

2015

Coastal Grants

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Coastal Management Program
November 5, 2014



Introductions



What we will cover today

- Brief overview of Coastal Management Program
- Changes from last round
- 2015 Grant Program Overview
- Small Grants
- Question and Answer

Illinois Coastal Management Program



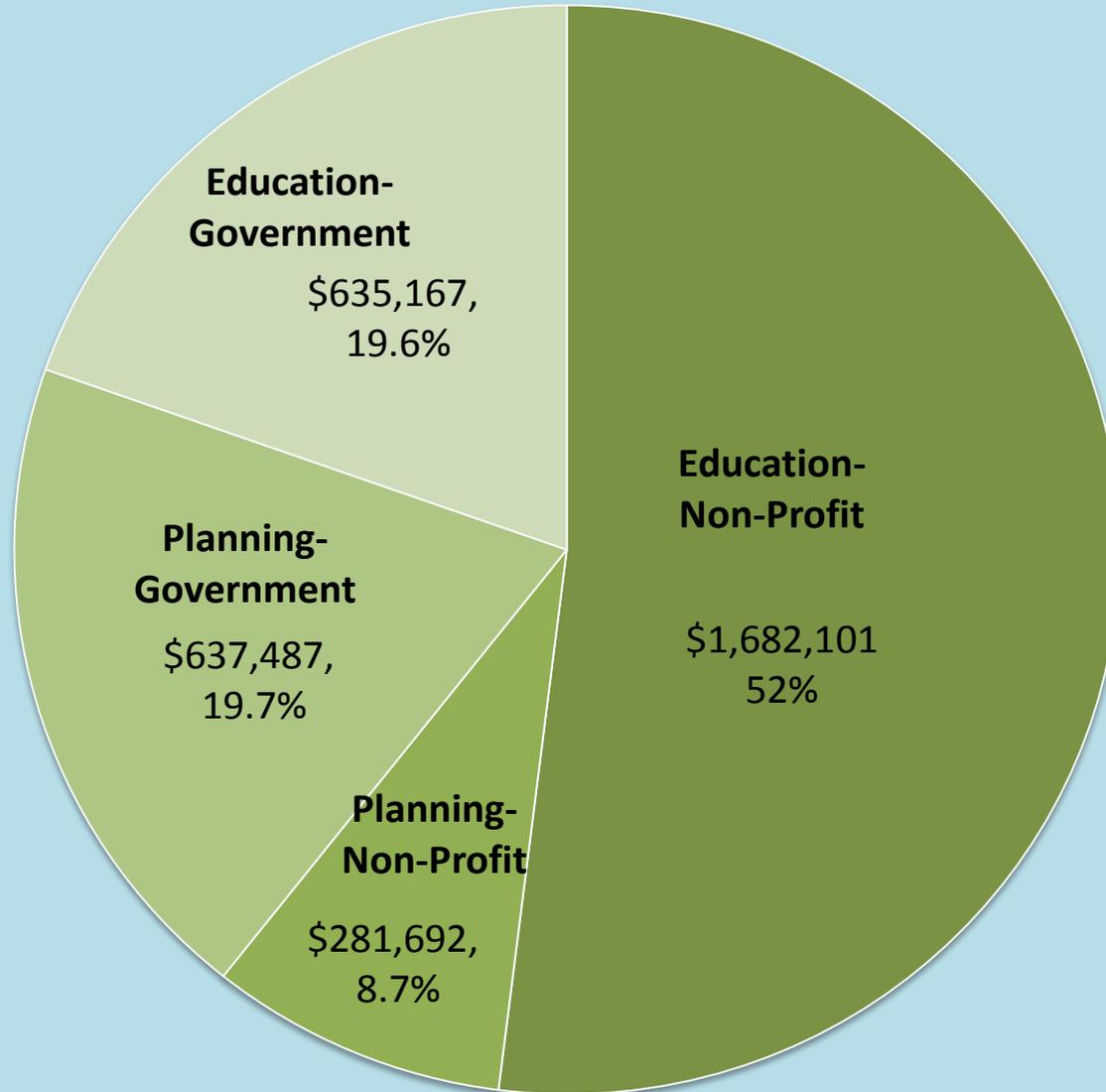
Purpose: Protect, restore, and manage the Illinois Lake Michigan Coast for current and future generations

IL Coastal Grant Program 2013-2014

Our program so far....

