Beta Site: https://ofmpub.epa.gov/apex/wfc/f?p=165:1

# Water Finance Clearinghouse



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### Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

The Water Finance Center is an **information and assistance center**, helping communities make informed decisions for **drinking water**, **wastewater**, and **stormwater infrastructure** to protect human health and the environment.



https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter

### EPA's Water Finance Clearinghouse

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# Overview of the Clearinghouse



### Water Finance Clearinghouse



### Meeting the Needs of Key Stakeholders

The Water Finance Clearinghouse is an easily navigable web-based portal that helps communities locate information and resources that will assist them in making informed decisions for their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs.



### Summary of Clearinghouse Content

Funding Sources: Users can identify water infrastructure funding sources.

- Current federal and state loans & grants
- Philanthropic sources

Financing Mechanisms & Approaches: Users can explore how specific financing approaches can be used to achieve water quality and quantity goals.

- Public-Private-Partnerships
- Public-Public-Partnerships
- Customer Assistance Programs
- Rate & Revenue Structures
- Bonds, Taxes, and Fees
- Incentives

See Slides 30-31 for a Complete List of Filters & Resources

Funding Access & Readiness: Resources to prepare communities to access capital, and once accessed, utilize it efficiently to address their needs.

- Predevelopment Assistance
- Coordinated Funding Opportunities
- Asset Management
- Financial Analysis tools
- Technical Assistance for Financing

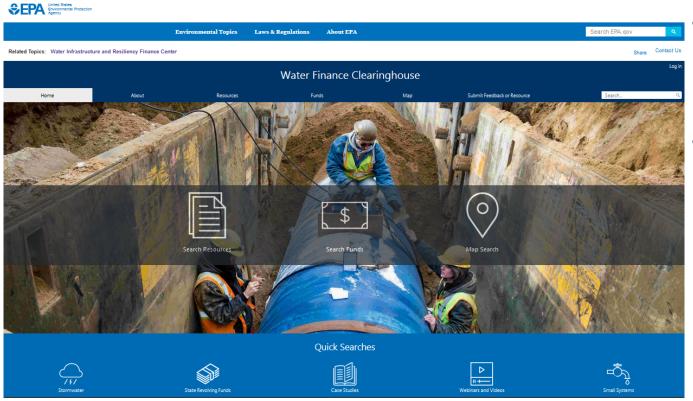
**Special Topics:** Resources that cover specific water financing topics or challenges.

- Affordability
- Small Systems
- Stormwater Financing
- Conservation Financing & Environmental Markets
- Climate Change
- Resiliency & Disaster Recovery
- Water & Energy Efficiency Financing
- CSOs & MS4s
- Marketing & Outreach



## Water Finance Clearinghouse Landing Page

Beta Site: https://ofmpub.epa.gov/apex/wfc/f?p=165:1



#### **Key Features:**

- 2 Databases in 1
  - Resources
  - Funds
- Multiple Search Options
  - Search Resources
  - Search Funds
  - Map Search
  - Quick Search applies search filters for the user
  - Search Bar



## Map Search Feature



### Key Features:

 Users can click on any state – will populate search results for resources tagged for that state



# 1) Map Search Feature

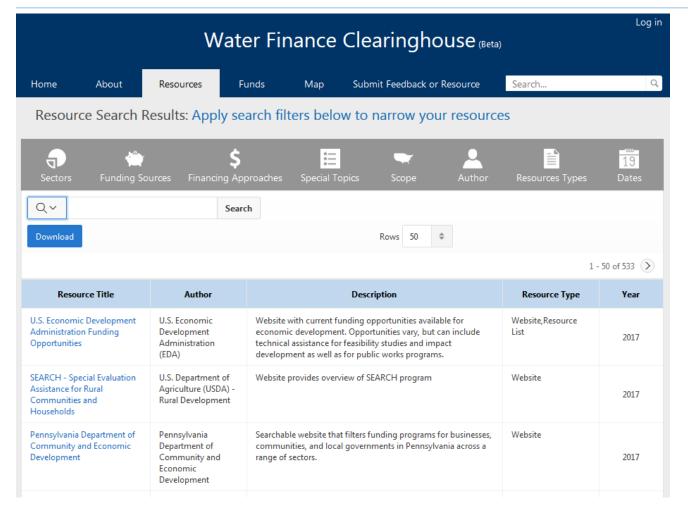


### **Key Features:**

- Users can click on any state – will populate search results for resources tagged for that state
- Users can search for resources by EPA Region



