



2026 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management Grant Program

GRANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
Saint Paul, MN 55155
mndnr.gov

11/10/2025

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-259-5164

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1. Overview

Grant name: 2026 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM) Grant Program

Grant webpage: www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html

Open for applications: 11/10/2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Application due date: 12/08/2025 at 4:30 p.m.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has up to \$1,060,000 available to Tribal governments and local entities such as lake associations, watershed districts, cities, and counties for the management of:

- [Curly-leaf pondweed](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/curlyleaf_pondweed.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/curlyleaf_pondweed.html)
- [Eurasian watermilfoil](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/milfoil/index.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/milfoil/index.html)
- [Flowering rush](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/herbaceous/floweringrush.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialplants/herbaceous/floweringrush.html)
- [Starry stonewort](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/starrystonewort/index.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/aquaticplants/starrystonewort/index.html)

The goal of the DNR's [IAPM Program](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html) is to minimize harmful effects caused by invasive aquatic plants while also protecting natural resources and their use. IAPM control permitted by DNR must be selective reductions of target invasive plants.

Funding is for reimbursement of expenses incurred while conducting local aquatic invasive species (AIS) management projects under IAPM permits. Small-scale grants will be offered for IAPM of curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, flowering rush, and starry stonewort, with highest priority placed on starry stonewort management. Population-scale grants will be offered for IAPM of entire populations of Eurasian watermilfoil within lakes.

Only one small-scale and one population-scale application per waterbody, as defined by its unique [Lake ID number](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html), will be considered. Small-scale applications may propose management of multiple species (e.g., starry stonewort and curly-leaf pondweed). Additionally, a waterbody will only receive one grant for Eurasian watermilfoil (i.e., no grantee will receive a small-scale grant that includes Eurasian watermilfoil in addition to a population-scale grant for Eurasian watermilfoil).

1a. Questions, Technical Assistance, and Information Sessions

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted by email to [Angelique Dahlberg \(angelique.dahlberg@state.mn.us\)](mailto:angelique.dahlberg@state.mn.us). Questions and answers will be posted within five business days of receipt on the [IAPM Grant Program webpage \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html).

All prospective applicants are encouraged to attend one of the following online information sessions:

- 11/14 from 10-11 am—**Join the meeting now** (<https://tinyurl.com/2wrvdm9t>)
- 11/21 from 10-11 am—**Join the meeting now** (<https://tinyurl.com/4vsybjv5>)
- 12/05 from 10-11 am—**Join the meeting now** (<https://tinyurl.com/3hh36jp2>)

2. Small-scale grants

2a. General information

- Eligible projects include Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM) for curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, flowering rush, and starry stonewort, with highest priority placed on starry stonewort management.
- Starry stonewort projects will be considered independently of other species in the same water body. For example, a lake with both starry stonewort and curly-leaf pondweed may receive funding for one, both, or neither species, depending on available funding.
- Curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and flowering rush projects will be evaluated together, rather than considered separately by species.
- All grant applications for curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and flowering rush projects will be ordered randomly for award selection, but an equal proportion of applications will be funded in each [DNR region \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html). All grant applications for starry stonewort will be prioritized, regardless of region.
- For all grant applications for curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and flowering rush, waterbodies that did not receive program funding in 2024 or 2025 will have a higher likelihood of funding in 2026 to ensure that support is distributed across a wide range of waterbodies and organizations. All grant applications for starry stonewort will be prioritized, regardless of recent funding.
- Funding amounts will range from \$5,000-\$15,000 for curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and/or flowering rush IAPM projects, and from \$10,000-\$20,000 for starry stonewort IAPM projects. Lakes that receive funding for both starry stonewort and one or more other species may receive up to \$35,000.
- Applicants may submit both small-scale and population-scale applications. However, funding for Eurasian watermilfoil will not be awarded under both categories. An applicant may receive a grant for small-scale management of starry stonewort, curly-leaf pondweed, and/or flowering rush in addition to population-scale management of Eurasian watermilfoil. Alternatively, an applicant may receive a grant for small-scale management of starry stonewort, curly-leaf pondweed, flowering rush, and/or Eurasian watermilfoil.

