

# **ENVIRONMENT**

## **(WATER INFRASTRUCTURE, ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, AND CLEANUP)**

The following information about funding included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was compiled by the Office of Congressman Silvestre Reyes. This document is intended to provide the public with basic information of potential federal assistance and funding opportunities. Those interested in these or similar programs should contact the appropriate federal and state agencies for detailed information. Please note: not all applicable programs are included below; the following information is subject to change; and additional requirements, restrictions and guidance may apply.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act appropriates \$13.5 billion to a number of existing federal programs that either directly invest in water infrastructure projects or provide assistance to states and localities for such activities. Most of these funds are distributed to states based on existing formulas but the federal government will administer some of the funds through a competitive grant and loan program. The legislation also appropriates additional funding for cleanup programs administered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Below is a summary of some of the federal and state programs that will receive funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

<b>Loan:</b>	<b>Clean Water State Revolving Funds</b>
Amount:	\$179.1 million
Agency:	Texas Water Development Board
Description:	Loans for wastewater treatment and drinking water infrastructure. At least 50% to be used to further subsidize recipients through forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, grants, or any combination of these. To extent there are eligible applications, at least 20% to go to green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvement, or other environmentally innovative projects. States matches waived.
Type:	Loans (including loan forgiveness)
Website:	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm">www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm</a>
<b>Grant:</b>	<b>Drinking Water State Revolving Fund</b>
Amount:	\$2 billion total, \$160.6 million for Texas
Type:	Funding provided to states is used to makes loans to communities, individuals, and others for high-priority water-quality activities.
Administrator:	Texas Water Development Board
Provisions:	Directs priority funding to projects on state priority lists that are ready to proceed to construction within 12 months of enactment.
Purpose:	To provide relief to communities by requiring a greater federal share for local clean and drinking water projects and greater flexibility for states to reach communities that would otherwise not have the resources to repay a loan with interest.
Activities:	Loans can be used for the installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems.
Website:	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/cwsrf/">http://www.epa.gov/owm/cwfinance/cwsrf/</a>
Contact:	Texas Water Development Board Mailing Address: Stephen F. Austin Bldg. P.O. Box 13231

Austin, Texas 78711-3231  
Telephone: (512) 463-7847  
Fax: (512) 475-2053  
E-Mail: info@twdb.state.tx.us  
<http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/stimulus/index.htm>

**Grant:** **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Construction**  
**Amount:** \$2 billion for construction activities.  
**Type:** Funding included for ongoing projects, not to initiate new projects.  
**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
**Description:** Provides public engineering and construction services for navigation, flood and storm protection, ecosystem restoration, environmental protection, and an array of other purposes.  
**Website:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recovery Website:  
<http://www.usace.army.mil/RECOVERY/>  
<http://www.usace.army.mil/ABOUT/Pages/Locations.aspx>  
Albuquerque Army Corps of Engineers District Office: 505-342-3100  
Fort Worth Army Corps of Engineers District Office: 817-886-1326

**Grant:** **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Maintenance**  
**Amount:** \$2 billion for operation and maintenance activities.  
**Type:** Funding will be provided to existing Corps projects.  
**Agency:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
**Description:** Provides funding for the operation and maintenance of facilities constructed by the Corps. Work to be accomplished consists of dredging, repair, and operation of structures and other facilities.  
**Website:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recovery Website:  
<http://www.usace.army.mil/RECOVERY/>  
<http://www.usace.army.mil/ABOUT/Pages/Locations.aspx>  
Albuquerque Army Corps of Engineers District Office: 505-342-3100  
Fort Worth Army Corps of Engineers District Office: 817-886-1326

**Grant:** **Watershed Infrastructure**  
**Amount:** \$340 million  
**Type:** Grants based on priority ranking system  
**Agency:** Natural Resources Conservation Service  
**Purpose:** Watershed improvement programs to design and build flood protection, water quality projects, repair aging dams, and purchase and restore conservation easements in river flood zones  
**Website:** <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/recovery/implementation.html>

**Grant:** **Rural Water and Waste Disposal**  
**Amount:** \$1.38 billion  
**Type:** Grants  
**Agency:** Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Department  
**Purpose:** Help communities with populations of 10,000 or less fund drinking water and wastewater treatment systems  
**Website:** <http://www.usda.gov/rus/>  
**Contact:** <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>  
Texas USDA Rural Development State Office  
101 South Main Street, Suite 102

Temple, TX 76501  
Phone: (254) 742-9700  
Fax: (254) 742-9709

**Grant:** **Brownfields Evaluation and Clean-Up**  
Amount: \$100 million was included for Brownfields projects  
Type: Low interest loans, job training grants and technical assistance to local governments and nonprofit organizations.  
Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization  
Website: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>  
<http://www.epa.gov/oswer>  
Contacts: Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6  
Public Information Center: 1-800-887-6063  
<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/index.htm>