### Search for Resources

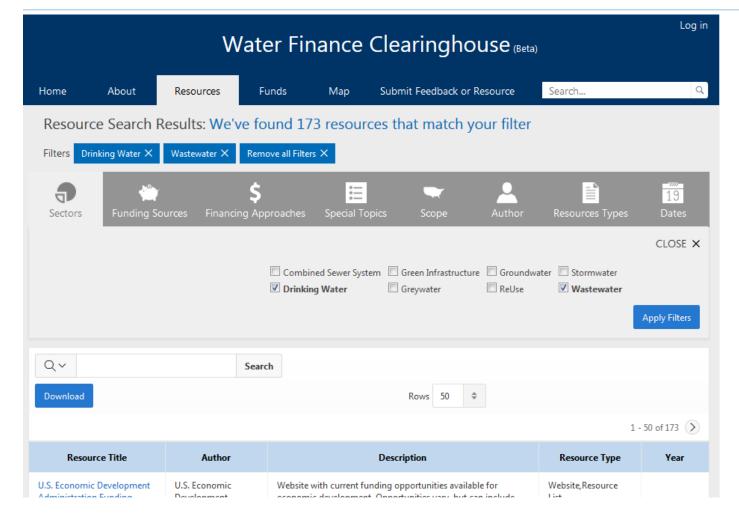


#### **Key Features:**

- Drop-down filters at the top of the search results
- Information Displayed:
  - Clickable Resource
     Title
  - Author
  - Brief Description
  - Resource Type
  - Year



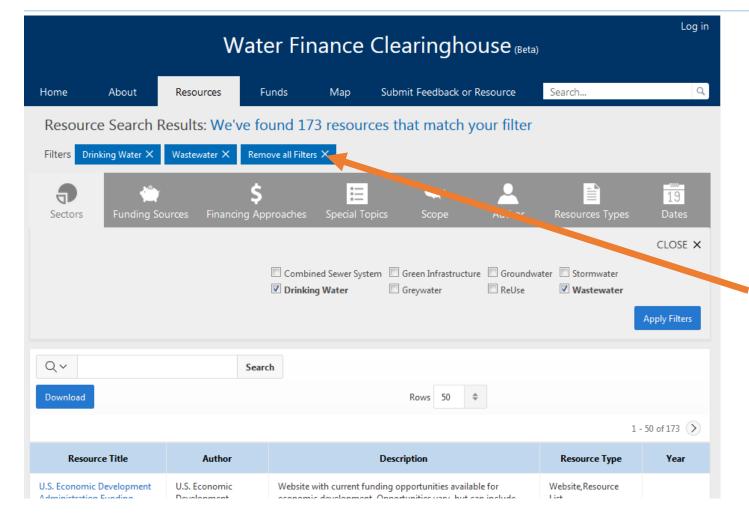
### Resources: Filter Drop-Down Menu



Users can apply multiple filters by clicking on the gray tabs & selecting filters



### Resources: Filter Drop-Down Menu

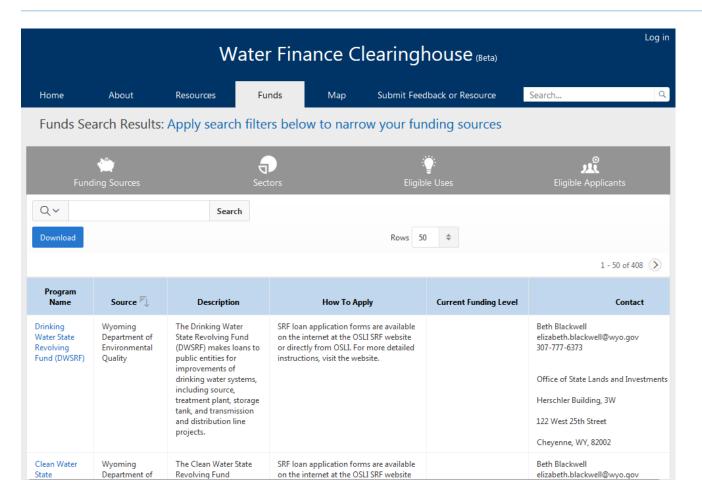


Users can apply multiple filters by clicking on the gray tabs & selecting filters

