North Central PA Regional Planning and Development Commission

North Central Greenways Implementation Block Grant Application

**Instructions and Guidelines**

The North Central Greenways Implementation Block Grant program is a reimbursement program which is funded by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and administered by the North Central PA Regional Planning and Development Commission.

**Purpose:** The North Central Greenways Block Grant program is meant to provide funding for projects that support the overall goals that have been identified in the North Central Greenways Plan.

**This information is important for the successful completion of your grant application. Please read and follow the instructions carefully.**

**I. *Who is eligible?***

Eligible applicants consist of municipalities, municipal entities and authorities, and county and local governments within the North Central Pennsylvania Region comprised of: **Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter counties.**

**II. *What types of projects are eligible?***

Consideration will be given to grants that fall into three categories: **Developmental**, **Planning** and **Technical Assistance**. A few examples include, but are not limited to:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Developmental** | **Planning** | **Technical Assistance** |
| Protection or improvement of existing natural areas primarily for ecological health and preservation of wildlife. | Land Based & Water Trail Feasibility Studies | Education |
| Creation of recreational opportunities for residents through preservation and connection of existing open spaces. | Trail Town Master Planning | Outreach and Marketing for a special event |
| Adoption of municipal open space and land use regulations to protect land and water resources | Pedestrian & Bicycle Feasibility Studies |  |

***\*\*This is only a partial listing of potential projects. Also, the grant review committee will score and can recommend projects; however, DCNR must give final approval.***

**III. *What are the grant guidelines?***

North Central Greenways Block grant projects should be small conservation and natural resource based projects that would implement the recommendations identified in the North Central PA Greenways Plan.

**A**. **How much can I apply for?**

Grant requests shall be a minimum of **$1,000** and cannot exceed **$25,000**.

**B. Is there a match requirement?**

**Yes.** All grants must be matched by the applicant with a cash and/or eligible non-cash (in-kind) contribution of **at least 50%.** Example: Amount of Grant Request (50%) + Local Match (50%) = Total Project Cost (100%)

**C. Am I required to contact my Regional DCNR Advisor prior to application submittal?**

**Yes**. Your local contacts are:

***Cameron and Potter County***

***Contact:***

*Wes Fahringer*

*(570) 326-3521*

*mfahringer@pa.gov*

***Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean***

***Contact:***

*Adam Mattis*

*(412) 880-0486*

*amattis@pa.gov*

**D. Additional Information**

* For **development projects only**, DCNR allows **up to 15% of the total eligible project cost** for preparation of design, construction drawings, specifications, or professional fees.
* DCNR will retain **10%** of the grant award amount until the project has been completed.
* Your DCNR Advisor must complete a **final site inspection** of development projects before the 10% will be released. Project applicants will incur this cost until site inspection is complete and all work is approved.

**IV. Application Deadline:**

Applications must be received by **Friday, March 23, 2012 by 4:00 p.m.** to be considered. A review committee made up of representatives from NCPRPDC, DCNR, and Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter county planning departments will participate in the selection of projects to be awarded. It is anticipated that successful applicants will be notified in **April of 2012**.

**Please send or email completed application to:**

**North Central PA Regional Planning and Development Commission**

**Attn: Tom Buck**

**651 Montmorenci Road**

**Ridgway, PA 15853.**

[**tbuck@ncentral.com**](mailto:tbuck@ncentral.com)

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**Project Title**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Amount Requested**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Project Type (Circle)**

**Development**

**Planning**

**Technical Assistance**

North Central Pennsylvania Greenways

Implementation Grant Program

2012 Application

**Part I. Applicant Information:**

**Applicant Name: Project Manager:**

**Organization:**

**Address: City: State: Zip Code:**

**Phone: Fax Number: Email Address:**

**County: Municipality:**

**Part II. Project Details:**

Attach an 8 1/2 x 11color copy of the proposed project site location and a map that includes longitude and latitude coordinates, street names, and intersections with sufficient detail to locate the project site.

Maps can be created in Google Earth, Microsoft Virtual Earth, GIS, or other mapping applications that display accurate site locations that can be referenced.

