**2026 PIC Application Questions**

**Organization Background**

1. Briefly describe your organization, its mission, and the communities you serve.
2. Please indicate the type of organization (select one)
3. How many years has your organization been in operation? (select one)
4. What is the approximate annual operating budget of your organization? *For large institutions, such as universities or cities, please provide the amount for your department or program.*
5. How many people are on staff at your organization? *For large institutions, such as universities or cities, please provide the number of staff within your department or program.*
6. Please provide a link to information about your Staff and Board of Directors.
7. Upload/link your equity or non-discrimination statement.
8. Do you have a fiscal agent? If yes, provide their information. If not, write N/A.
   * When using a fiscal agent, you must provide a letter of support indicating their willingness to serve in that function. Upload the document to the application's documents section.

**Project Overview**

1. What is your project or program? (This description will be used publicly.)
   * *Think of this as your project summary in 2–3 sentences*
2. What is the planned start date? A reminder that the funding agreement must be in place (signed by both parties) before expenses can be charged to this grant.
3. What is the planned end date? PIC grants may be up to two years.
4. Project location(s). If your project or program is site-based, provide the physical address of all locations where the project will take place (or nearest intersection). You may include a site map in the documents upload section of the application.
5. Which EMSWCD goal(s) does your project strongly advance? (Select up to 2). Briefly explain how your project contributes to these goals. *Tip: You don’t need to meet every goal—just show a strong fit with one or two.*

**Natural Resources Impact**

1. What watershed are you working in?
2. Briefly describe the resource issue or conservation problem addressed by your project or program.
3. How does this project/program address this problem? List a few tangible results (e.g., restored habitat area, stormwater captured and treated, etc.)

**Community Impact**

1. How many people will participate in the activities supported by this grant?
   * *What percentage is from the EMSWCD area? How do you know?*
2. Who will benefit most from your project?
   * *Describe the communities that have had less access to conservation benefits, such as communities of color, low-income communities, or others experiencing disparities.*
3. How are these communities involved in shaping or carrying out the project? *Examples: project or program design, leadership roles, community input, partnerships, or volunteer opportunities.*
4. Who are your main partners, and what role will they play? *Tip: Focus on the most active partners, not every group you’ve ever worked with.*
5. Why are these partnerships important to the success of the project? *Tip: Focus on the most active partners, not every group you’ve ever worked with.*

**Success Factors**

1. How will you measure success? This can be numbers (e.g., acres, participants) or stories (e.g., community feedback, learning outcomes).
2. (For on-the-ground projects) What is your plan for long-term maintenance?
   * *Briefly describe how the work will be cared for after the grant ends.*

**EMSWCD Partners in Conservation Grant Program Goals**

1. Complement other EMSWCD program efforts in water quality, soil health, fish and wildlife habitat, and sustainable agriculture.
2. Increase conservation benefits for communities and populations experiencing disparities in environmental health, environmental education, and natural amenities.
3. Build resilience to climate change in local communities, mitigate climate change impacts, and build momentum for climate change action.
4. Establish school and community gardens that support sustainable and culturally appropriate agriculture practices.
5. Prepare residents for careers or education in natural resources, agriculture, nature education, or other nature-related fields by supporting mentorship, youth programs, and job skill development.