Can remove individual or all filters by clicking on the "X"



# 1) Search for Funds

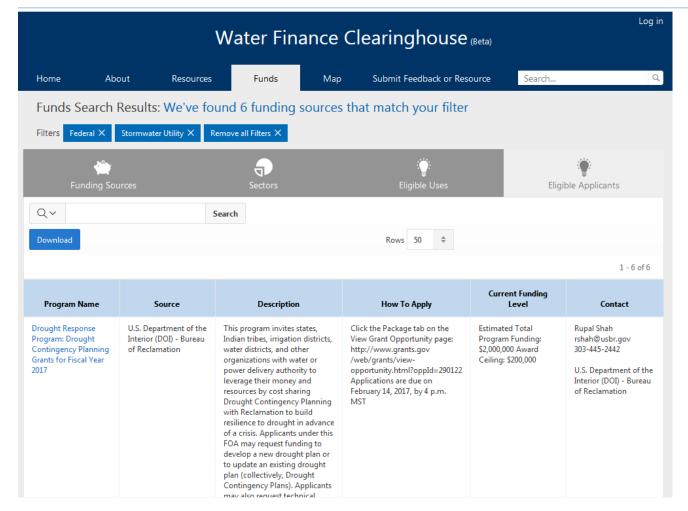


#### **Key Features:**

- Drop-down filters at the top of the search results
- Information Displayed:
  - Clickable Funding Option
  - Source
  - Description
  - How to Apply
  - Current Funding Level
  - Contact Information



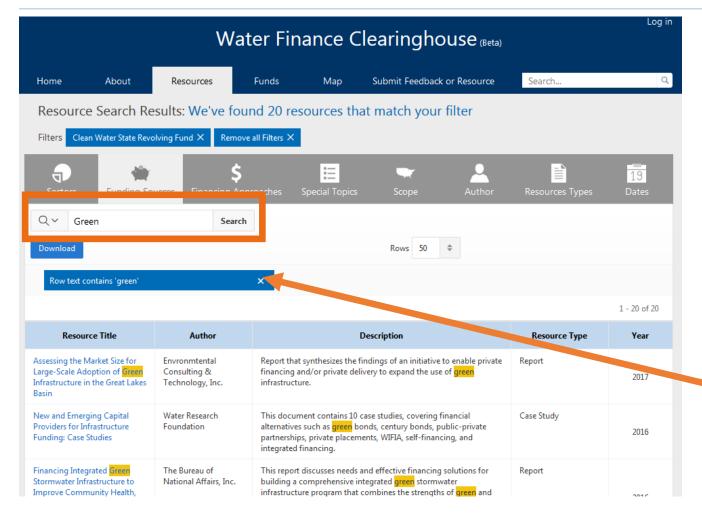
### Funds: Filter Drop-Down Menu



Users can apply multiple filters by clicking on the gray tabs & selecting filters



# 1) Functionality



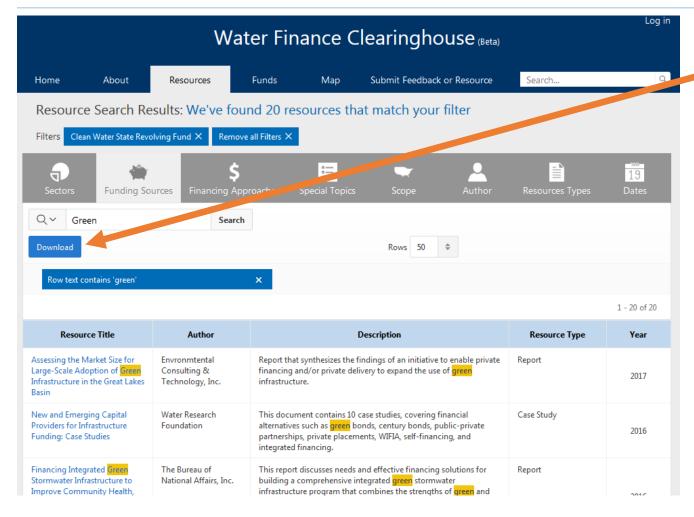
Users can search within their search results

This will highlight your search word/s and narrow your search results

These searches can be removed by clicking on "X"