- 3 Grant Cycles
- Over \$3.2 million dollars awarded
- 51 grants to 36 grantees (13 grantees have received more than one grant)
- **Range:** \$10,000 to \$150,000
- **Median:** \$50,004 **Average:** \$63,460
- 39 Education Projects and 12 Planning Projects

IL Coastal Grant Program 2013-2014



Changes from Previous Rounds

- No food (based upon revised federal guidance)
- Added Habitat Restoration Category
- Reduced maximum grant to \$100,000
- Added Small Grants (\$1000 - \$5000)
- Updated application materials



2015 Grant Program Details

Application Deadline: December 15, 2014, 5pm

Grant Categories: Outreach and Education
Sustainable Coastal Planning
Habitat Restoration

Grant Amounts: Large grants \$20,000 to \$100,000
Small grants \$1000 to \$5000

Total Funding Available: Past rounds have awarded between \$550,000 and \$975,000 per funding year

Applications available at:
<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/grants.aspx>

Illinois Coastal Priorities



Throughout the Coastal Zone:

- Wetland & riparian habitat restoration
- Green infrastructure to reduce stormwater
- Improve invasive species control



See Grant Guidelines for full list!

Regional Stakeholder Priorities

The Illinois Coastal Management Program recently completed an implementation plan which identifies stakeholder priorities for the next three to five years. Addressing these priorities will be one consideration in the ranking of proposals. The Illinois Coastal Zone Map (Figure 1, see page 2) shows the approximate division of the coast into three sections with dividing lines at Wilmette Harbor and the Calumet River. Waukegan Harbor Area of Concern, in Waukegan, IL, has additional stakeholder-identified priorities. Priorities for each region of the Illinois Coastal Zone and the entire Coastal Zone are presented below (Table 1). Applicants should make it clear in the project narrative which stakeholder priority addresses a stakeholder priority for its region and which priorities address the entire Coastal Zone.

Table 1. Stakeholder-Identified Priorities for each section of the Illinois Coastal Zone. See <http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/ILMIP.aspx> for more details.

| Lake County and North Shore |
|---|
| Top Priorities |
| Improve the connectivity among core areas of natural lands |
| Increase recreational access to waterways and beaches |
| Link water and land-based trails and facilities |
| Secondary Priorities |
| Coordinate management of natural lands, using targeted restoration to improve ecological conditions |
| Restore and improve riparian areas, lakes and streams as habitat for birds and wildlife, including expanding protection and restoration of near shore aquatic habitat |
| Ensure habitat needs for safe passage of aerial migrants |
| Promote and improve diverse recreational opportunities |
| Chicago and Evanston's Lakefront and Waterways |
| Top Priorities |
| Improve habitat value of urbanized areas including neighborhoods |
| Restore and improve riparian areas, lakes and streams as habitat for birds and wildlife, including expanding protection and restoration of near shore aquatic habitat |
| Use green infrastructure and other strategies to manage storm water, reduce runoff volumes and reduce frequency of untreated sewage release |
| Secondary Priorities |
| Improve and coordinate regional collaboration on invasive species management to control terrestrial and aquatic invasive species and improve ecological conditions |
| Help make beach and water conditions safe for recreational use |
| Ensure that waterways are no dispersal vectors for aquatic invasive species – including supporting development of environmentally responsible shipping |

Table 1 (continued). Stakeholder-Identified Priorities for each section of the Illinois Coastal Zone.

| South Chicago and the Calumet |
|--|
| Top Priorities |
| Improve hydrologic regimes to more natural conditions |
| Promote and improve riparian areas, lakes and streams as habitat for birds and wildlife, including expanding protection and restoration of near shore aquatic habitat |
| Support rehabilitation and redevelopment of brownfield and old industrial sites |
| Secondary Priorities |
| Improve and coordinate regional collaboration on invasive species management to control terrestrial and aquatic invasive species and improve ecological conditions |
| Ensure habitat needs for safe passage of aerial migrants |
| Support recreational use of waterways and increase number of public access points |
| Make water conditions safe for recreational use |
| Waukegan Harbor Area of Concern (AOC) |
| Top Priorities |
| Maintain and improve terrestrial habitat for native plants and animals. |
| Improve beach health and reduce beach closures. |
| Reduce impacts of contaminants to humans and wildlife. |
| Throughout the Illinois Coastal Zone |
| Top Priorities |
| Restore and improve riparian areas, lakes and streams as habitat for birds and wildlife, including expanding protection and restoration of near shore aquatic habitat. |
| Use green infrastructure and other strategies to manage storm water and reduce runoff. |
| Improve and coordinate regional collaboration on invasive species management to control terrestrial and aquatic invasive species and improve ecological conditions. |
| Secondary Priorities |
| Ensure habitat needs for safe passage of aerial migrants. |
| Prevent bio-accumulative toxins from entering waterways, especially recreational areas. |

