



Rule Adoption Notice

Chapter 173-98 WAC, "Uses and Limitations of the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund," and

Chapter 173-95A WAC, "Uses and Limitations of the Centennial Clean Water Fund"

For more information or technical assistance

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Requirements of the rule

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) uses these rules to administer the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (loans only) and the Centennial Clean Water Program (loans and grants).

Local governments and tribes can apply to these funding programs to obtain low-interest loans or grants for water pollution control facilities and activities projects designed to prevent and control water pollution to our state's surface and ground water.

Summary of the rule changes adopted on June 29, 2007

The new rules reflect existing and emerging funding priorities identified by Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other stakeholders and clients.

Included in these changes, Ecology will:

- Incorporate and clarify federal requirements, such as perpetuity for the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund.
- Incorporate and clarify the intent of state statute.
- Add and clarify definitions.
- Update hardship-funding criteria for loans and grants to include a sliding scale for level of hardship and level of interest rates charged for hardship loans.
- Redistribute program funding allocations between facilities and activities projects.
- Update requirements for the design-build and design-build-operate process.
- Enhance the current integrated funding approach between the two programs.
- Evaluate additional best management practices for grant eligibility.
- Enhance the current on-site septic system local loan program by introducing hardship grants.
- Introduce hardship grants for certain stormwater projects.
- Apply "Plain Talk" principles per the Governor's Executive Order.



Effective Date: July 30, 2007

Appeal procedures

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.330). For additional information about appealing this adoption, please contact Jerry Thielen, Ecology's Regulatory Affairs Manager, at 360-407-7551 or by e-mail jthi461@ecy.wa.gov.

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