



# MPCA Bonding Bill

## 2013 Capitol Budget

Governor Dayton's 2013 Capital Budget recommendations included funding for two Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) programs: Capital Assistance Program for solid waste processing facilities and the Stormwater Pond Restoration Grant Program.

### Capital Assistance Program for solid waste processing facilities: \$3.1 million

The Capital Assistance Program (CAP) is available to cities, counties, solid waste management districts and sanitary districts to help finance the capital costs of building solid waste processing facilities. Solid waste processing facilities recover materials that can be reused for new products and supply recyclable materials to Minnesota's secondary materials manufacturing sector accounting for more than 20,000 jobs in the state. Energy recovered from CAP-funded facilities creates steam and electricity for industrial and residential needs. CAP grants have kept more than 31 million tons of waste out of landfills.

Eligible projects include solid waste processing facilities with resource recovery capabilities including waste-to-energy facilities, recycling/household hazardous waste facilities, composting facilities and transfer stations that serve waste processing facilities or reduce the amount or toxicity of waste processing residuals. Projects must be in a county with an MPCA-approved solid waste management plan and are encouraged to incorporate Sustainable Building Guidelines.

A number of counties and sanitary districts have expressed interest in CAP grants.

- Becker County: transfer station and recycling facilities in Becker and Clay counties
- McLeod County: upgrade and expand existing recycling facility
- Western Lake Superior Sanitary District: compost site equipment and develop reuse center

Single counties may receive up to 50 percent of the eligible capital cost for recycling, household hazardous waste or composting facilities and up to 25 percent of the eligible costs for other types of processing facilities. CAP grants may not exceed \$2 million for a single county. Multi-county projects may receive the same 25 to 50 percent of eligible costs and the \$2 million maximum is multiplied by the number of counties. Since 1985 more than 94 grants (a total of \$61 million) have been awarded. Local governments have matched these funds with \$207 million from other sources.

### Stormwater Pond Restoration Grant Program: \$1.0 million

A stormwater pond is a treatment pond constructed and operated for water quality treatment, stormwater retention and flood control (including localized basement floodings). A pond's typical design life is 20-30 years. Many ponds in Minnesota are reaching the end of their operational lives or have done so already. Stormwater ponds not optimally maintained lose their ability to filter sediments, hold excess stormwater runoff and protect homes and community infrastructure from flood events.

Managing the sediment held within the ponds can be difficult and expensive. Recent studies have shown that some stormwater pond sediments are accumulating high concentrations of contaminants. These contaminated materials require special handling and disposal which can create a significant financial burden on municipalities maintaining the ponds.

The Stormwater Restoration Grant Program would provide funding to municipalities to remove contaminated sediments and enable stormwater ponds to again function as designed and built. The

state grants will fund up to \$250,000 per pond and require a 50 percent match from non-state funding sources. Preference will be given to projects that alleviate a threat of flooding to residential properties and businesses, provide direct water quality benefits to an impaired water, and/or where the municipality has implemented measure(s) to reduce the future accumulation of contaminants that resulted in increased costs for the removal of the sediments.