IV. Grant Categories

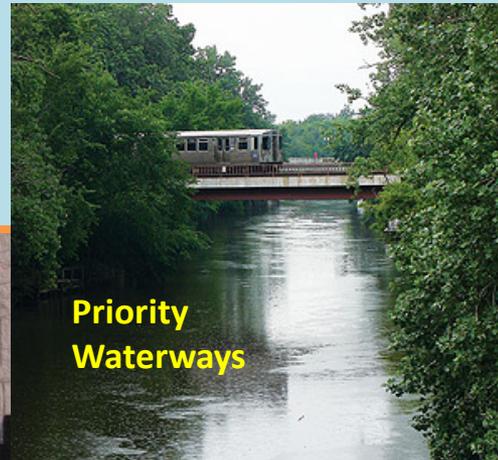
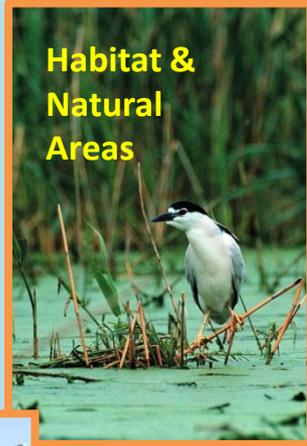
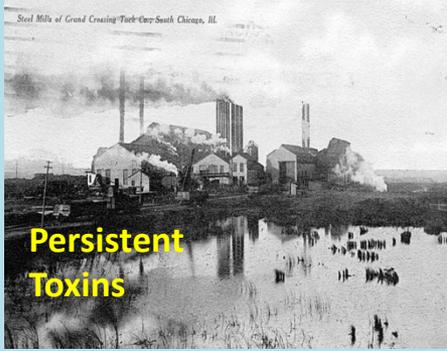
Projects must fit within one (and only one) of the following grant categories.

- (A) Environmental Education and Outreach
- (B) Sustainable Coastal Planning

Nearly all Sustainable Coastal Planning projects will include an outreach component to get stakeholders involved, so if you are thinking, "My project is both," it probably falls under the Sustainable Coastal Planning category. Use the application materials specific to the grant category for your project.

Pages 4-5

Projects must address an Environmental Priority



Grant Categories

- Environmental Education and Outreach
- Sustainable Coastal Planning
- Habitat Restoration

PLUS- Small Grants!



Environmental Education



Environmental Education Definition

- Educational and training activities, outreach, and information dissemination
- Aimed at developing an environmentally literate citizenry
- Encouraging critical thinking skills, personal and civic responsibility, and well-informed choices concerning the environment



