

Announcements from the New Orleans/ Lake Pontchartrain Urban Waters Partnership

URBANWATERS

FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP

Restoring Urban Waters, Revitalizing Communities

<https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-and-lake-pontchartrain-areanew-orleans-louisiana>

Greetings Partners,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the New Orleans/ Lake Pontchartrain Urban Waters Federal Partnership! Your continued engagement in this partnership is appreciated. The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight developments in relation to the Lake Pontchartrain and the five core-themes identified in the [2019 strategic plan](#). Further this newsletter serves to provide information related to EPA Urban Water's announcements, funding opportunities, upcoming events, and calendar invites/webinars.

If you have any comments/suggestions of topics you would like to see featured in this newsletter please contact me: cole.rochelle@epa.gov. Thank you for your continued support!

Rochelle Cole
ORISE Participant *assigned to* USEPA Region 4
New Orleans/Lake Pontchartrain Urban Waters

EPA Announcements



Please join us “virtually” on **September 1st at 11am (MST)/ 2pm (EST)** as we dedicate Rio Reimagined as the 20th Urban Waters location. Here is the updated [Rio Reimagined Dedication Ceremony Invite](#) with [link](#).

Funding Opportunities

Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities Grant Announcement - Opens Sept 30th

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) makes federal funds available through the new Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) grant program to states, local communities, tribes and territories (SLTTs) for pre-disaster mitigation activities. FEMA has published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the BRIC grant program. The Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) BRIC NOFO can be accessed at www.Grants.gov. FEMA encourages reviewing the BRIC NOFO before applying, as it provides detailed program information and other grant application and administration requirements.

To apply for funding made available for FY20 through the BRIC program, Applicants must adhere to the following Application and funding deadlines:

- Application Opening: September 30, 2020
- Application Deadline: January 29, 2021 (3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)

FEMA will offer webinars on the FY20 Notice of Funding Opportunities for prospective applicants and tribal applicants.

- Tuesday, **August 25** at 2-3:30pm ET for [prospective applicants](#)
- Thursday, **August 27** at 2-3:30pm ET for [prospective tribal applicants](#).

For more information visit: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/fy2020-nofo>

To apply, visit: <https://go.fema.gov/>.

NRCS: Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

Grand Rapids was awarded \$8 million for their partnership and spoke about this opportunity during River Rally. The application period is now open and they are having a webinar on the program next week.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/rcpp/>

USDA has announced \$360 million in funding for the next round of Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) conservation projects. Project applications are now being accepted for locally driven, public-private partnerships that improve the nation’s water quality (including drinking water sources), combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat, and protect agricultural viability. Projects are eligible to receive between \$250,000 and \$10 million in RCPP funding that is expected to be leveraged with funding and in-kind contributions from partners that are equal or greater to the NRCS investment. Funding is open to private industry, non-government organizations, Indian tribes, state and local governments, water districts, universities, and more. RCPP funding is divided evenly among two

funding pools, one for Critical Conservation Areas (CCAs) and one for projects in a single state or across several states.

RCPP Classic Application Period Open through November 4, 2020.

Webinar: On August 27, 2020 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm (eastern time), NRCS will host a webinar with general program information for RCPP applicants. Visit the “How to Apply” web page for information on how to participate.

Farmer to Farmer RFA

The EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Division is pleased to announce the availability of a new Farmer to Farmer funding opportunity. An estimated \$10 million dollars will be used to fund innovative practices approaches within farming communities, measure the results of those practices, and identify how the practices will be incorporated into farming operations. The funding opportunity has been posted on [EPA’s Gulf of Mexico Divison website](#) and should be posted on grants.gov shortly. If, after reading the RFA and Q&A, you have additional questions, please email GMP-RFP@epa.gov.