For mapping linear or large landscape projects (e.g. trails, greenways, or watershed studies) where the project does not fit on an 8 ½” x 11” format, please use alternative mapping techniques that show the entire project area. Please provide logical beginning/ending points and trail mileage for all projects. Projects must be complete by December 31, 2013.

**Project Start Date Project Completion Date**

**Project Design**: CompleteUnderwayDesign Incomplete No Design Needed

**Land Acquisition:** Owns/Controls PropertyIn Process of ObtainingROWNo ROWN/A

**Potential Partners:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization Name** | **Brief Description of Role** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Page number where project is identified in the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan if applicable:**

**Regional Greenways Goal that most aptly fits this project (See Appendix A)**

**Does your project? (Check All That Apply) Connect critical trail gaps**

**Connect to a trail town**

**Connect to a major hub or hub**

**Is a stand-alone project?**

**Has your Regional DCNR Advisor Been Contacted? Yes NO**

**Project Description**

***Please provide a clear, accurate description of your project and a detailed scope of work. Please explain how your project or planning effort will serve the public. Please attach additional pages if needed.***

**Project Description** *cont...*

**Part III. Budget Information:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| EXAMPLE | **Grant Request** ($25,000 Maximum) | **Local Match** (at least 50% of the total project cost | **Total Project Cost** |
| **Cash Match**  (public or private) |  |  |  |
| **In-Kind Contributions** |  |  |  |
| **Totals** |  |  |  |

**Part IV. Other Attachments:**

Letters of support, financial support commitment letters, and a Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review results must be submitted with application.

**For PNDI Information go to:**

<http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/hgis-er/default.aspx>

**Important Note**

All projects and project related costs must conform to the guidelines outlined in the

PA DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program at:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/>



**Selection Criteria**

Project identified in the North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan, comprising the following counties: Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter

Project is well developed and prepared to begin and finish within the time frame required by the funding source

A **WELL DEFINED** project budget and firm match are identified and committed

Project leverages other sources of government or private funding

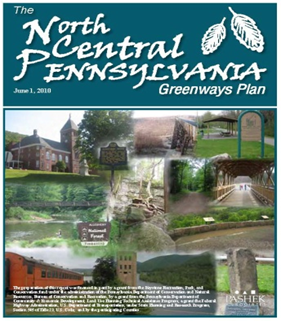
Opportunities for state agencies and commissions to collaborate

PNDI search results submitted with application

Project reviewed prior to submittal with regional DCNR adviser

For development projects, applicant must own or control property

**For Grant Assistance Contact:**

**Tom Buck, Transportation Planning Coordinator**

North Central PA Regional Planning & Development Commission

(814) 773-3162

[tbuck@ncentral.com](mailto:tbuck@ncentral.com)



**Jodi Foster, CEDC**

Elk County Planning Department

(814)776-5335

[jfoster@countyofelkpa.com](mailto:jfoster@countyofelkpa.com)



**www.ncentralgreenways.com**

**Appendix A**

**North Central Pennsylvania Greenways Plan Goals**

* Greenways will be multi-purpose in nature, providing opportunities for both water and land based trails, and also promoting stormwater management functions; water quality improvement; as well as, hunting and fishing opportunities through associated natural system greenway corridors.
* Greenways must draw people into towns which can provide visitors and residents with the goods and services they desire, thus making a positive impact on the regional and local economies.
* Greenways will be recreational in nature, making inter-county connections, and local connections between towns.
* Greenways will help to promote and market trail opportunities.
* Greenways will advocate for pedestrian and bicycle improvements.
* Greenways must include equestrian trails.
* Greenways should include and respond to the region’s need for a truly regional ATV trail network.
* Greenways should enhance and expand the region’s snowmobile trail system.
* Greenways should capitalize on unique features or tourist destinations such as the Triple Divide in Potter County.
* Greenways will assist in maintaining the character of a region.
* Greenways will promote environmental education and interpretation.
* Greenways should be recognized as environmentally sensitive areas and take them into consideration when natural resource extraction and utility development activities are being planned in the region.

***Please see Pages 2-4 in the North Central Greenways Plan for more information***