

Environmental Conservation, Department of

Mission

The mission of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is to conserve, improve, and protect New York's natural resources and environment; and to prevent, abate, and control water, land, and air pollution to enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State, and their overall economic and social well-being.

Organization and Staffing

DEC is headed by a commissioner appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. DEC's central office is in Albany, with regional offices in Avon, Buffalo, Long Island City, New Paltz, Ray Brook, Schenectady, Stony Brook, Syracuse, and Watertown. Working with DEC headquarters, regional offices review and issue environmental permits for activities regulated by DEC, such as the operation of landfills and sewage treatment plants and to ensure compliance with State and federal environmental statutes.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends appropriations of \$2.2 billion for DEC. The Executive Budget recommends a workforce level of 3,313 FTEs for DEC, which includes Lake George Park Commission's nine FTEs.

As co-chair of the Climate Action Council (CAC), DEC played a critical role in the development of the CAC's scoping plan, which was released in December 2022. The scoping plan outlines how New York will achieve and implement its clean energy and climate goals as set forth by the CLCPA. Within the scoping plan, the CAC determined that a cap-and-invest program would be the most feasible, efficient, equitable, and affordable method to meet New York's emissions goals. In response to the CAC recommendation, and in accordance with the Governor's 2023 State of the State announcement, DEC and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) are continuing their efforts in FY 2025 to advance an economywide cap-and-invest program.

Major budget actions include:

- An additional \$500 million, over two years, to support continued investments in clean water projects throughout the State. This new appropriation will continue the State's ongoing dedication to funding drinking water infrastructure, wastewater infrastructure, and water quality protection.
- \$400 million for the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). The EPF provides funding for critical environmental programs such as land acquisition, farmland protection, invasive species prevention and eradication, enhanced recreational access, water quality improvement, and environmental justice.
- \$90 million for DEC's New York Works capital program, which funds core environmental infrastructure projects. This funding will allow DEC to repair and maintain state-owned dams, rehabilitate fish hatcheries, improve state campgrounds and make investments in other core infrastructure.
- \$525 million in federal appropriations is included to allow DEC to accept funds from the federal infrastructure bills. This includes \$448 million specifically for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

[Briefing Book – Environment and Energy \(PDF\)](#)

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

Program Highlights

DEC manages a diverse array of programs and activities which are divided into the following programs: Administration; Air & Water Quality Management; Environmental Enforcement; Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources; Forest & Land; Operations; Solid & Hazardous Waste Management; and Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act.

To protect and improve environmental quality, DEC regulates hazardous waste and oversees the cleanup of hazardous waste sites; assists public and private parties in cleaning up contaminated "brownfield" properties; monitors air and water quality and implements air and water pollution control programs; regulates solid waste

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management; regulates the use of pesticides; oversees chemical and petroleum bulk storage and responds to chemical and oil spills; regulates water withdrawals; and enforces the (ECL).

To conserve natural resources, DEC works to protect fish, wildlife, and marine resources; licenses and educates anglers, hunters, and trappers; promotes forestry; regulates and monitors the extraction of oil, natural gas, solution salt, and hard minerals; encourages the reduction, reuse, and recycling of solid waste; issues permits for various activities that affect the State's air, water, wetlands, mineral, and biological resources; and controls wildland fires.

In addition, DEC coordinates the State's efforts to respond to climate change by providing reliable scientific analysis to support climate policy decisions; developing programs to empower agencies, organizations, and individuals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the effects of unavoidable global warming.

DEC partners with different State agencies, including the Environmental Facilities Corporation to coordinate low-cost financing for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure; the Department of State for coastal management and brownfield opportunity area programs; the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on recreational activities; and the Adirondack Park Agency to develop long-range land use plans for public lands within the boundary of the Adirondack Park.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

<u>Category</u>	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	567,043,747	579,100,000	12,056,253	428,477,000
Aid To Localities	2,732,200	1,872,200	(860,000)	6,158,000
Capital Projects	2,017,800,000	1,634,800,000	(383,000,000)	17,597,626,000
Total	2,587,575,947	2,215,772,200	(371,803,747)	18,032,261,000

ALL FUND TYPES

PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM

FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	116	116	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	100	100	0
Air and Water Quality Management			
General Fund	265	265	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	147	147	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	223	223	0
Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act			
General Fund	131	131	0
Environmental Enforcement			
General Fund	277	277	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	114	114	0
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources			
General Fund	136	136	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	63	63	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	273	273	0
Capital Projects Funds - Federal	1	1	0
Capital Projects Funds - Other	8	8	0
Forest and Land Resources			
General Fund	287	287	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	6	6	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	95	95	0
Operations			
General Fund	139	139	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	36	36	0
Rehabilitation and Improvement			
Capital Projects Funds - Other	390	390	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management			
General Fund	19	19	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	52	52	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	219	219	0
Capital Projects Funds - Federal	4	4	0
Capital Projects Funds - Other	212	212	0
Total	3,313	3,313	0

