



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection

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Source Water Protection

- Includes a variety of actions and activities
- Quality and/or quantity of drinking water sources and their contributing area



Protecting Source Water?

- Increase community's confidence in their drinking water supply
- Prevent potential sources of contamination
- Prevent unnecessary treatment costs



Land Acquisition

- Great step to protect source water
 - Conservation easement
 - Outright purchase
 - Riparian buffer restoration



What resources are available?

- Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program
- A competitive, statewide, reimbursement grant program
- Funding for **Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection**



Land Acquisition for Source Water Protection Overview

- Provides funding for land acquisition that protect sources of public drinking water
- Funding available for conservation easements and/or outright purchase
- Four rounds funded so far totaling 47 projects and awarded more than \$60 million
- For more information, and to apply, search on “WQIP”



Funding

- Maximum grant amount:
\$5,000,000
- Required local match: 25%
- Consolidated Funding Application
- Deadline to Apply: **July 29th, 2022**



Land Acquisition Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities
- Not for profits (Land Trusts)
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts



Land Acquisition Eligible Project Types

Project: Specific parcels of land are identified for purchase and/or conservation easement acquisition

- Land parcel(s) **must** be specifically identified
- All parcels identified are expected to be acquired unless unusual circumstances arise

Land Acquisition Eligible Project Types

Program: Purchase of property or easements within areas that have been prioritized based on prior planning activities

- Parcels are not required to be specifically identified



Project and Program Scoring Criteria

- Performance Measures
- Reasonableness of Cost
- Source Water Protection Prioritization
- Environmental Justice
- Project Readiness
- Experience and Ability



Eligible Project Costs

- Appraisals
- Surveys
- Baseline Documentation Reports
- Title Reports and Insurance
- Riparian Buffer Costs
- Stewardship Fee
- Personal services (e.g. salary, fringe)
- Non-personal services (e.g. travel)



Eligible Expenses



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New with Round 18

- Groundwater Recharge Area
- Advance Payment Option
 - Transactional advance
 - Purchase advance



Required Application Attachments

- Expenditure-based summary budget
- Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol
- Maps(s)
- Review the WQIP Program Webpage



Required Application Attachments

Expenditure-based summary budget

This is a SAMPLE budget summary to assist applicants. Each applicant is required to develop their own specific budget that fits their unique project.

WQIP BUDGET Part I: Budget Summary

Project Name:

Organization Name:

Project Type:

BUDGET SUMMARY

Funding Amount Requested through WQIP	Match %	Match Funds	TOTAL
\$1,038,500.00	25% <input type="text" value="v"/>	\$259,625.00	\$1,298,125.00

Match source:



Required Application Attachments

Monitoring and Enforcement Protocol

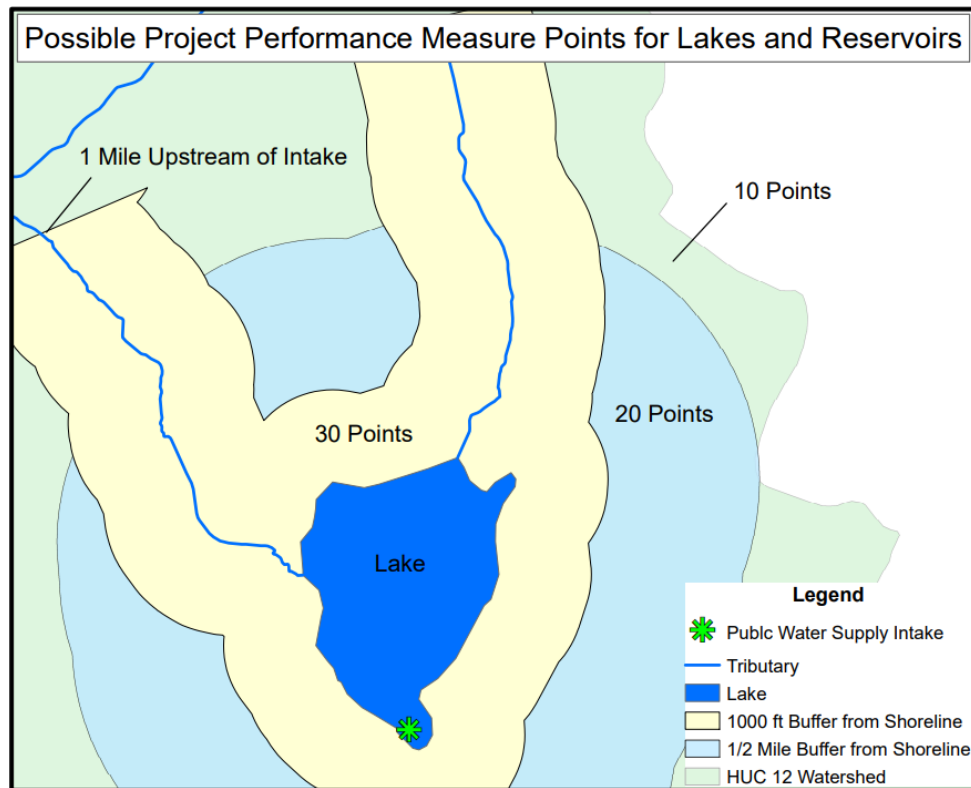
- Frequency
- Contact with landowners (if applicable)
- Type of monitoring (i.e. boundary survey)
- Monitoring documentation
- Parties responsible for monitoring



