



**TOWN OF CARRBORO
REQUEST TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS**

Department: Public Works **Staff Contact:** Dylan Kirk

Project Name:

Restore Our Watersheds, Support Our Communities, Carrboro Residential Assistance Program

Funding Source:

North Carolina Division of Water Resources-Water Resources Development Grant

Total Project Costs: \$149,200.00

Application Due Date: 06/30/2025 **Amount of Request:** \$ 74,600.00

Anticipated Award Notification Date: 12/31/2025

New (N) or Recurring (R) Grant: N

Will the program require funding after the grant expires? X Yes No

If so, how much and how will it be funded?

Stormwater Utility Fee: On February 27, 2024, the Council changed the Equivalent Residential Unit fee from \$90/year to \$100/year to fund the new program.

Does this grant have a cost share requirement? X Yes No

Total Amount of Cost Share Required: \$ 74,600.00

Cash Share Amount: \$ 35,000.00 **In-Kind Share Amount:** \$ 39,600.00

If the cost share is cash, are the funds budgeted? X Yes No N/A

(If so, provide account number)

80-800-504756

If cost share is In-Kind, please describe the services.

Stormwater Assistance Coordinator position provides tailored technical assistance to property owners who apply for the Residential Assistance Program.

Has the department received funding from this agency/organization in the past? Yes X No

If so, list project name(s), amount(s), and date(s).

NCDEQ 319 Grant: Demonstrating and Sharing Solutions for Ephemeral Channel Instability in the Bolin Creek Watershed

Project Amount(s): \$150,000 awarded

Project Date(s): 2/3/2022-9/30/2024

Project Summary:

The Residential Assistance Program is a cornerstone of Carrboro's commitment to sustainable and inclusive environmental management. By offering technical expertise and financial support, the program empowers local property owners to adopt nature-based solutions that address stormwater challenges and enhance ecosystem health. Having already conducted nearly 90 site assessments; this funding opportunity ensures that many of these impactful projects can be implemented. Beyond improving individual properties, the program creates community-wide benefits that strengthen ecological resilience, enhance quality of life, and support a thriving environment for all.

Grant funds will be used for the following: (check all that apply)

Equipment

Supplies

Program Expenses (specify)

Printing

☒ **Personnel: Current Staff.** No. of Staff 1 No. of Hours 37.50/week

Personnel: Hire additional staff No of Positions

Capital (land, building, vehicles, etc.)

☒ **Contracted Services:** offset increased costs of construction.

☒ **Other** Intensive streambank restoration efforts.

Describe the need that gave rise to the request. Provide quantitative data to justify need (workload data, ratis, etc.).

The grant offsets increased costs, ensures affordability for property owners, and fosters equitable access while promoting long-term community resilience. The Residential Assistance Program focuses on nature-based solutions to tackle stormwater challenges while promoting community impact and sustainability. Rising construction costs make grant funding essential to ensure continued adoption of the program. Key practices include:

- Rain Gardens, with an average cost of \$12,528, cover an average of 363 square feet, enhance infiltration, reduce runoff, prevent erosion, and beautify landscapes.

- Cisterns, with an average cost of \$1,264, manage an average of 500 gallons of rooftop runoff, support rainwater reuse, and reduce stormwater flow.

- Streambank Stabilization, with an average cost of \$15,000–\$30,000 per 100 feet, reduce erosion, stabilize banks, improve water quality, and restore aquatic habitats with high nutrient reduction rates. More intensive restoration efforts, including structural reinforcements like riprap or large wood placement, can escalate costs to \$45,000–\$70,000 per 100 feet.

Describe how the grant will address the need identified.

This grant will enable the Town to address rising costs for sustainable practices on residential properties, ensuring their continued implementation despite budget constraints. It may also support streambank stabilization projects, which enhance nutrient reduction, reduce runoff, and prevent erosion, tackling stormwater impacts at individual and community levels to improve water quality and protect ecosystems. As a municipality regulated by the Jordan Lake Rules under the NC Division of Water Resources, Carrboro is required to meet strict nutrient reduction targets to safeguard Jordan Lake. By securing this funding, the Town can fulfill regulatory obligations, mitigate environmental challenges, and strengthen resilience and sustainability throughout the community.

Describe return on investment and the benefit(s) of this grant. Provide, to the extent that you can, cost data that shows our return on investment.

The Residential Assistance Program delivers meaningful environmental, economic, and social returns by addressing stormwater challenges with nature-based solutions. By mitigating damage and improving water quality, these practices save property owners an average of \$2,500 annually and reduce strain on municipal drainage systems, avoiding costly repairs.

Equitable funding ensures all residents, regardless of income, can access these solutions, fostering inclusivity and promoting sustainable property management. This program directly enhances public health by reducing flooding risks and improving local waterways, benefiting both residents and downstream ecosystems.

Green infrastructure investments are proven to deliver high returns, with every dollar spent generating \$2–\$4 in benefits, including reduced flood damage, higher property values, and better water quality. For Carrboro, this translates into significant long-term savings and environmental gains, strengthening ecological resilience while improving the community's quality of life. This holistic initiative embodies sustainability, equity, and impact.

Describe how the grant supports Town Council's strategic priorities and identify the specific initiative(s).

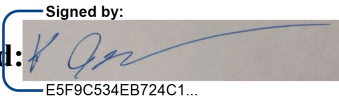
The grant enables the Residential Assistance Program to advance equity and environmental sustainability. By ensuring all residents, regardless of socioeconomic status, can access green infrastructure solutions, the program aligns with the Council's equity goals. Initiatives like alleviating costs and implementing projects for low-income residents offset financial barriers, enabling practices such as rain gardens, cisterns, and streambank stabilization, fostering inclusivity and reducing disparities.

Additionally, the grant supports the Council's environmental sustainability goals by promoting nature-based solutions to manage stormwater and restore ecosystems. Green infrastructure reduces runoff, prevents erosion, and safeguards soil and streambanks. Funding streambank stabilization projects enhances water quality by curbing sedimentation and nutrient pollution, benefiting both local and downstream waters. Restoring habitats and bolstering biodiversity contributes to long-term ecological resilience and sustainability.


This grant-fueled program delivers equitable and impactful solutions to stormwater challenges, strengthening community resilience and advancing the Council's strategic priorities.

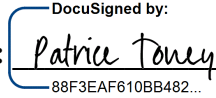
Will this project duplicate or compete with another service or program provided by the Town of Carrboro or other local agency?

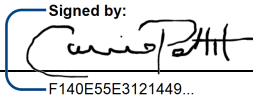
The Residential Assistance Program complements, rather than duplicates, other services in Carrboro by addressing private residential stormwater impacts that broader municipal initiatives often overlook. Its focus on providing tailored technical and financial support for residential-scale green infrastructure solutions—including, but not limited to, rain gardens, cisterns, vegetated swales, and streambank stabilization—fills a crucial gap. By integrating these diverse solutions into the Town’s overall strategy, the grant program enhances community resilience without competing with existing efforts.

Approved by Department Head:  **Date:** 04/17/2025
Signed by: E5F9C534EB724C1...

Approved by Grant Manager:  **Date:** 04/21/2025
DocuSigned by: 8AD0DD303C1D488...

Approved by Chief Finance Officer:  **Date:** 04/22/2025
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Approved by Town Manger:  **Date:** 04/22/2025
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Prepared by:  **Date:** 04/17/2025
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