

ARPA STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO MUNICIPALITIES

Agency of Administration
October 2022



Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the State of Vermont was issued over \$1 billion in State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) to help the state recover from the pandemic. These funds are being used to provide historic investments throughout the state, with many SFR-funded programs already up and running. This document outlines current or upcoming programs available to Vermont municipalities or targeted toward Vermont communities. More programs will continue to be made available.

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Current Programs

Department of Public Service:
School Heating Assistance with Renewables and Efficiency (SHARE) Program

The Department of Public Service will provide grants for economic assistance to Title 1-eligible schools for critical repairs and replacements of HVAC systems, including heating ventilation. The program aims to address educational disparities and advance equitable funding across schools and school districts throughout the State. *Now accepting applications.*

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Website link:

<https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/recent-announcements>

Department of Environmental Conservation:
Pollution Control Grants for Clean Water Infrastructure Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation's Pollution Control Grant program offers grants to cover 10% - 35% of the cost for qualifying water pollution abatement and control projects. Qualifying water pollution abatement and control facilities under this program are defined as such equipment, conveyances, and structural or nonstructural facilities owned or operated by a municipality that are needed for and appurtenant to the prevention, management, treatment, storage, or disposal of stormwater, sewage, or waste, including a wastewater treatment facility, combined sewer separation facilities, an indirect discharge system, a wastewater system, flood resiliency work related to a structural facility, or a groundwater protection project. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://dec.vermont.gov/water-investment/water-financing/vt-pollution-control-srf>

Current Programs

Department of Environmental Conservation:

Three-Acre Stormwater Management for Municipal or Private Landowners Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation's Three-Acre Stormwater program was created to help Vermont citizens, municipalities, and private citizens comply with stormwater requirements from the Vermont Clean Water Act of 2015. Affected municipalities or landowners can apply for technical and financial support for the evaluation, engineering design, and construction of required stormwater treatment measures. Manufactured Home Communities are also eligible to receive funding and technical support. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/treating-stormwater-runoff>

Department of Environmental Conservation:

Three-Acre Stormwater School Support Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation's Three-Acre Stormwater program is designed to help Vermont citizens, municipalities, and private citizens comply with stormwater requirements from the Vermont Clean Water Act of 2015. Affected public schools are eligible to apply for funding support through the Green Schools Initiative, managed for DEC by Greenprint Partners. This initiative is supported by ARPA and the Lake Champlain Basin Program. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://www.greenprintpartners.com/vtgreeschools-enroll>

Current Programs

Department of Environmental Conservation: Three-Acre Stormwater Management – Public Private Partnership Grants

The Department of Environmental Conservation’s Three-Acre Stormwater program is designed to help Vermont citizens, municipalities, and private citizens comply with stormwater requirements from the Vermont Clean Water Act of 2015. Municipalities can apply for technical and financial support for the evaluation, engineering design, and construction of required stormwater treatment measures. This program offers funding to municipalities to fund public-private partnership projects that control stormwater runoff in a manner that achieves greater pollution reduction than would occur by “going it alone.” *DEC is open to accepting applications should additional funding become available.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/treating-stormwater-runoff>

Department of Environmental Conservation: Pretreatment Capacity Program

The Toxic Wastewater Pretreatment Program aims to invest in wastewater pretreatment systems that reduce high strength or toxic waste concerns for municipal wastewater treatment facilities (WWTF), protecting receiving waters and public health, as well as providing for greater local economic development capacity. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/pretreatment-capacity>

Current Programs

Department of Environmental Conservation: Healthy Homes Program – Grants for Water, Sewer, Stormwater, and Drainage at Manufactured Home Communities

For-profit (private), non-profit, and cooperatively owned manufactured housing communities registered with the State of Vermont's Mobile Home Park Registry can apply for funding through a competitive grant program. Grants can be used to determine what water infrastructure projects need to be completed, receive technical and permitting assistance including 3-acre stormwater permit assistance, or cover construction costs necessary to fix existing infrastructure issues. Additional funding is anticipated in future fiscal years. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/manufactured-housing-community-solutions>

Department of Environmental Conservation: Healthy Homes Program – Assistance for Low Income Vermonters with Failing Septic Systems and Wells

This program will provide financial assistance to low-income residential property owners, including owner-occupied multi-family properties with up to four units. Funding is available to fully fix failing or inadequate on-site water and/or wastewater systems. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/funding-install-or-replace-water-or-wastewater-systems>

Current Programs

Department of Environmental Conservation: Statewide Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Elimination and Abatement

The Agency of Natural Resources' Combined Sewer Overflow and Abatement program is designed to help municipalities fast-track combined sewer overflow (CSO) elimination projects, allowing these projects to progress on a faster schedule and with more affordability to the ratepayers. CSOs are overflow points in combined sewer systems that are designed to carry both stormwater and wastewater. Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) are overflow points in sewer systems not designed to carry stormwater but suffer from high rates of inflow and infiltration that result in overflows during large storm events. Both CSOs and SSOs are eligible for this funding. *While this program has passed, municipalities are encouraged to apply for financial support should additional funding become available.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/combined-sewer-overflow-cso-elimination-and-abatement>