Required Application Attachments

Sample Maps

- Possible Performance Measure Points
- Mapping Criteria



*See the WQIP Round 18 Program Overview for complete scoring criteria

Application Support and Tips

- Number of available resources to help with the application process
- **Review the land acquisition requirements and scoring rubric**
- Reach out to us!



WQIP Land Acquisition Toolkit

- Includes resources to aid awardees with land acquisition documents
- To view the toolkit, search on “WQIP Land Acquisition Toolkit”



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WQIP Land Acquisition Projects for Source Water Protection Toolkit

WQIP Land Acquisition Projects for Source Water Protection Toolkit

New York State offers funding assistance for protecting public water supply sources.

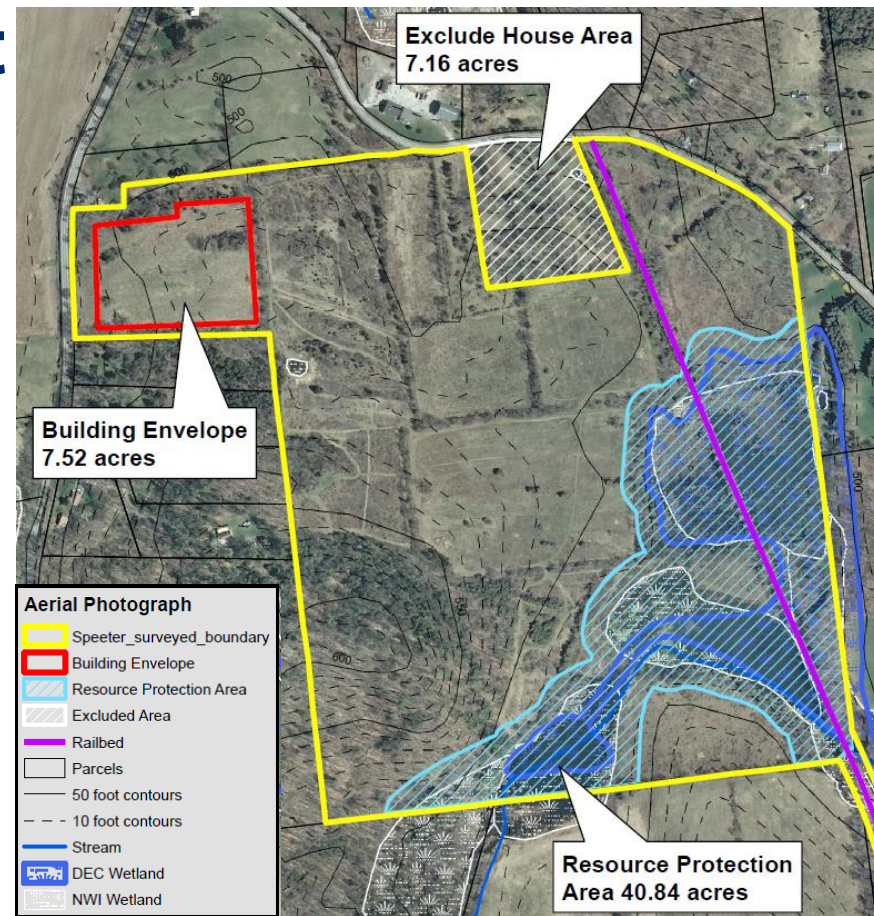


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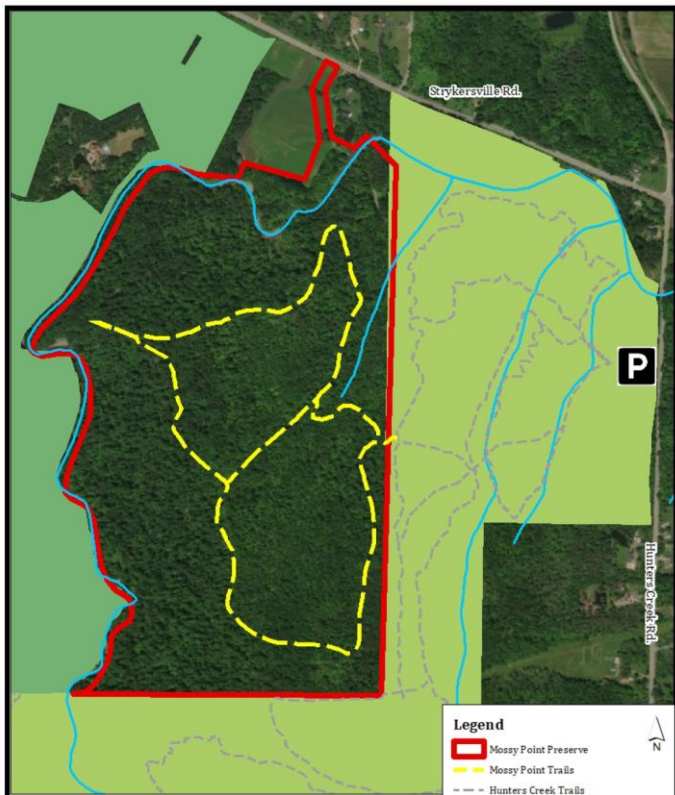
Land Acquisition Project Examples

Conservation Easement

- Project awarded more than \$900,000 to acquire a 150+ acre easement
- Easement will protect a groundwater source



Fee Title Land Acquisition



- Project awarded more than \$650,000 to acquire a 222-acre parcel
- Parcel will protect the Niagara River
- After DEC review and approval, the parcel will allow for minimal passive recreational trails

Are there activities you are interested in allowing when acquiring land?

- Hiking
- Birdwatching
- Educational Studies/Trips
- Snowshoeing
- Cross country skiing
- Other?



Additional Source Water Protection Programs

