

Introduction

The Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (WCMP) is seeking to fund projects with coastal local governments in southeastern Wisconsin to proactively address vulnerabilities to coastal hazards identified in a community Coastal Resilience Assessment. These projects will involve financial and technical assistance from WCMP and its partners during the duration of the project. This grant program is part of the Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience project led by WCMP and its partners ([link to more info](https://sewicoastalresilience.org/))
<https://sewicoastalresilience.org/>)

Partners with WCMP on the Coastal Resilience Team include the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) will administer WCMP's Coastal Resilience Grants in collaboration with the Office for Coastal Management (OCM), U.S. Department of Commerce, through funding provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Resilience Grants program.

Objective

The objective of the WCMP Coastal Resilience Grant program is to support activities that will help counties and municipalities in southeastern Wisconsin:

1. Improve awareness of their coastal hazard risks
2. Reduce future property damages from coastal hazards
3. Become more effective and cost-efficient in their efforts to reduce coastal hazard risks
4. Sustain the operation of economic assets such as beaches and harbors in the face of coastal hazards

Eligibility

Applicants must be a local unit of government in southeastern Wisconsin adjacent to Lake Michigan. Eligible counties and municipalities are the following:

Ozaukee County

Belgium, Port Washington (town), Port Washington (city), Grafton, Mequon

Milwaukee County

Bayside, Fox Point, Whitefish Bay, Shorewood, Milwaukee, St. Francis, Cudahy, South Milwaukee, Oak Creek

Racine County

Caledonia, Wind Point, North Bay, Racine, Mount Pleasant

Kenosha County

Somers, Kenosha, Pleasant Prairie

Applicants are required to complete a Coastal Resilience Self-Assessment, available at <https://sewicoastalresilience.org/local-initiatives/>, to identify possible actions to build their resilience to coastal hazards. The Resilience Grant Team will be available to meet with applicants to review results of the Self-Assessment and discuss grant proposal ideas. Please contact Adam Bechle at 608-261-2875 or adam.bechle@wisconsin.gov to arrange a meeting.

Available Funding

Total funding available for these WCMP Coastal Resilience Grants is \$250,000. The expectation is to fund a balanced allocation of the limited grant funds among the eligible counties and municipalities.

Project Themes

The WCMP Coastal Resilience Grant program seeks projects that fit within or combine the following areas of emphasis:

1. Assess existing practices or plan improved practices to reduce coastal hazard risk
2. Develop, evaluate or revise coastal hazard strategies or community plans
3. Provide education and outreach on coastal resilience to the public

More details on these themes are provided on the following page. This grants program will not fund any construction.

Match Requirement

WCMP Coastal Resilience Grant projects require a nonfederal cost-share match at a 2:1 ratio of grant request to nonfederal match. Details on eligible match are provided on the following page.

Project Period

WCMP Coastal Resilience Grants may start no earlier than January 1, 2019 and must be complete by December 31, 2019.

Informational Webinar

A webinar is scheduled for August 29th at 2:30 PM CDT to provide an overview of this RFP and answer questions about the application process. Webinar details are available on <https://sewicoastalresilience.org/local-initiatives/>

Application and Selection Timeline

Application Deadline:	October 5, 2018
Projects Selected:	November 2018
Projects Begin:	January 1, 2019
Project Completion:	December 31, 2019

How to Apply

1. Read this Request for Proposals and Grant Application at <https://sewicoastalresilience.org/local-initiatives/>
2. Complete a Coastal Resilience Self-Assessment for your community and return it to adam.bechle@wisconsin.gov
3. Contact Adam Bechle to discuss project proposals and application requirements (optional but recommended).
4. Complete the Grant Application according to the instructions provided.
5. Submit the Grant Application form electronically (Microsoft® Word – not .pdf) by email to adam.bechle@wisconsin.gov by October 5, 2018, or by mailing a CD or USB drive to WCMP (address below), postmarked by October 5, 2018.
6. Mail three (3) printed copies of the Grant Application to WCMP, postmarked by October 5, 2018.