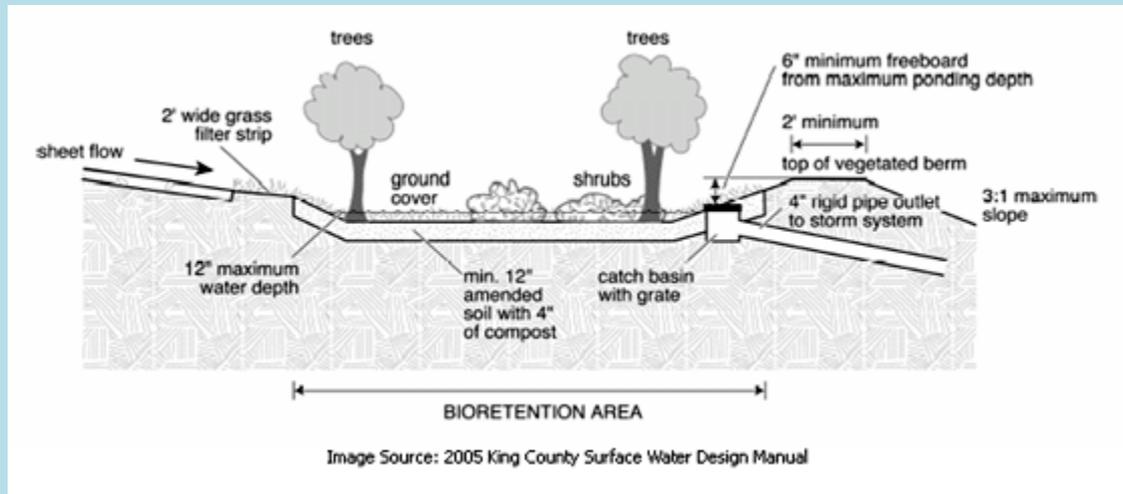
Educational Project Types

- Community Projects
- Teacher Professional Development
- Outreach Projects
- Permanent Educational Displays- Must be within Coastal Zone in facilities that are open to the public with no fee

Projects can include more than one component- but often simpler is better



Sustainable Coastal Planning



Sustainable Coastal Planning

- Designed to protect and enhance ecological, social, and economic health
- Goals include managing coastal resources for current and future uses.
- Process identifies community goals and concerns, develops actions or site designs to address these needs, and determines the resources needed to implement the plan.



Sustainable Coastal Planning

Examples include:

- Watershed plans
- Engineering and site plans
- Green infrastructure plans and specifications
- Natural resource conservation plans
- Sustainable development plans for communities or areas



NEW!

Habitat Restoration



Habitat Restoration

- Goals include restoring and enhancing existing habitats within the Illinois Coastal Zone
- Projects in this category use scientifically-sound techniques to remove invasive vegetation, plant native species, improve hydrological conditions, or otherwise increase the health of a native ecosystem within the Illinois Coastal Zone



Habitat Restoration

- Habitat grants that involve ground disturbance must meet the following criteria
 - Applicant must be a governmental entity,
 - Project must be on public land or land held in a permanent conservation easement or long-term lease,
 - Project site must be open to the general public without a user fee.



Habitat Restoration

The following types of restoration activities are less restricted as long as they don't involve ground disturbance:

- Broadcast Seeding
- Herbiciding
- Mowing
- Burning
- Hand Cutting



Habitat Restoration

Examples include:

- Invasive species removal and broadcast seeding
- Dune plantings
- Nearshore habitat restoration
- Enhancement of habitat corridors
- Ravine Restoration
- Wetland Restoration



Grant Program Details

For \$20,000 to \$100,000 proposals



Eligible Project Locations

- Education and Outreach projects - Cook and Lake Counties in IL.

Following limited to Illinois Coastal Zone

- Habitat Restoration
- Sustainable Coastal Planning
- Signs and permanent educational displays
- On-the-ground components of education and outreach projects

Grant Program Details

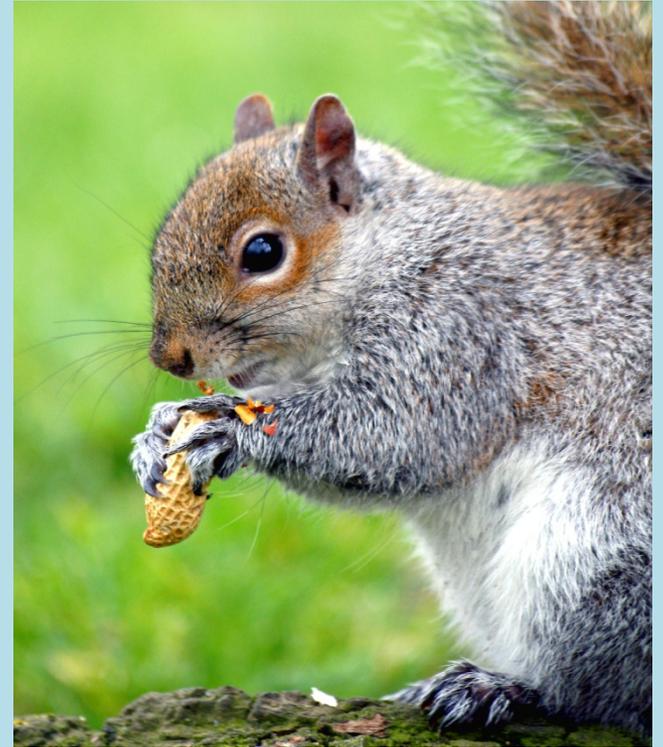
- Reimbursement Grant
- Grant Period: 18 months (Actual timing will depend upon federal funding announcement. Expected grant period Sept 2015 through February 2017)