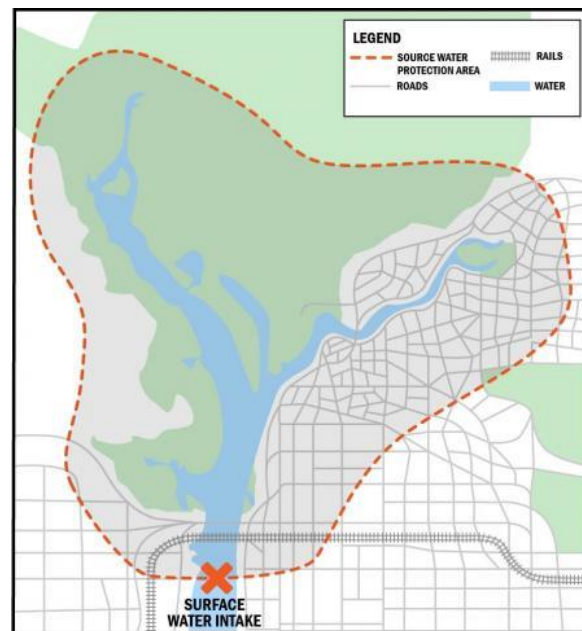
Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)

- DWSP2 is to help municipalities develop and implement a drinking water source protection plan.
- As part of this plan, communities will designate critical source water protection areas.



Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)

- How does DWSP2 tie into WQIP Land Acquisition Funding?
 - Critical and Source Water Area Land Acquisition
 - May receive highest number of points under the performance measure category.



Source Water Buffer Program

Dept. of Ag & Markets

- Protects active sources of public drinking water through the purchase of conservation easements on agricultural lands.
- \$4,000,000 available.
- Applicants: Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Can partner with municipalities or not-for-profits
- Continuous RFA
- Contact: Bethany Bzduch,
Bethany.bzduch@agriculture.ny.gov



Where to Go for More Information

- Learn more about WQIP: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html>
- Consolidated Funding Application: <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>
- View the WQIP Land Acquisition Toolkit:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/115920.html>
- Join MakingWaves for program announcements:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/public/51547.html>
- Join the DWSP2 Newsletter for Program Announcements:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/115250.html>



Thank You

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