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STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	229,458,747	237,969,000	8,510,253
Internal Service Funds	95,000	95,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	82,198,000	82,198,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	255,292,000	258,838,000	3,546,000
Total	567,043,747	579,100,000	12,056,253
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(15,341,747)		
Appropriated FY 2024	551,702,000		

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STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Administration			
General Fund	22,095,747	33,844,000	11,748,253
Internal Service Funds	95,000	95,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	18,279,000	18,319,000	40,000
Air and Water Quality Management			
General Fund	32,093,000	32,093,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	41,898,000	41,898,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	52,097,000	52,191,000	94,000
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM			
General Fund	24,000,000	30,562,000	6,562,000
Environmental Enforcement			
General Fund	56,079,000	53,279,000	(2,800,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	33,682,000	33,139,000	(543,000)
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources			
General Fund	19,935,000	17,935,000	(2,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	28,000,000	28,000,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	44,929,000	46,285,000	1,356,000
Forest and Land Resources			
General Fund	39,023,000	36,023,000	(3,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	5,000,000	5,000,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	33,957,000	35,501,000	1,544,000
Lake George Park Commission			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	2,797,000	2,797,000	0
Operations			
General Fund	26,450,000	26,450,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	15,411,000	15,474,000	63,000
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management			
General Fund	9,783,000	7,783,000	(2,000,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	7,300,000	7,300,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	54,140,000	55,132,000	992,000
Total	567,043,747	579,100,000	12,056,253

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	23,511,000	4,873,253	21,678,000	3,573,253
Air and Water Quality Management	25,218,000	0	25,064,000	0
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	22,662,000	662,000	20,210,000	590,000
Environmental Enforcement	51,638,000	(2,800,000)	45,180,000	(2,800,000)
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	11,204,000	(2,000,000)	10,661,000	(2,000,000)
Forest and Land Resources	33,345,000	(3,000,000)	31,382,000	(3,000,000)
Operations	18,351,000	0	17,707,000	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	7,128,000	(2,000,000)	6,936,000	(2,000,000)
Total	193,057,000	(4,264,747)	178,818,000	(5,636,747)

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,523,000	1,250,000	310,000	50,000
Air and Water Quality Management	77,000	0	77,000	0
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	412,000	12,000	2,040,000	60,000
Environmental Enforcement	472,000	0	5,986,000	0
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	475,000	0	68,000	0
Forest and Land Resources	231,000	0	1,732,000	0
Operations	454,000	0	190,000	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	178,000	0	14,000	0
Total	3,822,000	1,262,000	10,417,000	110,000

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	10,333,000	6,875,000	1,425,000	625,000
Air and Water Quality Management	6,875,000	0	1,790,000	0
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	7,900,000	5,900,000	760,000	100,000
Environmental Enforcement	1,641,000	0	377,000	0
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	6,731,000	0	1,003,000	0
Forest and Land Resources	2,678,000	0	540,000	0
Operations	8,099,000	0	3,574,000	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	655,000	0	102,000	0
Total	44,912,000	12,775,000	9,571,000	725,000

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	839,000	250,000	7,490,000	6,000,000
Air and Water Quality Management	1,359,000	0	2,402,000	0
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	70,000	0	3,700,000	2,500,000
Environmental Enforcement	51,000	0	1,169,000	0
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	61,000	0	5,599,000	0
Forest and Land Resources	149,000	0	1,913,000	0
Operations	289,000	0	3,139,000	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	21,000	0	526,000	0
Total	2,839,000	250,000	25,938,000	8,500,000

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Program	Equipment		General State Charges	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	579,000	0	0	0
Air and Water Quality Management	1,324,000	0	0	0
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	70,000	0	300,000	300,000
Environmental Enforcement	44,000	0	0	0
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	68,000	0	0	0
Forest and Land Resources	76,000	0	0	0
Operations	1,097,000	0	0	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	6,000	0	0	0
Total	3,264,000	0	300,000	300,000

Program	Special Departmental Charges	
	Amount	Change
CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND GREEN JOBS BOND ACT PROGRAM	3,000,000	3,000,000
Total	3,000,000	3,000,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	18,414,000	40,000	9,501,000	(189,000)
Air and Water Quality Management	94,089,000	94,000	38,438,000	29,000
Environmental Enforcement	33,139,000	(543,000)	15,020,000	(1,214,000)
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	74,285,000	1,356,000	30,585,000	542,000
Forest and Land Resources	40,501,000	1,544,000	19,542,000	432,000
Lake George Park Commission	2,797,000	0	1,135,000	0
Operations	15,474,000	63,000	3,146,000	3,000
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	62,432,000	992,000	26,693,000	254,000
Total	341,131,000	3,546,000	144,060,000	(143,000)

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Administration	8,913,000	229,000
Air and Water Quality Management	55,651,000	65,000
Environmental Enforcement	18,119,000	671,000
Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources	43,700,000	814,000
Forest and Land Resources	20,959,000	1,112,000
Lake George Park Commission	1,662,000	0
Operations	12,328,000	60,000
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management	35,739,000	738,000
Total	197,071,000	3,689,000