Grant Program Details

Eligible Applicants:

- Units of local government
- Non-profit organizations



Previous application(s) do not impact eligibility

Grant Program Details

- Multiple applications allowed
- Partnerships are encouraged
- Successful applicants must sign a grant agreement
- Grant recipients are required to submit quarterly grant reports



Restrictions to eligibility

- No research
- Planning grants cannot fund on-the-ground work
- Habitat grant applicants must be eligible to apply for the work they plan to do. Please see eligibility survey on the application form.



Match

- 1:1 non-federal match required for most applicants
- Reduced match (1:3, grant is for 75% of total cost) for local governmental applicants in economically-challenged communities
- Cash or in-kind match allowed



Economically-Challenged Community List

*Blue Island

*Burnham

*Calumet City

*Calumet Park

*Dolton

*North Chicago

*Riverdale

*Waukegan

*Zion

Local governmental applicants from these communities qualify for reduced match requirement

More Budget Guidance

CPA

- Applicants are encouraged to budget for Certified Public Accountant to put together and/or review quarterly reimbursement submissions



Application Evaluation

- Funds split between planning, education, and habitat restoration—Distribution not pre-determined
- Different scoring rubric for each category
- Will rank all proposals in one list.
- Final decisions will be based upon rankings with some flexibility to attain
 - good geographic distribution
 - mixture of education, planning, and habitat restoration projects

Application Evaluation

Evaluation Criteria (in order approx.
from most to least weight)

- Need
- Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes
- Quality of Proposal
- Environmental Justice
- Creativity, Innovation and Uniqueness (Education-only)
- Sound Methods and Science
- Feasibility and Timeline
- Partnerships and Local Support (More weight for Planning)
- Cost Effectiveness and Degree of Impact
- Financial Integrity
- Organizational Capacity and Qualifications of Applicant



Environmental Justice

- Address the concerns and needs of population segments which have been disproportionately affected by adverse environmental impacts.
- Focus on geographic areas with concentrated environment hazards
- Projects which extend work into communities historically neglected due to race and class.



How to Apply

- Grant Guidelines
- Application Packet
 - Application Cover Page
 - Application Form
 - Project Narrative
 - Detailed Proposed Budget (and Instructions)



The screenshot displays the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) website. The header includes the IDNR logo, navigation links for 'IDNR Home', 'Pat Quinn, Governor', and 'Illinois.gov', and a 'DNR A to Z' link. A horizontal menu bar contains categories: 'Natural Resources', 'Parks/Recreation', 'Hunting/Trapping', 'Fishing', 'Outreach/Education', and 'Safety & Rules'. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail 'Illinois DNR > Coastal Management Program' and a large heading '2015 RFP 1'. Below this, the 'Application Deadline December 15, 2014 - 5:00 pm' is prominently displayed. A sidebar on the left lists navigation options: 'CMP Home', 'Boundaries Framework', 'Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan', 'Illinois Clean Marina', 'Grants', and 'Federal Consistency Procedures'. The main content area lists application packets: 'Education and Outreach Application Packet (.zip)', 'Sustainable Coastal Planning Application Packet (.zip)', and 'Habitat Restoration Application Packet (.zip)'. At the bottom, a link for 'Grants Guidelines (.pdf)' is provided.

Attachments

- Letters of Commitment or Support
- Project Area Map
- Detailed Maps (planning only)
- Mapping File(s)
- W-9
- Proof of current federally-negotiated indirect rate (if applicable)