2b. Funding availability

- In 2026, up to \$840,000 in program funds are available for small-scale IAPM projects.
- Grant funds may be used for projects that manage target invasive aquatic plants using herbicides, mechanical management, or a combination of both.
- Award amounts will be determined by species and estimated project acreage. Not all proposed projects will receive funding.

- Each water body, as defined by its unique eight-digit [Lake ID number](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html) (www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html), will be limited to one small-scale IAPM grant. One grant can address multiple species.
- To be eligible for funding, the lake must be confirmed by the DNR as infested with the species proposed for management.
- For projects targeting two or more species that require separate treatments, applicants may submit a single grant application that includes multiple IAPM permit applications.
- Project acreage will be summed across all target species, up to the maximum grant amount.

3. Population-scale grants

3a. General information

- Eligible projects include Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM) for Eurasian watermilfoil.
- IAPM must be population-level, addressing the entire population of Eurasian watermilfoil within a water body.
- Awards will be selected based on merit; application questions will be assigned point values and responses will be assessed by DNR Invasive Species Program staff.
- Funding amounts will range from \$25,000-\$49,999 for population-scale Eurasian watermilfoil management.
- Applicants may submit both small-scale and population-scale applications. However, funding for Eurasian watermilfoil will not be awarded under both categories. An applicant may receive a grant for small-scale management of starry stonewort, curly-leaf pondweed, and/or flowering rush in addition to population-scale management of Eurasian watermilfoil. Alternatively, an applicant may receive a grant for small-scale management of starry stonewort, curly-leaf pondweed, flowering rush, and/or Eurasian watermilfoil.

3b. Funding availability

- In 2026, up to \$420,000 in program funds are available for IAPM of Eurasian watermilfoil.
- Grant funds may be used for population control of Eurasian watermilfoil. Projects must address the entire population of Eurasian watermilfoil within a water body.
- Award amounts will vary by estimated project acreage. Not all proposed projects will receive funding.
- Each water body, as defined by its unique eight-digit [Lake ID number \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html), will be limited to one population-scale grant.
- To be eligible for funding, the lake must be confirmed by the DNR as infested with the species proposed for management.

4. Eligible grant activities

4a. Overview

To receive funding for reimbursement of eligible costs under this grant program, applicants must:

1. Apply for and be awarded a grant.
2. Have a third-party conduct a pre-treatment delineation survey of the target invasive aquatic plant prior to management.
3. Apply for and receive an IAPM permit for all proposed management activities.
4. Have a third-party conduct management in compliance with all permit conditions.
5. Have a third-party conduct a post-treatment delineation survey following management to document post-treatment conditions.

Please note:

- The third-party conducting the pre-treatment delineation may be the same third-party conducting the post-treatment delineation.
- The third-party conducting the management may not be the same third-party that performs the pre- or post-treatment delineation.

4b. Delineation surveys

- Historically, these grants have supported projects that complete delineation surveys in the same year as treatment.
- However, some surveys conducted in 2025 may be sufficient for defining treatment areas in 2026, depending on the target species and treatment method.
- The [DNR Regional Invasive Species Specialist \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html) in your area will review your previous delineation as part of your permit application. If it meets current requirements, a new survey may not be needed; however, this determination is at the sole discretion of the DNR.
- If the pre-treatment delineation survey results in no areas suitable for treatment, the DNR will reimburse the cost of the delineation, up to the grant amount.
- A post-treatment survey is now required in addition to the pre-treatment delineation survey. Timing depends on the species, and all work must be completed by June 30, 2027:
 - Eurasian watermilfoil and flowering rush: Pre-treatment delineation, treatment, and post-treatment delineation may all need to occur during summer 2026.
 - Curly-leaf pondweed: Pre-treatment delineation and treatment may occur in spring 2026, with post-treatment delineation occurring in spring 2027.
- The DNR reserves the right to request a new delineation survey pre- and/or post-treatment.