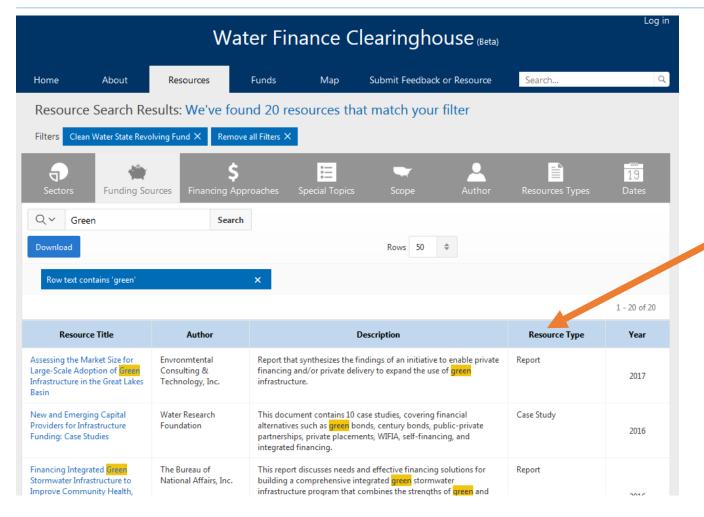
# 1) Functionality



Users can export their search results by clicking on the "Download" button



# 1) Functionality



Users can export their search results by clicking on the "Download" button

Users can re-organize how information is displayed by clicking on the column headings



### Built-In Feedback Mechanisms

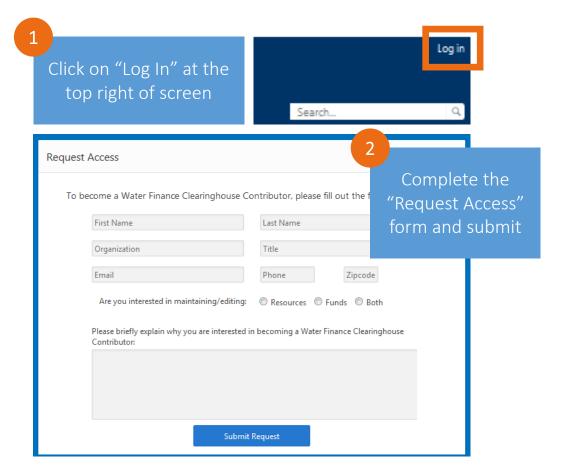
Once LIVE – Users will be able to submit feedback and resource recommendations for consideration



# Becoming a Clearinghouse Contributor



### Become a Clearinghouse Contributor



You can become **Contributor** if you are interested in routinely editing or adding information to the Clearinghouse.

Desired Contributors: Individuals who represent entities that routinely publish or produce water finance-specific resources and/or those that manage water funding sources.

