

DAAlert...to Local and State Governments



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Wetlands Grants and Water Security in the News

Wetland Conservation Projects Funding

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council are now accepting proposals requesting funds designated for wetland conservation projects.

To be considered for funding in 2003, proposals must be for \$50,000 or less. All wetland conservation proposals that meet the requirements of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act will be accepted.

Please keep in mind that NAWCA and matching funds may only be used for wetlands acquisition, creation, enhancement, and/or restoration; they may not be used for signage, displays or other educational materials, programs, or equipment, even though the goal of the project may ultimately be to support wetland conservation education curricula. Research also is not a primary purpose of the Act, and research proposals will not be considered for funding. Also, NAWCA grant moneys may not be used or matched to meet Federal mitigation requirements.

The application deadline is November 29, 2002. More information and grant instructions are available at <http://birdhabitat.fws.gov/NAWCA/Ussmallgrants.html>.

For information on this subject and other funding questions contact Sheryl Stephens (sstephens@daa.com) at (804) 264-2228.

Water Security for Small Systems

A new guide to help small drinking water systems (population of 3,300 or less) is now available from the Association of State Drinking Water Administration (ASDWA.) The publication – Security Vulnerability Self-Awareness Guide for Small Drinking Water Systems addresses security assessment and identifies security measures that should be considered.

Currently security assessments for small drinking water systems are voluntary. Drinking water systems with more than 3,300 in population are required to conduct a vulnerability assessment as ordered by the Public Health Security and Bio-terrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002.

This new publication, compiled by the ASDWA and the National Rural Water Association, has threat check lists, inventory lists, an emergency contact list and a prioritization of needed actions among other things. There is a Certification of Completion included that can be filled in and sent to your state drinking water primary agency. The document can be accessed at www.asdwa.org. The 27 page pdf document can be downloaded and printed from there.

Also available is a self-assessment guide at the National Rural Water Association. The Rural Water/Wastewater Security Vulnerability Self-Assessment is available at <http://www.nrwa.org/2001/publications/articles/selfassess.htm>