



**SEWAGE FREE  
STREETS AND RIVERS**  
Your Waterways, Your Neighborhood, Your Money, Your Voice

## Campaign Capacity Building Grant program

### Request for Proposals Sept. 19, 2019

The Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign seeks to fund partner organizations to conduct public outreach and education in targeted communities to educate families and small businesses on the impacts of combined sewer overflows, opportunities for community input in the development of solutions and the benefits of green infrastructure.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS are based in a New Jersey municipality with a combined sewer system.

**Municipalities with combined sewer systems:** Bayonne, City of Camden, East Newark, Elizabeth, Fort Lee, Gloucester City, Guttenberg, Hackensack, Harrison, Hoboken, Jersey City, Kearny, Newark, North Bergen, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Ridgely Park, Trenton, Union City, Weehawken and West New York.

**Eligible applicants:** Community organization, small business owner, community leader located in a municipality with a combined sewer system.

**Eligible Expenses:** materials, speakers, professional services, printing, mailing, advertising. For events, a maximum of \$100 from the grant is allowed toward food.

**Ineligible Expenses:** travel or labor by local volunteers, officials or municipal staff

**Applications due: Thursday Oct. 3, 4:30 pm, 2019.** All applications must use the format/template provided below, and be submitted to [info@sewagefreenj.org](mailto:info@sewagefreenj.org). Application length is limited, so please be concise but thorough.

**Notification of grant selections:** Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers will notify successful grantees by Oct. 15, 2019 by email and phone.

**Grant period:** This grant will last until March 30, 2020

**Grant range:** Grant amount will range from \$500 - \$1,500



**Questions to consider:**

- 1.) What can my organization do between now and March 30, 2020 to ensure that residents and small business owners in my community are involved in shaping the solutions to combined sewer overflows?
- 2.) What is the most effective action my organization could undertake at this phase in the development of the CSO Long Term Control Plans to ensure communities have a voice in them.
- 3.) Who are we trying to reach through our efforts? For example, elected officials, home owners, tenants, students.
- 4.) What resources can my organization bring to this effort?
- 5.) What additional resources would my organization need to support this effort?


**Support available from the Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers Campaign:**

- Proposal that include multilingual outreach will be prioritized and the Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign can provide assistance.
- The Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign can provide template presentations and outreach materials that can be customized for your community.
- Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers will also provide technical assistance on organizing effective outreach events, surveys, and meetings with elected officials.
- Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers can provide guidance on meeting with elected officials.

**Background:** We all want sewage-free streets and rivers that keep residents healthy and allow small businesses to flourish. However, when it rains in 21 New Jersey cities and towns, raw sewage pours into rivers and backs up into basements and onto streets. This is known as a [combined sewer overflow \(CSO\)](#).

In 2015, the [New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection](#) sought to address this issue by requiring these communities to develop [Long Term Control Plans](#) by 2020 to reduce sewage in our waterways, and to submit a report by July 2019 that identifies the various options they will evaluate to achieve this goal. Implementing these plans will cost billions of dollars over the next 30 years and will have significant effects on residents and business owners for generations to come.

The people who live, work and run businesses in these cities will pay for these upgrades and should have a strong role in shaping the plans. Community voices are needed to ensure that the solutions are affordable, keep residents healthy, invest in local jobs, businesses and neighborhoods, and create more green spaces that promote climate resiliency.





Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign focuses on the 21 communities with combined sewer systems: Bayonne, City of Camden, East Newark, Elizabeth, Fort Lee, Gloucester City, Guttenberg, Hackensack, Harrison, Hoboken, Jersey City, Kearny, Newark, North Bergen, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Ridgefield Park, Trenton, Union City, Weehawken and West New York.

**Application Form:** Blank Copy the template below and paste it into a Word document; fill in responses and submit via email.

Name:

E-mail:

Phone:

Home address:

Day and cell phones:

Organization:

Municipality:

Amount being requested:

Project description (Limit 900 words):

Be sure to include the following information in your description:

- 1.) Brief history of your organization, business or as a community leader
- 2.) Membership/catchment area if applicable
- 3.) Community outreach strategy
- 4.) Description of success
- 5.) What will you do?
- 6.) Who will you reach? When? How? Objectives?

Please include a simple budget.

Note: All applicants will be required to submit a final report and blog post and are encouraged to sign up as a Sewage-Free Streets and Rivers campaign partner.