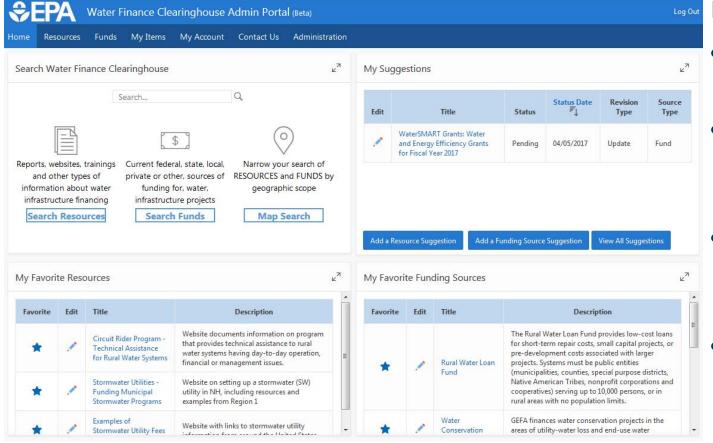




### Become a Clearinghouse Contributor



### Clearinghouse Contributor Portal

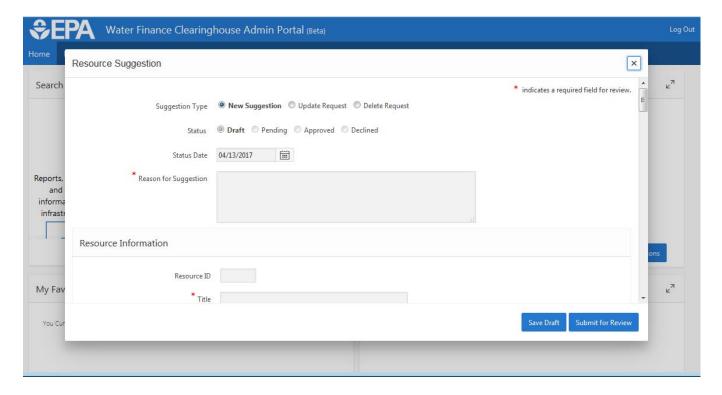


#### **Key Features:**

- Search both databases within portal
- "Favorite" Resources and/or Funding Sources for easy look-up
- Suggest to Add, Edit, or Delete Resources or Funding Sources
- Manage and track your suggestions



### Suggesting a Resource or Funding Source



#### Making a Suggestion

- Provide as much detail as you can
- Apply filters to make your entry searchable
- Option to set date for when entry is removed from Clearinghouse
- Option to schedule a reminder email to update your entry



# Beta Testing What We're Seeking

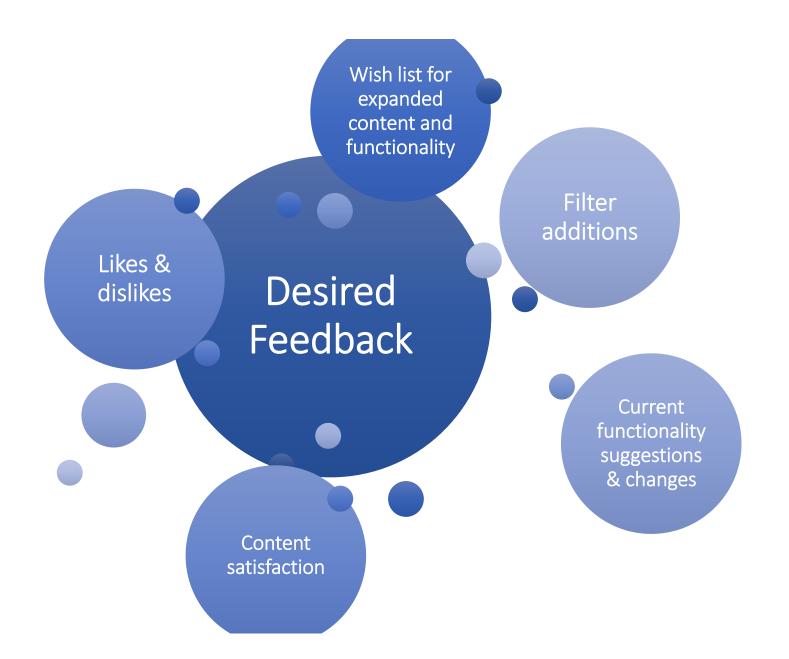




## BETA Testing: We Value Your Input

- 1) Become a Clearinghouse Contributor
- 2) Review pertinent Resources and/or Funding sources
- 3) Suggest Edits/Additions/Deletions
- 4) Submit general **feedback** on Clearinghouse and/or Contributor Portal through feedback form in Clearinghouse or Contributor Portal









## BETA Testing: Funding Agencies



If you are a funding agency or organization that offers funding please keep in mind:

- You should consider creating new entries for each funding program you offer, even short-term opportunities
- You can set a date for when your funding source is automatically removed from the Clearinghouse
- You DO NOT have to provide detailed Application or Funding level information
- Including Contact Information is preferred, but not required





# BETA Testing: Funding Agencies



### Example Entries for SRF Administrators

- Resources: an entry that points users to your website
- Resources: an entry that links to your IUP and/or annual report
- Funds: an entry that explains your program
- Funds: an entry that explains a temporary program/funding opportunity
- Funds: Grants / loans for predevelopment, technical assistance etc.



