



Urban Watershed
Environmental
Research Group

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OCTOBER 2016 FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT: Healthy Urban Waters

The Urban Watershed Environmental Research Group at Wayne State University (UWERG) recently received a 3-year grant from the Erb Family Foundation for developing *Healthy Urban Waters* (ERB-HUW) research. An important element of that grant is the development of collaborations between WSU and other research partners. The funding emphasizes field-based research advancements and capabilities at the evolving urban field stations at Lake St. Clair Metropark (LSCMP), Belle Isle, and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) Water Works Park Pilot Plant. Funding from the ERB-HUW grant along with complementary internal funding will be used to support seed projects and associated equipment improvements that will enhance collaborations at one or more of these three locations and align with one or more of the following areas of emphasis:

1. Pure water for the local population
2. Understanding the ecosystems associated with the Lake St. Clair and Detroit River watersheds and the life they support
3. Understanding natural and engineered processes affecting water and affected by water
4. Sustainable water-related economic development
5. Water resource regulatory policies
6. Energy/Water/Environment interface impacting urban watersheds
7. Community outreach and education associated with use of these field stations



The funding award for each project is limited to a maximum of \$35,000. Project awards are expected to be announced by early January 2017, and should be completed prior to October 1, 2017. Funding is expected to be SEED funding for collaborative projects between WSU and external research partners that will spur further external funding at the research stations, and/or spur community use of the field stations with WSU leadership. The average award for previous grant proposals was \$31,500. We expect to award two grants this funding round.

Individual faculty members and collaborative research teams led by full-time WSU faculty are invited, by means of this memo, to develop proposals that are responsive to this funding announcement. Information about the field facilities is attached. For more information about UWERG see

<http://engineering.wayne.edu/uwerg/>.

A meeting will be held on **October 18, 2016 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.** in **Conference Room A** (on the sixth floor) of the Maccabees Building, **5057 Woodward Avenue**, to provide an overview of the funding guidelines and answer questions about this program. Potential applicants are highly encouraged to attend. However, if schedule conflicts prevent participation in the meeting, questions may be sent via email to water@wayne.edu.

Application Submittal: There are no proposal forms. The funding application submittal and review will proceed as follows:

A proposal summary, narrative, and full budget should be submitted containing the following: (1) a title block with descriptive research title, names of principal investigator and other participating faculty and associated department(s), external partner organization and its representative, (2) research objectives and plan, (3) proposed location of project, unique need and relevance of the location, and expected presence (time/duration/months) spent by the researcher at the field facility during the funding period, (4) budget (maximum 6-month budget) including list of funded researchers and staff, and (5) potential of the project to spark larger externally funded efforts with collaborating national/international laboratories, government and/or industry. The narrative and budget are expected to range from **four to six pages** total. **Biosketches (not to exceed two pages each)** of the participating faculty and partners should be appended. Proposal and biosketches are due by e-mail attachment in a single pdf document with subject line **“Healthy Urban Waters”** to uwerger@eng.wayne.edu **no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, November 18, 2016**. Award recipients are expected to implement funded projects by the end of April 2017 and complete projects by October 2017.

Review Process: A review committee consisting of equal numbers of (1) representatives selected by OVPR and (2) members of the UWERG Advisory Committee will evaluate the proposals on the following criteria:

- Relevance of project to the intent of the RFP
- Significance of the project to the community and broader impacts on society
- Demonstrated excellence of the participating project leaders
- Clarity and viability of the research or project plan
- Place-based at the selected field station(s)
- Scientific merit and degree to which it advances knowledge and understanding across fields
- Potential to secure external grant funding, a fellowship award, or a commission for further study or dissemination of the project
- Opportunity to develop partnerships with industry, government, non-governmental organizations or national/international laboratories

Prior to award, proposals will require the approval of all deans of the faculty involved. **Recipients will be informed of the grant award by early January 2017.**

We look forward to receiving your proposals.



Healthy Urban Waters

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