Wisconsin Coastal Management Program
P.O. Box 8944
Madison, WI 53708-8944

Review Process

Following an eligibility review by WCMP staff, a panel of technical reviewers will evaluate proposals and provide comments. WCMP staff will use reviewer evaluations in the project selection process.

Proposals will be viewed favorably if they:

- Demonstrate improved and sustainable approaches to withstand, respond to, or adapt to coastal hazards
- Directly address resilience needs or actions identified in the Coastal Resilience Self-Assessment
- Show collaboration between multiple municipalities or counties in southeastern Wisconsin OR anticipated benefits across multiple communities in the region, including demonstration of innovative approaches.

Applicants should be prepared to answer questions regarding their proposal after application submission.

Match Requirement Details

WCMP Coastal Resilience Grant projects require a nonfederal cost-share match at a 2:1 ratio of grant request to nonfederal match. In other words, the nonfederal match amount must be at least 50% of the requested funding amount. For example, a grant request of \$20,000 will require at least \$10,000 of nonfederal match be provided.

Match may be in-kind, cash, or a combination of the two. Applicants must certify that they can supply the required match. Match cannot be federal funds. In-kind match includes applicant staff time and the use of equipment, supplies, or other commodity already owned by the applicant or the use of items or staff time donated by a third party. Partnerships that include meaningful private contributions as part of the match are encouraged. Gifts are acceptable, but only if they are made during the grant period. Financial donations collected before the grant period may be included in the match calculation only if the money is expended after the grant period begins. Volunteer time used as an in-kind match must be charged at the rate paid for the type of work being done.

Local money or in-kind used to support the proposed project can be considered as match if it was expended after October 1, 2017, the start date of WCMP's Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience project which supports this RFP. For example, staff time spent attending Southeastern Wisconsin Coastal Resilience meetings, completing the Coastal Resilience Self-Assessment, or preparing this application can all be considered match. All match sources must be expended by the Project Completion date.

Please contact Adam Bechle with any questions about eligible match.

Project Theme Descriptions and Examples

The following themes are intended to convey the type of projects the WCMP's Coastal Resilience Grant is seeking.

Assess existing or plan improved practices to reduce coastal hazard risk

Practices used to reduce the effects of coastal hazards may require evaluation of their integrity and function and/or require improvements be planned to achieve the desired level of protection for coastal assets.

Examples could include:

- Evaluate the condition and effectiveness of existing shore protection, bluff vegetation, or coastal stormwater management practices.
- Identify public infrastructure that is vulnerable to coastal hazards, including roads, sewers and utilities
- Plan and/or design practices to reduce shoreline recession, including nature-based shore protection, erosion resilient beaches, and bluff revegetation.
- Plan future harbor or marina infrastructure maintenance and enhancements to withstand hazards

Develop, evaluate or revise coastal hazard mitigation strategies or community plans

Hazard mitigation, comprehensive, or other community plans that identify critical hazard issues and list implementable mitigation strategies can guide actions to reduce the exposure of coastal property and assets to risk.

Examples could include:

- Evaluate the effectiveness of community plans for reducing coastal hazard risks
- Develop a set of coastal hazard mitigation strategy implementation steps for hazard mitigation plans
- Engage in visioning or facilitated collaboration to set future goals and organize long-term coastal hazard plans and priorities

Provide education and outreach on coastal resilience to the public

Education and outreach for coastal residents may improve the ability to effectively reduce the risks to lakefront property. On the other hand, engaging residents in coastal hazards planning may provide valuable perspective to inform coastal resilience strategies.

Examples could include:

- Provide workshops on coastal hazards and best practices to reduce their effects on private property
- Produce outreach materials for distribution to coastal property owners
- Engage in community visioning to promote public participation in coastal hazards planning

Please direct questions to

Adam Bechle
(608) 261-2875

Adam.Bechle@wisconsin.gov