershed groups, and

To recognize and celebrate the efforts and accomplishments of local watershed groups.

Who is it?

WVDEP Watershed Improvement Branch WV Rivers Coalition

WV Conservation Agency WVU Center for Resilient Communities

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Friends of the Cheat

WVWN Offerings

West Virginia Watershed Symposium: SAVE THE DATE: October 17, 18

WaterNet Newsletter: Subscribe here: <https://wvrivers.salsalabs.org/waternet>

Monthly Virtual Watershed Social Hours: [mailto: Martin.J.Christ@wv.gov](mailto:Martin.J.Christ@wv.gov)

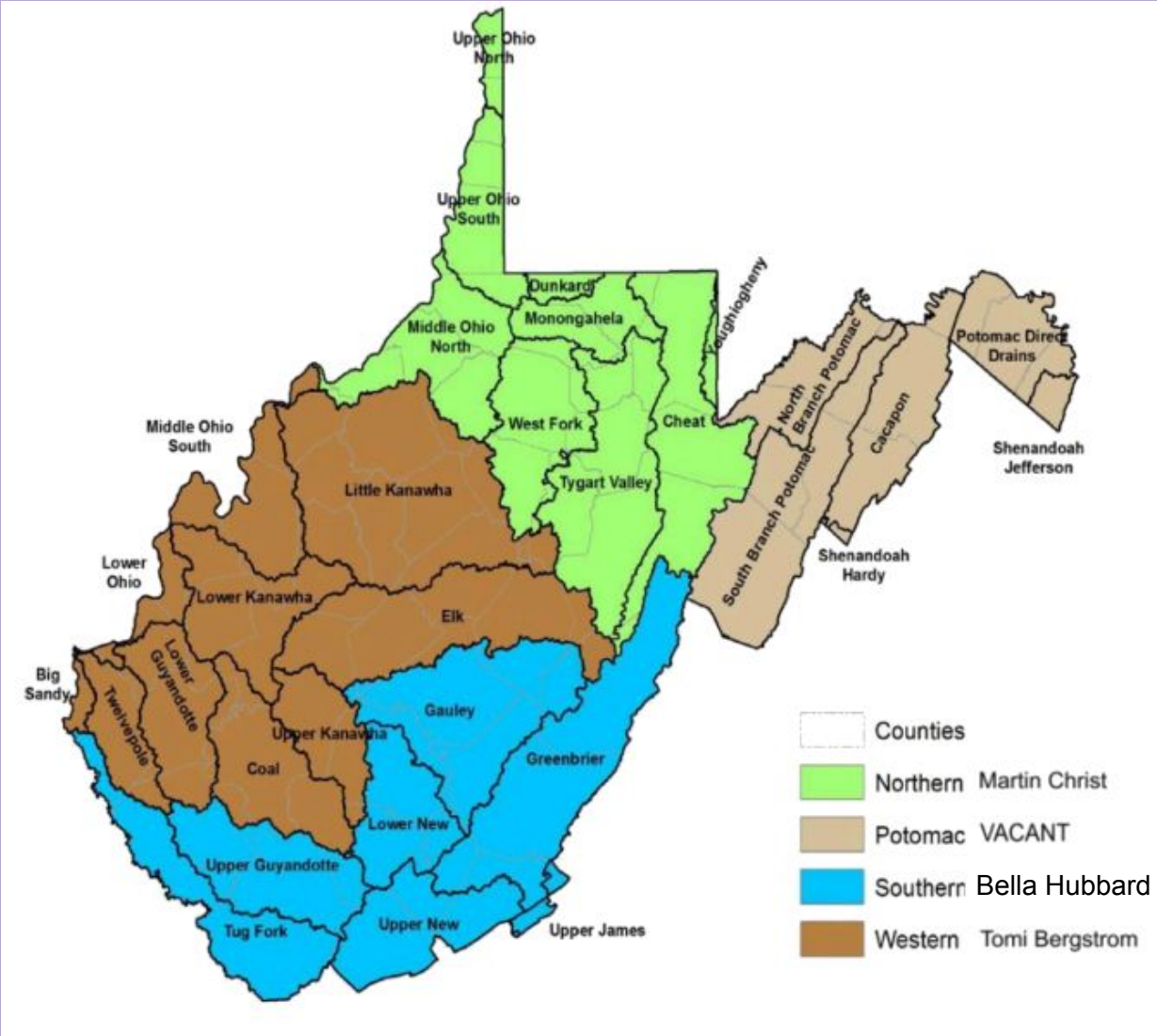
Watershed Improvement Branch Calendar: <https://localendar.com/public/wib>

Occasional “Mailbag” emails with lists of events, workshops, and grant opportunities. [mailto: Martin.J.Christ@wv.gov](mailto:Martin.J.Christ@wv.gov)

Project WET: Connection with educational resources, especially for **organizing water festivals**. [Mailto: Tomi.M.Bergstrom@wv.gov](mailto:Tomi.M.Bergstrom@wv.gov)

WV Save Our Streams: Training and resources about stream monitoring. Mailto: Callie.C.Sams@wv.gov

Basin Coordinator Map



Some Links

Martin Christ	WIB: Northern Basin Coordinator	Martin.J.Christ@wv.gov
Tomi Bergstrom	Western Basin Coordinator WV Project WET Leader	Tomi.M.Bergstrom@wv.gov
Bella Hubbard	Southern Basin Coordinator	Izabella.B.Hubbard@wv.gov
Callie Cronin Sams	Save our Streams Coordinator	Callie.C.Sams@wv.gov
Stream Partners	Cache of grant information	www.wvca.us/stream
WVRC Mini-grants	Grant info and application	wvrivers.org/minigrant/
Try This WV Minigrants	Grant info and application	www.trythiswv.org/minigrants
Nonpoint Source Program	Tons of info	dep.wv.gov/WWE/Programs/nonpointsource/Pages/home.aspx
Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement	Rules for WCAP grants	www.osmre.gov/sites/default/files/inline-files/Appendix-A-Federal-Financial-Assistance-Manual_508-FINAL.pdf
OSMRE Contact person	Chris Hayner	CHayner@osmre.gov

Some Links

WIB Calendar	Events, Webinars, Grant deadlines	localendar.com/public/wib
Project Wet	Support for AMAZING education workshops	dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/WET/Pages/default.aspx
WV Save Our Streams	Support for accurate, dependable stream monitoring	dep.wv.gov/WWE/getinvolved/sos/Pages/default.aspx
WaterNet	Subscribe!	wvrivers.salsalabs.org/waternet