4c. Permits

- An IAPM permit application is not required when submitting a grant application. Instead, submitting an IAPM permit application will be included as a task in the grant work plan, to be completed in late winter or early spring of 2026.
- Receiving a grant does not guarantee that an IAPM permit will be issued. Permit applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis. A permit is required for all management activities.
- Expenses for delineation surveys are eligible for reimbursement, even if a permit is ultimately not issued.

4d. Treatment

- The DNR will only reimburse the cost of treatments done under and according to an IAPM permit, and under an approved and active grant.
- Grantees must pay all treatment expenses up front and make all arrangements.
- Treatment expenses from the same contractor that did the delineation (i.e., violated the third-party requirement for the delineation survey mentioned above) will not be eligible for reimbursement.

4e. Additional expenses

After the pre-treatment delineation survey, treatment, and post-treatment delineation survey are completed, additional expenses may be reimbursed using grant funds pending DNR approval, which may include:

- Additional aquatic plant survey monitoring that adequately evaluates the efficacy and nontarget impacts of the management project treatment or would aid in future Invasive Aquatic Plant Management.
- Starry stonewort projects may have a waterbody-wide point intercept survey conducted to confirm population size and location. This survey may take place before or after treatment, within the grant award period.
- Genetic testing of watermilfoil in cases where the test would inform management (e.g., distinguish between native watermilfoil and invasive hybrid watermilfoil). Check with the [DNR Regional Invasive Species Specialist \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html\)](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html) in your area before conducting genetic testing for hybrid watermilfoil.

The purchase cost of durable equipment is not an eligible expense.

5. Grant requirements

Funding is provided as reimbursement and requires that:

- Grantees must make all arrangements and pay all project expenses up front.
- The DNR will reimburse grantees for eligible costs up to the grant amount for expenses associated with invasive species delineations and treatment.
- The DNR cannot reimburse costs for any work conducted before the grant award notification is signed by all parties.
- Work deemed unsatisfactory by the DNR, or work performed in violation of federal, state, or local law, will not be reimbursed.
- Projects may be partially funded by other sources, but a grantee cannot request reimbursement for costs already reimbursed by another external funding source.

This grant opportunity does not obligate the State to award funding, and the State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation if necessary due to lack of funding, agency priorities, or other considerations.

5.1 Pre-award risk assessment and financial review

Grant applicants may be required to submit financial, capacity, and internal control documents prior to a grant award based on state or federal requirements.

- Nonprofits may be required to submit their most recent board reviewed financial statements, an IRS Form 990, or their most recent certified financial audit.
- All applicants may be required to submit additional documents, including descriptions of internal controls over business expenditures and outcomes of grant funds.

5.2 Grant contract agreements

Each grantee must formally enter into a grant contract agreement. The grant contract agreement will address the conditions of the award, including implementation for the project. Grantees should read the grant contract agreement, sign, and once signed, comply with all conditions of the grant agreement. No work on grant activities can begin until a fully executed grant contract agreement is in place and the State's Authorized Representative has notified the Grantee that work may start. The funded applicant will be legally responsible for assuring implementation of the work plan and compliance with all applicable state requirements including worker's compensation insurance, nondiscrimination, data privacy, budget compliance, and reporting.

6. Application review process

6a. Small-scale grants review process

All grants received within the application period will be considered for funding. The grant program will likely run out of funds and therefore not all projects will be funded. Completed and on-time applications will be randomly ordered for selection.

6b. Population-scale grants review process

All grants received within the application period will be considered for funding. Funding will be allocated through a competitive process with review by a committee of DNR Invasive Species Program staff. The review committee will use the point scale provided within the application to evaluate all eligible and complete applications received by the deadline. Reviewers will meet and discuss the proposals and then put forth their recommendations. The DNR Commissioner or Delegated Authority will make the final funding decisions and award notification will be provided by email to applicants.