Department of Environmental Conservation & Vermont Emergency Management: Community Resilience – Flood Resilient Communities Fund Program

The Flood Resilient Communities Fund awards grants to mitigate flood hazards and reduce future flooding in Vermont, including buyouts of flood-vulnerable properties; conservation of vacant, at-risk parcels; and natural resource projects to restore floodplain access and flood storage. The program aims to reduce future public safety and water quality impacts of climate-related flood hazards. This is a voluntary program that will prioritize projects in communities and/or for homeowners with greatest economic need and projects that mitigate repetitive loss among low-income and marginalized portions of the population. This project is jointly managed by VEM and DEC. *Now accepting applications.*

Point of Contact:

Dps.hazardmitigation@vermont.gov

Website link:

<https://vem.vermont.gov/flood-resilient-communities-fund>

Current Programs

Department of Environmental Conservation: Village Water and Wastewater Initiative

The Village Water and Wastewater Initiative is designed to provide wastewater disposal systems to villages in need. Grant funding through this program will help municipalities develop new public drinking water systems and community wastewater disposal systems to bridge the affordability gap, protect public health, increase affordable housing, and support economic development. The funding will support decentralized community wastewater disposal systems and/or public municipal water systems. Designated villages and neighborhoods, as ranked by the Priority System of the relevant Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds Intended Use Plan (IUP), are eligible for funding. *While this program has passed, municipalities are encouraged to apply for financial support should additional funding become available.*

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://anr.vermont.gov/special-topics/arpa-vermont/village-water-wastewater-initiative>

Agency of Commerce and Community Development: Brownfield Revitalization Fund

The Brownfield Revitalization Fund aims to redevelop lands tainted by hazardous waste, pollutants, or contaminants. These properties are often vacant or underutilized and can have negative impacts on the health of our environment and our communities. The program will support redevelopment to mitigate greater environmental impacts and revitalize neighborhoods. For-profit, non-profit and municipalities are eligible to apply.

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

<https://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/funding-incentives/brownfieldrevitalizationfundstateprogram>

Current Programs

Vermont Housing & Conservation Board: Housing Recovery Program

Vermont Housing & Conservation Board's Housing Recovery Program offers grants for the construction of non-congregate emergency housing and transitional housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, the construction of multi-family rental housing serving households at or below 80% Area Median Income, the construction of permanent supportive housing to improve access to stable and affordable housing among individuals who are experiencing homelessness, and housing for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders. Municipalities, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, and private developers may apply to receive funding through this program. *Now accepting applications (deadline: November 14th).*

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Website link:

<https://vhcb.org/our-programs/housing/arpa-sfr>

Upcoming Programs

Department of Buildings & General Services: Municipal Energy Resilience Assessments

Aiming to make municipal buildings more energy efficient, resilient, and reliable, \$45M has been appropriated to the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services to expand the State's energy management program to municipal buildings to promote increased resilience and sustained connection to critical services for all Vermonters. Covered municipal buildings include cities, towns, fire districts or incorporated villages, and all other governmental incorporated units except for school districts. Applications will be available for free energy resiliency assessments. Grants of up to \$4,000 will be available to facilitate community meetings and communication about municipal energy resilience. Grants of up to \$500,000 will be available for approved projects for weatherization, thermal efficiency, and to supplement or replace fossil fuel heating systems with more efficient renewable or electric heating systems. To assist with program implementation and administration, \$2.4M will be appropriated to Regional Planning Commissions to assist with grant and assessment applications and provide programming and technical assistance. *Now accepting applications.*

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Website link:

<https://bgs.vermont.gov/municipal-energy-resiliency-program>

Department of Environmental Conservation: Small Rural Water and Sewer Infrastructure Risk of Failure Program

The General Assembly has appropriated \$10M to be used in support of small rural water and wastewater systems at risk of failure and serving primarily residential users. This program is currently under design as of October 2022.

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Website link:

Not yet available

Upcoming Programs

Agency of Commerce and Community Development: Community Recovery and Revitalization Program

The Community Recovery and Revitalization Grant Program will make funding available for projects designed to retain and expand existing businesses and nonprofit organizations, attract new businesses and nonprofit organizations, and create new jobs with a preference for projects located in regions and communities with declining or stagnant grand list values. Municipal projects that provide for water or wastewater improvements that will result in new or rehabilitated affordable housing the creation of a new business, or expansion of an existing business may also receive funding through this program.

Points of Contact:

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Not yet available

Vermont Community Broadband Board: ARPA Town Match Program

The Broadband Construction Grant Program encourages Communications Union Districts and other eligible providers to leverage funding from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and other funding sources to finance broadband infrastructure development in their towns. Pledges will be matched on a town-basis.

Point of Contact:

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Website link:

Not yet available