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
General Fund	2,732,200	1,872,200	(860,000)
Total	2,732,200	1,872,200	(860,000)

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Administration			
General Fund	2,732,200	1,872,200	(860,000)
Total	2,732,200	1,872,200	(860,000)

**CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change	Reappropriations FY 2025
Administration				
Capital Projects Fund	20,000,000	20,000,000	0	52,426,000
Cap Proj Fund - DEC Regular (Auth Bonds)	0	5,000,000	5,000,000	13,883,000
Federal Capital Projects Fund	70,000,000	70,000,000	0	120,000,000
EnCon Capital Misc Gifts	5,000,000	0	(5,000,000)	5,936,000
Air Quality - Clean Water/Clean Air 96				
Capital Projects Fund - 1996 CWA (Bondable)	0	0	0	27,469,000
Air Resources				

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Federal Capital Projects Fund	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
Clean Air Fund	0	0	0	97,000
Air Resources - EQBA				
Capital Projects Fund - EQBA (Bondable)	0	0	0	8,726,000
Clean Water - Clean Air Implementation				
Clean Water Clean Air Implementation Fund	0	0	0	6,405,000
Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act				
Cap Proj Fund -Clean Water, Air, Green Jobs (Bondable)	0	0	0	4,200,000,000
CWCA & Green Jobs Bond Fund	0	0	0	4,200,000,000
Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Fund				
Clean Water - Clean Air Bond Fund	0	0	0	105,531,000
Environment and Recreation				
Environmental Protection Fund	400,000,000	400,000,000	0	1,672,004,000
Environmental Protection and Enhancements				
Environmental Protection Fund	0	0	0	14,830,000
Environmental Quality Bond Act Fund				
Environmental Quality Bond Act Fund - 1986	0	0	0	39,005,000
Environmental Quality Protection Bond Fund				
Environmental Quality Protection Bond Fund	0	0	0	18,298,000
Environmental Restoration - Clean Water/Clean Air 96				
Capital Projects Fund - 1996 CWA (Bondable)	0	0	0	21,309,000
Facilities Maintenance and Operations				
Capital Projects Fund	6,000,000	9,500,000	3,500,000	16,826,000
Fish and Wildlife				
Capital Projects Fund	0	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,545,000
Habitat Conserv & Access	6,500,000	7,000,000	500,000	6,695,000
Lands and Forests				
Capital Projects Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000	0	47,156,000
Cap Proj Fund - DEC Regular (Auth Bonds)	0	15,000,000	15,000,000	0
Federal Capital Projects Fund	60,000,000	1,000,000	(59,000,000)	86,573,000
Forest Preserve Expansion Fund	0	0	0	110,000
Marine Resources				
Federal Capital Projects Fund	20,000,000	1,000,000	(19,000,000)	47,577,000
New York Works				
Cap Proj Fund - DEC Regular (Auth Bonds)	90,000,000	90,000,000	0	352,229,000
Operations				
Capital Projects Fund	70,700,000	45,700,000	(25,000,000)	133,035,000
Federal Capital Projects Fund	3,000,000	1,000,000	(2,000,000)	3,000,000
Natural Resource Damages Fund	0	0	0	76,130,000
Financial Security Fund	0	0	0	9,863,000
Pure Waters Bond Fund				
Pure Waters Bond Fund	0	0	0	19,900,000
Recreation				
Capital Projects Fund	0	0	0	774,000

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Solid Waste Management				
Capital Projects Fund	4,000,000	3,500,000	(500,000)	20,601,000
Federal Capital Projects Fund	4,000,000	2,000,000	(2,000,000)	59,372,000
NY Env Protection and Spill Remediation	21,200,000	21,200,000	0	38,022,000
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management				
Capital Projects Fund - Advances	20,000,000	20,000,000	0	91,547,000
Cap Proj Fund - DEC Regular (Auth Bonds)	0	0	0	360,000
Hazardous Waste Remedial Fund	10,000,000	10,000,000	0	103,888,000
Hazardous Waste Remedial Fund - Authority Bonds	100,000,000	100,000,000	0	330,534,000
Solid and Hazardous Waste Management - EQBA 86				
Capital Projects Fund - EQBA 86 (Bondable)	0	0	0	38,724,000
Water Resources				
Capital Projects Fund	12,400,000	21,400,000	9,000,000	82,571,000
Capital Projects Fund - Advances	5,500,000	500,000	(5,000,000)	53,476,000
Cap Proj Fund - State Revolving Fund (Auth Bonds)	60,000,000	85,000,000	25,000,000	154,125,000
Cap Proj Fund - DEC Regular (Auth Bonds)	591,500,000	250,000,000	(341,500,000)	4,309,028,000
Federal Capital Projects Fund	433,000,000	449,000,000	16,000,000	965,104,000
Water Resources - Clean Water/Clean Air				
Capital Projects Fund - 1996 CWA (Bondable)	0	0	0	40,476,000
Water Resources - PWBA				
Capital Projects Fund - PWBA (Bondable)	0	0	0	1,466,000
Total	2,017,800,000	1,634,800,000	(383,000,000)	17,597,626,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024