6c. Equity

It is the policy of the State of Minnesota to ensure fairness, precision, equity and consistency in competitive grant awards. This includes implementing diversity and inclusion in grant-making. Office of Grants Management (OGM) [Policy 08-02 \(https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/\)](https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/): Rating Criteria for Competitive Grant Review establishes the expectation that grant programs intentionally identify how the grant serves diverse populations, especially populations experiencing inequities or disparities.

6d. Conflicts of interest

State grant policy requires that steps and procedures are in place to prevent individual and organizational conflicts of interest, both in reference to applicants and reviewers per [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 Subd. 2-3 \(https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16B.98\)](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16B.98) and [OGM Policy 08-01 Conflict of Interest in State Grant-Making Policy \(https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/\)](https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/).

Organizational conflicts of interest occur when:

- A grantee or applicant is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the Department due to competing duties or loyalties.
- A grantee's or applicant's objectivity in carrying out the grant is or might be otherwise impaired due to competing duties or loyalties.

In cases where a conflict of interest is in question or disclosed, the applicants or grantees will be notified and actions may be pursued, including but not limited to, revising the grant work plan or grantee duties to mitigate the risk, requesting the grant applicant to submit an organizational conflict of interest mitigation plan, disqualification from eligibility for the grant award, amending the grant, or termination of the grant contract agreement.

6e. Public data

Per [Minnesota Statutes § 13.599 \(https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.599\)](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.599):

- Names and addresses of grant applicants and amount requested will be public data once proposal responses are opened.
- All remaining data in proposal responses (except trade secret data as defined and classified in [§13.37 \[https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.37\]](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.37)) will be public data after the evaluation process is completed. For the purposes of this grant, data will be considered public when all the grant contract agreements have been fully executed.
- All data created or maintained by [State agency] as part of the evaluation process (except trade secret data as defined and classified in [§13.37 \[https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.37\]](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=13.37)) will be public data after the evaluation process is completed. For the purposes of this grant, Data will be considered public when all the grant contract agreements have been fully executed.

7. Grant award determinations

7a. Small-scale grants

Curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and flowering rush

- Grant awards will be calculated based on the most recent IAPM permit acreage.
- Each grant will include \$3,000 to support both the pre- and post-treatment delineation surveys.
- Projects estimated to be 10 acres or smaller will receive an additional \$2,000, for a total award of \$5,000.
- Projects estimated to be larger than 10 acres will receive \$5,000 for the delineations and the first 10 acres, plus \$300 per acre for each additional acre.
- For projects involving two or more target species with separate treatments, the project acreage will be summed across all eligible species to determine the total grant award.
- Small-scale grant amounts are expected to range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for IAPM of curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and/or flowering rush.
- Additional grant funding may be awarded for IAPM of starry stonewort.

Starry stonewort

- Grant awards will be determined based on the number of applications requesting funds for starry stonewort IAPM, the size of the infestation, and whether a public access area is included in the management plan.
- Grant amounts are expected to range from \$10,000 to \$20,000.
- Additional funding may be awarded for IAPM of curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil, and/or flowering rush.

7b. Population-scale grants

- Grants will be assessed on merit (see Application Review Process) through a competitive process with review by a committee of DNR Invasive Species Program staff.
- Grant awards will be determined based on the number of applications requesting funds for population-scale IAPM and the sizes of the infestations in those proposals.

8. How to apply

This grant program will begin accepting applications at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 10, 2025. Applications received before this time will not be accepted. To provide grants in a timely manner, the final application deadline is 4:30 p.m. Monday, December 8, 2025.

Applications can be completed through online applications available on our [IAPM Grant Program webpage \(https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html\)](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html).

For an alternate way to complete the application, please contact [Angelique Dahlberg \(angelique.dahlberg@state.mn.us\)](mailto:angelique.dahlberg@state.mn.us), Aquatic Invasive Species Research and Grants Coordinator.