**Grant:** **Hazardous Substance Superfund Hazardous Waste Cleanup**  
Amount: \$600 million  
Administrator: Environmental Protection Agency  
Provisions: Funds will be limited to the 1,255 sites on its National Priority List of superfund remedial sites. The superfund remedial program addresses contamination from uncontrolled releases at hazardous and toxic waste sites that threaten human health and environment.  
Website: Priority List: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/index.htm>  
Contacts: Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6  
Public Information Center: 1-800-887-6063  
<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/index.htm>

**Grant:** **Diesel Emission Reduction Program**  
Amount: \$300 million was included for Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) grants.  
Type: Competitive grants fund technologies to retrofit emission exhaust systems, such as on school buses and other vehicles, replace engines and vehicles, and establish anti-idling programs - 70% of the funding supports nationwide, competitive grants, the remaining 30% funds grants to states with approved programs.  
Agency: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Purpose: Funding is used to create clean diesel programs that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions that improve air quality and protect public health.  
Website: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/>  
[www.epa.gov/diesel/prgnational.htm](http://www.epa.gov/diesel/prgnational.htm)  
<http://www.epa.gov/recovery>  
Webform: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/ncdc-cmt.htm>  
Contacts: Environmental Protection Agency – Region 6  
Public Information Center: 1-800-887-6063  
<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/index.htm>

**Grant:** **Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust**  
Amount: \$200 million

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency  
Description: Grants will be awarded through the Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) Program (administered by the EPA). Priority will be given based on LUST's scoring of sites.  
Website: <http://www.epa.gov/swerust1/ltffacts.htm>  
<http://www.epa.gov/swerust1/wheruliv.htm> (Visit for a list of eligible projects and contacts in your state/district)  
State Contacts: <http://www.epa.gov/oust/states/tx.htm>  
Underground Storage/Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Program in Texas is run through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

**Loan:** **Safe Water Drinking Act**  
Amount: \$160.7 million  
Agency: Texas Water Development Board  
Description: Loans for wastewater treatment and drinking water infrastructure. At least 50% to be used to further subsidize recipients through forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, grants, or any combination of these. To extent there are eligible applications, at least 20% to go to green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvement, or other environmentally projects. States matched waived.  
Type: Loans including forgiveness  
Website: [www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm)

**Grant:** **Water Reclamation**  
Amount: \$126 million  
Agency: U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation  
Description: Grants for water reclamation and reuse projects. There is a 50% cost share, and all projects must meet National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species requirements. In Texas, only one project is Williamson County is available.  
Type: Competitive Grants  
Website: [www.doi.gov/recovery/index.html](http://www.doi.gov/recovery/index.html)

**Grant:** **Watershed Operations**  
Amount: \$145 million  
Agency: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Description: Provides technical and financial assistance to local organizations of authorized watershed projects to implement plans for watershed protection; flood mitigation; water quality improvements; soil erosion reduction; rural, municipal and industrial water supply; irrigation water management; sediment control; fish and wildlife enhancement; and wetlands and wetland function creation and restoration.  
Type: Competitive Grants  
Website: [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/index.html](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/index.html)

**Grant:** **Watershed Rehabilitation**  
Amount: \$50 million  
Agency: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Description: Specifically for aging or hazardous dams. This program will cover 65% of the cost. Texas has requested funding for six projects that local watershed sponsors have already submitted applications for. Local

watershed sponsors include: counties, cities, and water conservation districts. Many of these grants will go those on the waiting list.  
Type: Competitive Grants  
Website: [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov)

**Grant: Aquaculture Assistance**  
Amount: \$50 million  
Agency: Texas Dept. of Agriculture  
Description: This program will be especially useful for areas experiencing drought conditions or issues from the hurricanes. Aquaculture producers that during 2008 produced an aquaculture species in which feed costs were a large percentage of input costs and also experienced a substantial price increase of feed costs. The program has a two-tiered competitive application process in which the Texas Dept. of Agriculture will apply to USDA for funds, after which local producers will apply to TDA for grants.

Type: Competitive Grants  
Website: [www.texasagriculture.gov/agr/program\\_render/0,1987,1848\\_10822\\_0\\_0.00.htm?channel=10822](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/agr/program_render/0,1987,1848_10822_0_0.00.htm?channel=10822)

**Loan: Clean Water State Revolving Funds**  
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Agency: Texas Water Development Board  
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Type: Loans (including loan forgiveness)  
Website: [www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region6/eparecovery/cleanwater6.htm)

**Grant: Wildland Fire Management**  
Amount: \$250 million  
Agency: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service  
Description: Hazardous fuels reduction, forest health protection, rehabilitation, and hazard mitigation activities on federal lands, and on state and private lands. Up to \$50 million may be used to make wood-to-energy grants.  
Website: <http://fs.usda.gov/recovery>