

**Edwards Aquifer Authority**  
**2018 Conservation Grant Request for Proposals**  
**Irrigation Efficiency Improvement Program**

**I. Introduction:**

The Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) promotes water efficiency through the implementation of a groundwater conservation plan and its water conservation grant programs. Individual groundwater conservation plans are implemented through the use of water saving practices that encourage, promote, and document conservation measures. Grants may be awarded to fund a portion of the project's costs through reimbursement or other approvable arrangements.

**II. Purpose of Grant:**

Conserving groundwater is important to the effective management and sustainability of the region's primary water resource, the Edwards Aquifer. In 2018, the EAA Groundwater Conservation Grant Program is offering funding assistance for the installation or improvement of efficient irrigation systems that will be completed before 2019.

**III. Grant Period:**

August 2018 – December 2018

Project must be completed by December 31, 2018.

Projects that do not expect completion by December 31, 2018 will not be evaluated.

**IV. Eligible Applicants:**

Edwards Aquifer Irrigation Groundwater Withdrawal Permit holders.

**V. Funding Level:**

\$200,000 is available. Projects may be awarded up to 100% of project cost and awards are dependent on the number of applications received and number of projects approved.

**VI. Use of Funds:**

Grant funds must be used for the implementation of irrigation efficiency improvement practices and must demonstrate reduction of Edwards Aquifer water use. Qualifying conservation equipment includes conversion from flood irrigation systems to center pivots, linear move sprinkler systems, micro sprinkler systems, drip systems, and conversion from inefficient water delivery systems.

**VII. Ineligible Use of Funds:**

Funds may not be used for projects that do not improve the efficiency of irrigation practices.

**VIII. Application Deadline:**

June 29, 2018

**IX. Proposal Review and Evaluation:**

Grants will be awarded based on the clarity of description of the following focus areas, not in any specific order:

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- Significance of irrigation efficiency improvement;
- Description of equipment used to improve irrigation efficiency;
- Project cost;
- Potential water savings.

**X. Grant Contacts:**

Any questions regarding the 2018 EAA Conservation Grant may be directed to:

Isabel Martinez, Conservation Coordinator [imartinez@edwardsaquifer.org](mailto:imartinez@edwardsaquifer.org)

Charles Ahrens, Water Resources Manager [cahrens@edwardsaquifer.org](mailto:cahrens@edwardsaquifer.org)

Phone: (210) 222-2204

Fax: (210) 222-9869

**XI. Mailing and Delivery Address:**

Edwards Aquifer Authority  
900 E. Quincy  
San Antonio, TX 78215

**XII. Grant Requirements:**

Applicants MUST SUBMIT the following:

1. EAA Grant Application
  - a. Provide contact information of individual who will serve as project manager and be able to answer specific questions about the project.
  - b. Commit to not apply for a base-irrigation groundwater conversion based on the installation of conservation equipment for five (5) years.
2. Product specification sheet with description of efficient irrigation equipment
3. Applicants must own the land for which they are applying.
4. Conservation equipment must be utilized for the life of the system.
5. Additional consideration will be given to projects that are:
  - a. Submitted to the NRCS EQIP Program;
  - b. Submitted and funded by the NRCS EQIP Program;
  - c. Including applicant cash match contributions to the cost of the project.