Incomplete applications will be rejected and not evaluated. Applications must include all required application materials. Do not provide any materials that are not requested in this RFP, as such materials will not be considered nor evaluated.

The DNR reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet these requirements.

All costs incurred in responding to this RFP will be borne by the applicant.

8a. Signatures

- The Application with Assurances must include the signature of the person in your organization with delegated authority to sign the grant contract agreeing to the terms of the grant program.
- When you sign the Application with Assurances, you certify that you have read the application and that you will comply with the approved Application with Assurances, the assurances in the Grant Award Notification (GAN), and all other applicable federal regulations, state statutes and local policies.
- The person with delegated authority to sign a grant contract will vary by organization, which may be a lake association president, a non-profit executive director, or someone in a similar role of authority within the applying organization.
- Pursuant to [Minnesota Statutes §16B.98, subd. 5 \(d\) \(www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2025/0/39/laws.2.40.0\)](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2025/0/39/laws.2.40.0), grantees must clearly post on the grantee's website the names of, and contact information for, the grantee's leadership and the employee or other person who directly manages and oversees a grant contract agreement (the person with delegated authority to sign the grant contract) on behalf of the grantee.

8b. SWIFT Vendor ID

In the application, you will be asked to provide your organization's SWIFT Supplier ID (sometimes also called Vendor ID). You can find helpful guides for tasks such as resetting your password or updating your supplier profile in the [SWIFT Vendor Reference Guides \(https://mn.gov/mmb/accounting/swift/vendor-resources/vendor-reference-guides/\)](https://mn.gov/mmb/accounting/swift/vendor-resources/vendor-reference-guides/). If your organization does not have a supplier profile, this link also provides information for registering as a supplier.

When you complete your application, please sign in to the [Minnesota SWIFT Supplier Portal \(https://guest.supplier.systems.state.mn.us/\)](https://guest.supplier.systems.state.mn.us/) to confirm:

1. Your Supplier ID number, and
2. Your organization's official address provided in the Grant Application matches the address in the SWIFT system.

If you are unable to locate your organization's SWIFT Supplier ID or create a supplier profile before the application deadline, you can use your organization's Federal Tax ID number, which can serve as a placeholder until you are able to obtain a Supplier ID.

9. Receiving a grant

If an application is selected for funding, the grantee will receive a Grant Award Notification (GAN).

Please note: DNR may provide an unofficial email notifying you that your application has been selected for an award and asking for confirmation that you plan to accept the award. This is to provide timely information to you and other grantees for project planning. Work cannot begin until you have received the signed, official GAN.

9a. Grant award notifications

The DNR will continue using the Grant Award Notification (GAN) process to expedite grant execution (when all parties have signed the grant agreement and work can begin). This process allows more time to plan spring delineation surveys and treatments.

Please note the following important components of the process:

- The grantee will agree to the terms of the grant by signing the Grant Application with Assurances document, which contains the terms of the grant agreement and will be incorporated by reference into the GAN.
- Grants will be fully executed when the official, signed GAN is sent to grant recipients. This document will contain all the remaining details (e.g., grant award amount, award period, and necessary funding and encumbrance information) as well as the necessary DNR signatures to complete the grant execution.
- Once the GAN is received by the grantee, the grant is considered fully executed and project work may begin immediately.

Clarifications may be necessary before execution of the award. Applicants recommended for an award must wait until they receive the signed GAN before providing any services and before incurring expenditures. Any expenses incurred prior to the full execution of the GAN are not reimbursable and are the responsibility of the applicant/grantee.

9b. General expectations of grantees

- Comply with required grants management policies and procedures set forth through [Minn.Stat. §16B.97, Subd. 4 \(a\) \(1\) \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/16B.97#stat.16B.97.4\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/16B.97#stat.16B.97.4).
- Perform the duties outlined in the Grant Award Notification, which will also be listed in each grant application with assurances.
- Retain documentation to support the expenditures related to the grant initiative described. Reimbursement must be based on necessary and applicable expenditures related to the program.
- Maintain a ledger to track the grant budget expenditures and payment reimbursements plus documentation that supports your budget line-item expenses.

