

North Carolina Land and Water Fund 2024 Grant Cycle Update

December greetings from the NC Land and Water Fund Team!

Wondering where the 2024 grant application materials are? Curious when you can get down to business on writing and preparing for the upcoming grant cycle? We've got answers and updates below!

2024 Grant Cycle Opens: January 16, 2024. The application web-forms and updated funding manuals will be available on our website on January 16. Want to get started before then? The 2023 Funding Manuals are still available on the side box at https://nclwf.nc.gov/apply. Basic application questions, format, requirements, and accompanying documents will not be significantly altered. You can mark up the example application PDF or start a word document to hold your narrative responses if you are working before the new materials are released.

The online <u>Application Mapping Tool</u> has been revised and updated in 2024 using ESRI Web Experience and is very capable of both supporting your pre-application review and exporting property maps that meet our mapping guidelines. If you do not yet have NCLWF-ready templates, or don't have ArcGIS desktop mapping, please use this tool! <u>Instructions are here</u>.

2024 Application Deadline: March 1, 2024. We have moved the deadline back two additional weeks from last year (and now one full month compared to preceding years). This is in response to positive feedback from last year's change, and input from applicants that more time after the end of the calendar year is helpful for application development.

Please use the extra month to take additional care completing and submitting all requested information as accurately as possible. We cannot score incomplete questions in applications. Complete project descriptions, conservation strategies, reserved rights, and scopes of work consistent with provided support text and examples are critical to successful project evaluation and subsequent contracting and implementation for applications that are funded.

Landowner Status and Match Security Update Deadline: July 8. This deadline has also shifted from last year in response to requests from our applicants. This additional time will allow more match to be secured from local government sources.

Anticipated funding meeting date: October 1-2.

Developing a project and want to make sure you get the highest score and most effective project possible? <u>Contact your field representative</u> early in the process!