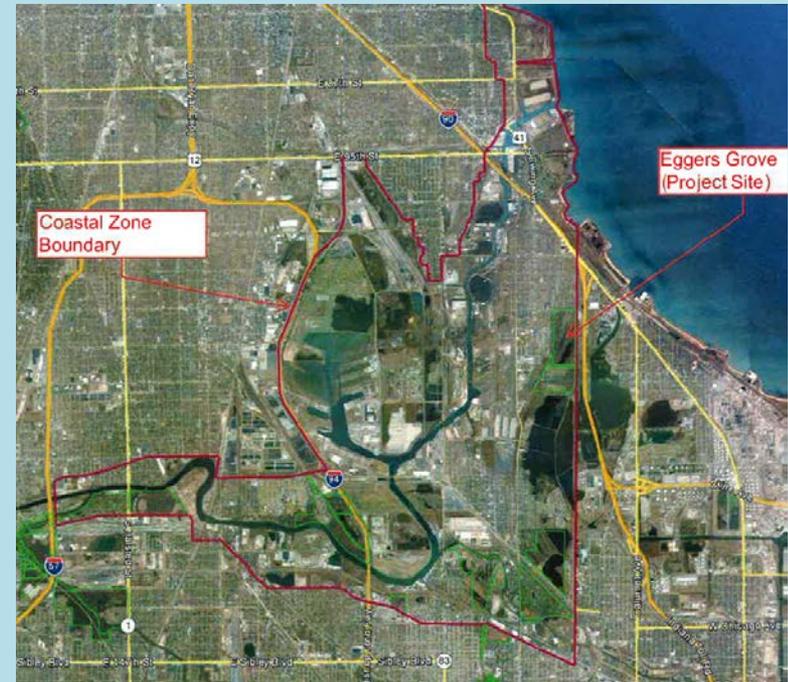
Email one copy to DNR.CMP@illinois.gov

Mail one copy to our office

Maps

We use the maps that applicants provide to:

- 1) confirm project is eligible
- 2) look at the geographic spread of projects
- 3) determine congressional districts
- 4) submit planning projects for environmental review
- 5) create maps for our website and for grant announcement press conferences



Examples of “Good” versus “What not to do” maps from Application Instructions



Examples of “Good” versus “What not to do” maps from Application Instructions

Common Mapping Issues:

- Tilt and Compass
- Unneeded layers make maps hard to read
- Should be zoomed to show sites **and** Coastal Zone Boundary



Application Tips

- Answer clearly and completely: questions correspond to scoring criteria
- Answer all parts of multi-part questions
- Follow instructions



Application Tips

- **Budget Form:** Most common issues= problems with the personnel and contractual budget lines



Small Grants

NEW!



Small Grants- Basic Information

- **Minimum Grant: \$1,000** **Maximum Grant: \$5,000**
- Match is encouraged and will improve competitiveness, but is not required
- Up to 10 projects totaling up to \$30,000 will be funded
- Maximum 2 applications per applicant organization
- 12-month grants
- Projects must be in Lake or Cook Counties in IL and must address one of our environmental priorities

Application Deadline: December 15, 2014, 5pm

Small Grants- What can we fund?

- Short-term Environmental Education and Outreach Projects
- Creation and printing of maps, booklets, posters, etc.
- Symposiums, conferences, workshops, nature festivals, etc.
- Educational or Interpretive Signage on public property within the Illinois Coastal Zone
- Special Request- funds projects which don't fit into the descriptions above but which fit our environmental priorities.

Please note- No food will be funded

Small Grants- Application Process

- Application Form
- W-9
- Letters of Support/Commitment

Sign, scan, and email the application to DNR.CMP@illinois.gov and mail a copy to our address

Small Grants- Application Process

The Application Form asks for the following:

- Contact Information
- Project Description (8 questions)
- Budget



Version Date: 11/01/2014

Grant Budget Instructions

Please provide a full breakdown of costs for your project, including personnel. *Food is not an eligible cost.* If you need more room, please attach additional sheets.

| Item | Description of cost | Amount |
|----------------------------|---|--------|
| Example: Venue Cost | Room reservation fee- 2 hours/week x 26 weeks @ \$12/hr | \$624 |

10. BUDGET- GRANT REQUEST

| Item | Description of cost | Amount |
|------|---------------------|--------|
| | | |
| | | |

Small Grants- Application Scoring

- Project meets a clear and important need.....4 points
- Project is expected to be successful in the time allowed.....4 points
- Project fits well with the goals of our funding source.....4 points
- Project impact is expected to be significant.....4 points
- Applicant has resources and ability to complete project.....4 points
- Applicant provides matching funds.....up to 4 points



Contact Information:

Illinois Coastal Management Program

160 N. LaSalle St.

Suite S-703

Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: 312-814-3123

Email: DNR.CMP@illinois.gov

Website:

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/cmp/Pages/grants.aspx>



Questions?

Thanks for Coming!