- If subcontracting is an allowable expenditure in the budget, follow applicable state and federal procurement laws and information in the application assurances.
- Read, understand, and comply with all other expectations and requirements in grant agreements and future guidance from program.

9c. Accountability and reporting requirements

It is the policy of the State of Minnesota to monitor progress on state grants by requiring grantees to submit reimbursement materials once all grant funds have been expended and all of the terms in the grant agreement have been met that include:

- For delineations: work invoice(s), delineation report(s), and delineation map product(s).
- For treatments: work invoice(s), Pesticide Application Record(s), and map(s) indicating treatment tracks.
- For harvests and other physical removal activity: work invoice(s), written report describing when and how work was completed, and map(s) indicating where removal occurred.
- For milfoil genetic testing: work invoice(s) and genetic testing results.

These materials may be submitted at any time during the grant award period, at once or in multiple submissions.

9d. Grant payments

Per [State Policy on Grant Payments \(https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/\)](https://mn.gov/admin/government/grants/policies-statutes-forms/), reimbursement is the method for making grant payments. All grantee requests for reimbursement must correspond to the approved grant budget. The State shall review each request for reimbursement against the approved grant budget, grant expenditures to-date and the latest grant progress report before approving payment. Grant payments shall not be made on grants with past due progress reports unless the DNR has given the grantee a written extension.

9e. Contracting and bidding requirements

Municipalities

Grantees that are political subdivisions or municipalities must use these guidelines:

- A. Municipalities are required to comply with Minnesota Statutes § 471.345, Uniform Municipal Contracting Law.
- B. The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per Minnesota Statutes §§ 177.41 through 177.50, as applicable.
- C. Municipalities and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement.

- D. The Grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of contracts.

Nongovernmental entities

Grantees that are nongovernmental entities must use these guidelines:

- A. Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$25,000 and \$99,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of three (3) verbal quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.
- B. Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$10,000 and \$24,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of two (2) verbal quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.
- C. The grantee must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that targeted vendors from businesses with active certifications through these entities are used when possible:
 - a. [State Department of Administration's Certified Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged and Veteran-Owned Vendor List \(www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/process/search/\)](http://www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us/process/search/)
 - b. [Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business Program \(https://mcub.metc.state.mn.us/\)](https://mcub.metc.state.mn.us/)
 - c. Small Business Certification Program through Hennepin County, Ramsey County, and City of St. Paul: [Central Certification Directory \(https://cert.smwbe.com/\)](https://cert.smwbe.com/)
- D. The grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.
- E. The grantee must maintain support documentation of the purchasing or bidding process used to contract services in their financial records, including support documentation justifying a single source bid, if applicable.
- F. Notwithstanding the above, the State may waive bidding process requirements when:
 - a. Vendors included in response to competitive grant request for proposal process were approved and incorporated as an approved work plan for the grant; or
 - b. It is determined there is only one reasonable and available source for such materials or services and that grantee has established a fair and reasonable price.
- G. The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per [Minnesota Statutes §§177.41 \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/177.41\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/177.41) through [177.50 \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/177.50\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/177.50), as applicable.
- H. The grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: [Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement \(https://mn.gov/admin/osp/government/suspended-debarred/\)](https://mn.gov/admin/osp/government/suspended-debarred/).