### BETA: Submit Recommendations

### Identify Essential Resources and Information for Clearinghouse

#### Resources

- Reports
- Webinars
- Case Studies
- Videos
- Websites
- Trainings
- Guides

- Outreach
- Presentations
- Events
- Feasibility Studies
- Resource Lists
- Tools
- Other

### Funding Information

- Federal funding grants and loan programs that support water infrastructure project development and construction
- Regional funding opportunities
- State funding grant and loan programs
- Foundation opportunities
- NGO





### Resource Search Filters

#### **Funding Sources**

- Federal
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
    - Clean Water State Revolving Fund
    - Green Project Reserve
    - Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
    - Clean Water Act Nonpoint Source Grant Program (319)
    - Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)
  - U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
  - U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)
  - U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)
  - U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
  - U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)
  - U.S. Treasurv
  - Coordinated Federal Funding
- State
  - (All States will be Listed)
- Tribes & Territories
- Local Government
- Grants & Principal Forgiveness
- Philanthropic
- Private Capital

#### Sectors

- Green Infrastructure
- Stormwater
- Drinking Water
- Wastewater
- Groundwater
- Potable Water ReUse
- Greywater
- Combined Sewer System

#### **Financing Approaches**

- Drinking Water Rates
- Wastewater Rates
- Stormwater Utilities/Fees
- General Fund
- Municipal Bonds
- Green Bonds
- Property Taxes
- Tax Districts
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Public-Public Partnerships
- Environmental Markets/Trading Programs
- Conservation Financing
- Pay for Performance
- Private Property Incentives
- Voluntary Programs
- Public Property Incentives
- Multi-Use/Multi-benefit Approaches

#### **Special Topics**

- Planning and Predevelopment
- Technical Assistance for Financing
- Community Engagement and Marketing
- Costs. stormwater
- Program Costs
- Project Costs
- Maintenance Costs
- Cost Savings & Effectiveness
- Legal Issues/Barriers
- Affordability
- Economic Development
- Economically Distressed Communities
- Triple Bottom Line
- Climate Change & Resiliency
- Financing Flood Protection
- Financing Drought Resiliency
- Disaster Recovery Financing
- Water Efficiency Financing
- Energy Efficiency Financing
- Asset Management
- GIS
- Small Systems
- Sourcewater

#### Scope

- National
- Regional
- State

#### Resource Type

- Reports
- Webinar/Video
- Case Study
- Video
- Website
- Trainings
- Guides
- Outreach
- Presentations
- Events
- Feasibility Studies
- Resource List
- Tools
- Other Resource Type

#### Author

- Federal
- State
- Environmental Finance Center
- EPA Environmental Financial Advisory Board
- Local Government
- Association
- Non-governmental Organization
- Educational Institution
- Journal
- Other Author

#### Date

- Year
- Upload Date



### Funds Search Filters

#### **Funding Sources**

- Federal
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
  - U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
  - U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)
  - U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)
  - U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
  - U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)
  - U.S. Treasury
  - Coordinated Federal Funding
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#### Sectors

- Green Infrastructure
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- Potable Water ReUse
- Greywater
- Combined Sewer System

#### **Eligible Uses**

- Planning & Predevelopment
- Capital Projects
- Operations & Maintenance
- Green Projects
- Conservation

#### **Eligible Applicants**

- Conservation District
- Educational Institution
- Farmers
- Federal Agency
- Tribes & Territories
- Irrigation & Drainage Districts
- Local Government
- Not for Profit
- Private Business or Landowner
- Ranchers
- State/Territorial Agency
- Water Utility
- Wastewater Utility
- Stormwater Utility



### **Quality** vs. Quantity

- All resources should have a strong emphasis on financing, funding, capacity development etc.
- Will NOT accept reports or guides that contain only a short section on funding.
- Free of charge should not require Clearinghouse users to pay for the resource



# Timeline



### 2017 Timeline

Finalize Clearinghouse design and functionality

December '16



BETA testing of Clearinghouse

**April** 



March

Initial research for Resource and Funding databases completed



Summer

Clearinghouse is launched publically



### Expanded Timeline

- April: Start beta testing with EPA staff and SRF programs
- Mid April Mid June: 2 months of beta testing
  - With 800+ federal and state funders, associations, and EFCs/EFAB
  - Targeted webinars and demonstrations with key stakeholders
- June: Make final changes to Clearinghouse
- Late June/ Early July: Publically launch Clearinghouse



# 4 Forward Looking

- Maintenance and Updates
  - 2-pronged approach
    - Contributors can update their own information in real time
    - EPA staff will make regular updates and conduct annual maintenance
- Learning Modules: Step-by-step guides on specific topics
  - Water Loss Financing
  - Disaster Recovery & Resiliency Financing
  - State Revolving Funds (SRFs)
  - Stormwater Financing
- Data: Water infrastructure financing data & analytics
- What do you want to see? Clearinghouse 2.0 wish list suggestions welcome!



# Water Finance Clearinghouse



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