



State of Wisconsin  
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1211/P1  
ZDW:emw

DOA:.....Vencill, BB0245 - Nonprofit conservation organization grant funding

**FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

**GENERAL NATURAL RESOURCES**

***Nonprofit conservation organization grants***

Under current law, DNR is authorized to provide grants to nonprofit conservation organizations for a variety of conservation purposes, including acquisition of property, encouraging land management activities that enhance the state's natural resources, and providing technical assistance.

This bill creates an appropriation to DNR from the general fund for the purpose of providing grants to nonprofit conservation organizations and requires DNR to award grants in the 2025–26 fiscal year to the following organizations: 1) Gathering Waters, 2) the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, 3) River Alliance of Wisconsin, and 4) Wisconsin Lakes.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**SECTION 1.** 20.370 (5) (aa) of the statutes is created to read:

20.370 (5) (aa) *Resource aids — nonprofit conservation organizations.* From the general fund, the amounts in the schedule for grants to nonprofit conservation organizations under ss. 23.0955, 23.0956, 281.69 (1r), and 281.72 and for grants under 2025 Wisconsin Act .... (this act), section 9132 (1).

\*\*\*\*NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

**SECTION 9132. Nonstatutory provisions; Natural Resources.**

**BILL****SECTION 9132**

(1) NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION GRANTS. In the 2025-26 fiscal year, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (aa), the department of natural resources shall provide grants to Gathering Waters, as authorized under s. 23.0955; to the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, as authorized under s. 23.0956; to River Alliance of Wisconsin, as authorized under s. 281.72; and to Wisconsin Lakes, as authorized under s. 281.69 (1r).

**(END)**