

New Requirement - Watershed Management Plan

A requirement for the FY2009 Section 319 grant cycle is the development of a watershed management plan in accordance with the required EPA elements outlined in attachment 8. This grant cycle, we are not requiring the watershed management plan to be submitted with the application. However, applications that are approved by DNR will be required to develop a watershed management plan prior to receiving their grant award. Please be aware that watershed management plans will be an eligibility requirement for the 2010 grant cycle.

The DNR is currently developing a template and resources to assist grantees during this transition.

Watershed Management Plan Summary

The watershed management plan is a strategy and work plan for achieving water resource goals. The plan should characterize existing conditions, identify and prioritize problems, define management objectives, and develop and implement protection or remediation strategies. It should be holistic and address all potential pollutants from all possible sources.

EPA created a handbook intended to help communities, watershed organizations, and state, local, tribal and federal environmental agencies develop and implement watershed management plans to meet water quality standards and protect water resources. This handbook should be used as a reference as the project sponsors deem appropriate. The handbook can be found at: http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/watershed_handbook/.

Additional information and guidance regarding the Section 319 program can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/cwact.html>.