



# NEWS RELEASE

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276

Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276

Phone: 217/782-3397

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2019

Contact: Kim Biggs

217-558-1536

Kim.Biggs@illinois.gov

## Illinois EPA Awards \$176,000 in Section 319, Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grant to City of Charleston

*Program Provides Funding to Protect Water Quality on Side Channel Reservoir*

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois EPA Director John J. Kim has announced a \$176,000 grant to the City of Charleston through the Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Financial Assistance Program. The funds will be used to reduce nonpoint pollution through water quality restoration of the Charleston Side Channel Reservoir.

“This project will provide resources to the City of Charleston to address current and future water quality impairments resulting from nonpoint source pollution impacts to the Charleston Side Channel Reservoir,” said Director Kim. “The project goals include maintaining and enhancing the beneficial uses of the local water resources while improving the community’s quality of life.”

This project will stabilize 1,800 feet of severely eroding shoreline on the south end of Charleston Side Channel Reservoir and 400 feet on the north end of the Reservoir using proven shoreline stabilization practices.

The Section 319(h) Grant Program is a competitive financial assistance grant program established to help control nonpoint source (NPS) pollution. Under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, federal funds are designated to the Illinois EPA, the water quality agency in the state. The funds are then used to support state NPS management program.

Illinois EPA funds approximately 15 projects with an estimated \$3.5 million each year under the 319(h) Grant Program. Eligible applicants for the program include: state and local governments; watershed organizations; citizen and environmental groups; land conservancies or trusts; public and private for-profit and public and private not-for-profit organizations; and colleges and universities.

For additional information on Illinois’ Nonpoint Source Management Program and the 319(h) Grant Program, please visit <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/nonpoint-sources/Pages/default.aspx>.

###