

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

Purpose and History

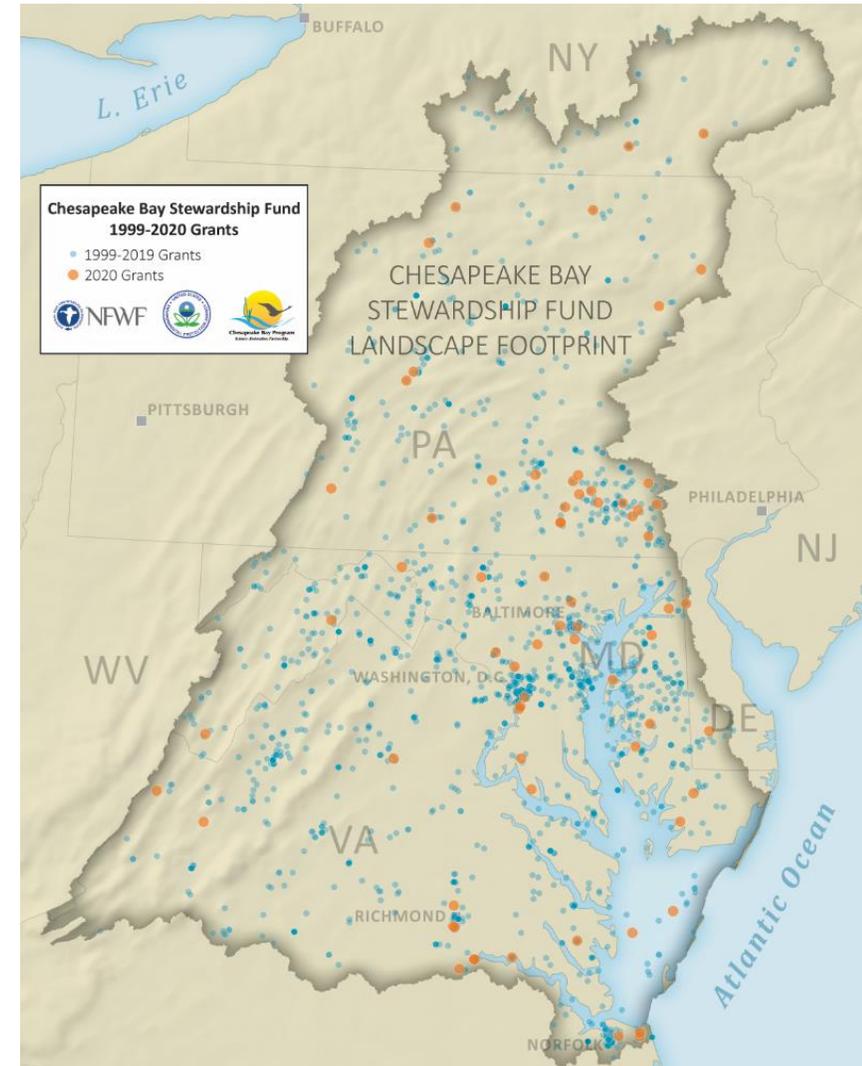
- Accelerate local restoration actions and spur innovation in watershed restoration
- Delivered in partnership with EPA and the Chesapeake Bay Program
- 1,200+ grants totaling roughly \$176M and leveraging \$260M in additional local matching funds since 1999

Chesapeake Bay Business Plan

- Provides a concise blueprint of NFWF's targeted conservation outcomes for the Chesapeake Bay
- Articulates NFWF's measurable contributions to goals and outcomes of the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership

Outcomes

- 25+ million pounds of nutrient pollution prevented
- 830,000+ acres of BMPs
- 40 acres of impervious surfaces removed
- 3 million+ people engaged



NFWF 2021 CBSF Grant Programs

	Chesapeake Bay Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction	Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants – Implementation	Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants – Planning
Project Focus	Regional-scale programs, partnerships, and collaboratives capable of scaling up water quality improvements	On-the-ground actions to protect and restore water quality, species, and habitats in the Bay watershed	Enhancing local capacity through assessment, planning, design, and other technical assistance-oriented activities
Award Size	\$500,000 – 1,000,000	\$50,000 – 500,000	Up to \$50,000
Match Requirements	1:1	One-third of grant request	None
Eligible Applicants	State agencies, post-secondary institutions, local governments, nonprofits, tribes	Local governments, nonprofits, tribes	Local governments, nonprofits, tribes
Geographic Focus	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds	Chesapeake Bay Watershed and priority subwatersheds
Annual Program Timeline (est.)	Dec. – RFP released Jan. – LOI due Feb. – Full proposals invited March – Full proposals due April – Awards announced Summer – Grants issued	Feb. – RFP released Apr. – Proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued	Feb. – RFP released Apr. – Proposals due Aug. – Awards announced Fall – Grants issued

CBSF Funding Context

- Lots of proposals - demand is typically 2-3 times what we can fund
- Tough decisions to make with NFWF unable to fund many good projects
- A robust review process with subject matter experts, jurisdiction representatives, and Bay Program leads looking at proposals
- Reviewers need to be able to quickly understand a proposal to evaluate and compare
- Proposals that are NOT clear and understandable are not likely to succeed

Creating Competitive Proposals

- Finesse your framing
 - For NFWF proper framing means alignment with our program priorities, water quality/habitat focal areas, and evaluation criteria

Project Description: State what **action** your project will take, **where** and the **outcome** you will achieve.

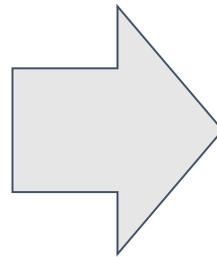
Example: *This project will implement green stormwater infrastructure projects in areas of Baltimore in the Gwynns Falls watershed to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment pollution.*

- Metrics matter
 - Outcome driven funders like NFWF want to be able to quantify and evaluate your project impact

Creating Competitive Proposals

- Wow us with the why
 - Provide the necessary context and background on why your proposed project makes sense and is cost effective
- Make the most of your limited space
 - There's additionality when you provide more details within your budget and metric notes and provide relevant additional uploads

➤ Use the ***Budget Narrative*** in the RFP template to explain staff roles in your project



Budget Narrative:
1. Personnel
Personnel -
2. Travel
Domestic Airfare - Per Flight -
International Airfare - Per Flight -
Train - Per Ticket -

Key Takeaways from NFWF on Urban Projects

- NFWF funds may not be used to support ongoing efforts to comply with legal requirements, including permit conditions, mitigation and settlement agreements
- Grant funds may be used to support projects that enhance or improve upon existing baseline compliance efforts
- Applicants for stream restoration projects creditable under the TMDL, consistent with CBP protocols, will need to demonstrate:
 - Realistic goals for improvement of specific stream functions
 - Watershed or catchment-level assessment of stressors, demonstrating efforts to address upland sources and stressors
 - Consideration of alternative design and restoration approaches to achieve functional improvements
 - **New Requirement in 2021- supplemental stream restoration narrative**