9f. Audits

Per [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 Subdivision 8 \(www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16B.98\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16B.98), the grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of the grantee or other party that are relevant to the grant or transaction are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, the state granting agency and either the legislative auditor or the state auditor, as appropriate. This requirement will last for a minimum of six years from the grant contract agreement end date, receipt, and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

9g. Ineligible Expenses

Ineligible expenses include but are not limited to:

- Fundraising
- Taxes, except sales tax on goods and services and payroll taxes
- Lobbyists, political contributions
- Bad debts, late payment fees, finance charges, or contingency funds
- Parking violations and traffic violations
- Out of state transportation and travel expenses. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state

9h. Affirmative Action and Nondiscrimination

The grantee agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status in regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified per [Minnesota Statutes § 363A.02 \(https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=363A.02\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=363A.02). The grantee agrees to take affirmative steps to employ, advance in employment, upgrade, train, and recruit minority persons, women, and persons with disabilities.

The grantee must not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The grantee agrees to take affirmative action to employ, advance in employment, and otherwise treat qualified disabled persons without discrimination based upon their physical or mental disability in all employment practices such as the following: employment, upgrading, demotion or transfer, recruitment, advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. See [Minnesota Rules, Part 5000.3500 \(https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=5000.3500\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=5000.3500).

The grantee agrees to comply with the rules and relevant orders of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights issued pursuant to the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

9i. Right of cancellation

The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest. The State reserves the right to negotiate modifications to the application or to reject any and all applications received as a result of this Request for Proposals. The State does not intend to award a grant contract solely on the basis of any response made to this request or pay for information solicited or obtained.

10. Additional information for applicants

10a. Requesting a permit

Apply for an [invasive aquatic plant management permit \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/iapm.html) using MPARS (www.dnr.state.mn.us/mpars/index.html).

10b. Helpful information, links, and documents

Grant Administration

- The [IAPM Grant Program \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html) webpage includes this Request for Proposals, links to the grant applications, and additional information.
- The [SWIFT Vendor Reference Guides \(https://mn.gov/mmb/accounting/swift/vendor-resources/vendor-reference-guides/\)](https://mn.gov/mmb/accounting/swift/vendor-resources/vendor-reference-guides/) provides information and resources for grantees

Delineation work

- Grantees may wish to view a [list of aquatic plant surveyors \(https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/surveyors_aq_plants.pdf\)](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/surveyors_aq_plants.pdf) when selecting a delineator.
- The DNR provides [delineation guidance \(https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/guidance-delineating-iap.pdf\)](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/guidance-delineating-iap.pdf). The [DNR Regional Invasive Species Specialist \(www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html\)](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/ais/contacts.html) in your area will review your previous delineation as part of your permit application. The DNR reserves the right to request a new delineation survey pre- and/or post-treatment.

Management work

- Grantees planning to use pesticides for management may wish to view a [list of licensed commercial applicators \(https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_wildlife/fisheries/apm/commercial_aquatic_pesticide_applicators.pdf\)](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_wildlife/fisheries/apm/commercial_aquatic_pesticide_applicators.pdf) when determining which companies to request bids for work from. This list is maintained by DNR.
- A similar list of licensed applicators, maintained by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, is also available: [Pesticide Applicator Search \(https://www2.mda.state.mn.us/webapp/lis/pestappdefault.jsp\)](https://www2.mda.state.mn.us/webapp/lis/pestappdefault.jsp)
- Grantees planning to use mechanical harvesters for management may wish to view a [list of licensed mechanical harvesters \(https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_wildlife/fisheries/apm/commercial_mechanical_control_companies.pdf\)](https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_wildlife/fisheries/apm/commercial_mechanical_control_companies.pdf) when determining which companies to request bids for work from.

11. Timeline

Program step	Date
Updated program and application information posted on program webpage (www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/aquatic_invasive/control-projects.html)	11/03/2025
Application period opens at 9:00 a.m.	11/10/2025
Questions due no later than 4:30 p.m.	12/01/2025
Application period closes at 4:30 p.m.	12/08/2025
Application review and selection	Dec.-Jan.
Unofficial award notice	Jan.-Feb.
Grant Award Notifications and Grant Agreements	Mar.
Control project work	Begins after receiving the fully signed and executed Grant Award Notification or Grant Agreement
Grant expiration	June 30, 2026, or when grant obligations are fulfilled, whichever is earlier