

## Enviro-Grants Frequently Asked Questions

### **Can I apply for funding for a project I completed before the application deadline?**

No. We can't reimburse for projects completed prior to application. **However**, relevant work completed within the 12 months prior to application may be considered as match for the proposed project. See section 7c of the Program Guidelines.

### **What is match?**

Matching funds are funds committed to the project from a source other than the Enviro-Grants program, including but not limited to the property owner's own money. A 25% match is recommended—that is, for a \$10,000 project, the applicant requests a \$7,500 Enviro-Grant and matches it with \$2,500.

Though a 25%+ match is recommended, it is not required.

### **Can I apply for funding for a stormwater project?**

Yes, but—

Projects resulting in source water protection—meaning **drinking water** protection—are given the highest priority in the distribution of these funds. Because Branch Lake is the public drinking water supply for Ellsworth, stormwater treatment projects within the Branch Lake Watershed that could affect the lake's water quality are given priority. See section 5b of the Program Guidelines.

Projects over a Significant Sand & Gravel Aquifer, within mapped Public Water Supply Source Protection Areas, or within 100 feet of a drinking water well are also assigned priority.

Plainly, although stormwater projects are eligible, location will determine their priority level. The relationship of stormwater runoff to ground water quality is not as strong as, for example, the relationship of a leaky tank to ground water quality. Stormwater management most directly affects *surface* water quality—therefore, stormwater projects within the Branch Lake Watershed are most likely to be funded.

Additionally, a smaller set of Enviro-Grants (\$75,000 available) can be awarded for water quality protection and improvement projects (e.g., stormwater management projects to improve the quality of Card Brook) that would not otherwise be priority projects under section 5b of the Program Guidelines.