

Program Guide

Eligibility & Purpose

The Marine Debris Clean-Up Program provides financial support to organizations that are active with the Registry of Joint Stock Companies to remove debris from Nova Scotia's shorelines and adjacent ocean.

Proposal Requirements

Applicants are required to submit a brief proposal outlining particulars of the planned clean-up event per the provided template. Proposals will be evaluated based on merit (feasibility of the project and qualifications of the applicant and project partners), project costs, community support, and project impact of commercial and social prosperity of the seafood sector.

Applicants may apply for funding to support one clean-up event or multiple clean-up events within a single application. If applying to support multiple clean-ups, 50% (minimum) of proposed clean-up events must be conducted in collaboration with seafood industry associations and their members.

For funding applications to the 'ocean clean-up' stream, applicants will be required to demonstrate authorization(s) and exemptions by the appropriate federal agencies to transit the marine environment with fishing equipment onboard any vessels used in the cleanup activity.

Eligible Expenses

Applicants may submit proposals to fund purchase of items/fees including but not limited to:

- Materials and supplies (e.g., gloves, wire cutters)
- Equipment rental
- Activities to promote the project and recruit volunteers (at a maximum of 10% of total project costs)
- Liability insurance
- Tipping fees
- Wages for specialized workers or consultants. Note: this does not apply to volunteer roles and should be limited to clean-up organizers and/or specialized staff.¹
- Other expenses to support the clean-up will be considered on a case-by-case basis

The Department will fund 75% of eligible shoreline clean-up project costs and 50% of ocean clean-ups, to a maximum of \$5,000, per application. The remaining project costs may include in-kind or financial contributions from the applicant or other sources. The Department has the authority to deny an application based on any of the selection criteria or availability of funding.

¹ Clean-ups are encouraged to utilize volunteers, Wages for clean-up activities may be eligible for funding in the case of specialized support roles, e.g., vessel operator or trucking/hauling contributor. Applicant's regular staff wages and salaries are not eligible for funding under this Program.

Reporting Requirements

Applicants are required to submit a Clean-Up Report to the Department (per provided template) outlining event and litter details. Applicants must also provide receipts for actual costs incurred in order to receive funding. Applicants are also encouraged to take photos during the clean-up event for use by NSDFA in future Program promotion, pending approval and photo release.

Applications for multiple clean-up events will require separate clean-up reports for each individual clean-up event, and eligible funding will not be made available by the Province until all of the outlined clean-up activities have been completed, and all necessary reporting requirements have been met.

Application Process

Applications will be accepted starting June 1, 2022, for the 2022/23 fiscal year.

Please submit a completed application form or queries by e-mail to MarineCleanUp@novascotia.ca or send by mail to:

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle St, 6th Floor (Suite 603) Halifax, NS B3J 3N8