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## Water Resources Development Grant Program: Fall 2024 State and Local Awards

**RALEIGH** - The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Water Resources (DWR) has awarded \$768,950 in grants awarded to seven local governments through the Water Resources Development Grant program state and local projects fund.

The grant awards can be used for stormwater control measures, including for drainage and flood control; stream restoration projects, including shoreline stabilization and dam or aquatic barrier removals; and to boost access to water-based recreation resources through construction of greenways near waterways, park development or water access sites. Additionally, this program provides grants for feasibility studies that support these three eligible categories of projects.

The following projects were approved for funding:

- Land of Sky Regional Council, Outacite's Retreat Stream and Floodplain Restoration, \$200,000. This grant will provide financial assistance to restore 3,000 linear feet of an unnamed tributary to the French Broad River, enhance an additional 4,000 linear feet of streambank, plant approximately seven acres of riparian buffer and enhance more than three acres of wetlands.
- Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District, Smith Mill Creek Stream Restoration, \$187,000. This grant will provide financial assistance to restore approximately 1,650 linear feet of degraded stream and plant approximately 1.5 acres of riparian buffer.
- Town of Weaverville Main Street Nature Park Stormwater and Streambank Stabilization, \$180,000. This grant will provide financial assistance to stabilize approximately 600 linear feet of highly eroded streambanks along an unnamed tributary to Reems Creek. Additionally, two failing stormwater detention basins will be retrofitted into stormwater treatment wetlands to treat runoff from 1.7 acres of heavily used downtown parking lots.
- Town of Rosman, Rosman Riverfront Park Phase 1, \$86,700. This grant will provide financial assistance to daylight approximately 470 linear feet of culverted stream, plant 0.1 acres of riparian buffer vegetation along both sides of the daylighted



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stream and construct nature-based stormwater control measures adjacent to the French Broad River.

- City of Raleigh, Lake Wheeler Green Stormwater Infrastructure Feasibility Study, \$50,000. This grant will provide financial assistance for a study to assess impacts to Park infrastructure and natural resources resulting from ineffective stormwater control measures, develop mitigation strategies for reducing those impacts and provide construction ready design alternatives for stormwater runoff focused on the primary parking areas and the Waterfront Center.
- Watauga Board of Commissioners, Cove Creek Stream Restoration and Park Redevelopment Engineering Study, \$50,000. This grant will provide financial assistance for a study to assess the specific engineering and design aspects necessary for stream restoration of Cove Creek and redevelopment of an existing park.
- Wake Soil and Water Conservation District, North Carolina State Farmers' Market Feasibility Study, \$15,250. This grant will provide financial assistance for a study to determine the cost and constructability of stream restoration work along 1,500 feet of an unnamed tributary to Walnut Creek and explore a variety of stormwater treatment options within the entire Farmers Market facility.

