



## TFG Grant Guide

# Grants to Support Parks and Recreation

This guide identifies potential funding opportunities for local governments to support parks and recreation projects. The grants chosen for inclusion in this guide are opportunities that are typically reoccurring. Past funding opportunities that seemed relevant but presented no indication of being funded in the future were not included.

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# FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** US Department of Agriculture  
**Agency:** Office of Rural Development

## FY 2019 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

### Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located.

### Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$17 million	N/A

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** Loan Funding: \$16 million / Grant Funding: 1 million

**Match:** Not required.

**Solicitation date:** May 3, 2018

**Application Due:** July 2, 2018

- Priority points will be given to projects that serve communities with populations of 5,500.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/ny>



### Awardee Profile

Louisiana’s St. Helena Parish School Board

Greensburg, LA

**AMOUNT:** \$2.9 million

**YEAR:** 2018

The loan will be used to renovate and expand the St. Helena Arts and Technology Academy, which is the only elementary school in the parish.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Agency:** Office of Rural Development

# FY 2019 Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program

## Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide affordable funding to develop community facilities in rural areas. Projects supported through this program must demonstrate substantial community support, and facilities must serve the rural area where they are or will be located.

For the purposes of this program, an essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial, or business undertakings. Examples of essential community facilities include:

- Health care facilities such as hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics, nursing homes or assisted living facilities
- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangers, or street improvements
- Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles, or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries, or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs, or greenhouses

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Serve communities with populations of 5,500 or fewer
- Serve low-income communities having a median household income below 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

Funds may be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment, and pay related project expenses.

## Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are: public bodies; community-based nonprofit corporations; and federally recognized tribes.

Facilities supported through this program must serve the rural area where they are or will be located. Rural areas include cities, villages, townships, and towns, including federally recognized tribal lands, with no more than 20,000 residents.

In order to be eligible, applicants must:

- Have the legal authority to borrow money, obtain security, repay loans; and to construct, operate, and maintain proposed facilities
- Be unable to finance projects from their own resources and/or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms

## Funding

In July 2018, a total of \$16,161,533 in loan funding and a total of \$1,212,900 in award funding was provided through this program. Awards may be provided as combinations of grants and loans. Funds may be combined with commercial financing to finance projects if all eligibility and feasibility requirements are met.

Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicant's authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less. There will be no pre-payment penalties. Interest rates will be set by the funding agency and are determined by the median household income of the service area. Once the loan is approved, the interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan.

Applicants receiving grant awards through this program must provide the following percentages of eligible project costs:

- At least 25 percent, if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 5,500 or fewer.
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 60 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.
- At least 45 percent, if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 12,000 or fewer.
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.
- At least 65 percent, if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer.
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 80 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.
- At least 85 percent, if:
  - The project is located in a rural community having a population of 20,000 or fewer.
  - The median household income of the service area is below the higher of the poverty line or 90 percent of the state non-metropolitan median household income.

## Contact Information

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## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. Department of Interior  
**Agency:** National Park Service (NPS)

# FY 2018 Federal Lands to Parks Program

### Grant Overview

This grant program transfers surplus federal land to state and local government for the use of public parks and recreation. Land may be used for a single purposes or for multiple recreational activities. This program does not provide monetary awards, and does not give preference to certain governmental levels.

### Program History

	# of Properties Transferred	Total Acreage
2013	6	121
2012	10	717

There is no monetary award history for this program

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** N/A

**Match:** None

**Solicitation date:** Unspecified

Information regarding available property can be found online at [disposal.gsa.gov](https://www.gsa.gov/disposal).

[https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/flp\\_our\\_projects.html](https://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/flp/flp_our_projects.html)



### Awardee Profile

Roy Wilkins Park, Queens,  
New York

**PEOPLE SERVED ANNUALLY:** 25,000+

Located in New York City, the 53-acre Roy Wilkins Park hosts a 425-seat theater, an Olympic size pool, a summer day camp for 300 children, and multiple after school programs. The land was transferred to the City of New York in 1977 from the Veterans Administration. The City invested \$5.3 million to transform the land into the park.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Interior

**Agency:** National Parks Service (NPS)

## FY 2018 Federal Lands to Parks Program

### Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help communities create new parks and recreational areas by transferring surplus federal land to state and local governments while also ensuring public access to properties and stewardship of the properties' natural, cultural, and recreational resources. Property acquired through this program must be used for public-park and recreational use in perpetuity. The land may be developed for a single recreational activity, for multiple recreational activities, or in support of an existing park or recreational area by providing parking or improved access.

This program is intended to:

- Expand park and recreational amenities
- Protect open spaces
- Preserve historical and natural resources
- Convert abandoned military bases
- Create a renewed sense of community

Land acquired through this program may serve as community centers, neighborhood parks, town squares, and regional state parks. Typical recreational uses of the land include hiking, biking, camping, picnicking, hunting, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, swimming, boating, tennis, golf, and other organized sports. The land may also remain undeveloped if appropriate, for passive recreational activities, such as birdwatching, photography, or wildlife conservation; however all land acquired through this program must be open to the public.

Surplus land may be provided by any department of the federal government and can include former military bases, U.S. Coast Guard stations, and Army Corps of Engineers water-control projects. Land may range from less than an acre to thousands of acres.

### Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- States
- Counties
- Municipalities
- Similar state and local government entities

The funding agency does not give preference to any level of government.

Potential applicants interested in acquiring a property must submit a mandatory notification of interest within 20 days of a notice of availability being released stating that a property is a surplus.

## Funding

Rather than providing monetary awards, this program conveys surplus federal lands to communities, usually at no cost for public park and recreational purposes. Awarded properties will not include public domain, national forest, or national parks lands.

## Contact Information

National Office Contact:

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## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. Department of Interior  
**Agency:** National Park Service

# FY 2018 Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

### Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to allow applicants to conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas and create recreation opportunities through locally led partnerships. Award recipients will receive help to organize, strategize, and help implement conservation and/or recreation projects.

### Program History

This program provides technical assistance.

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** N/A

**Match:** Not required

**Solicitation date:** April 30, 2018

**Application Due:** June 30, 2018

- Applicants should seek to build a broad community support base for projects and expand NPS contributions to society.

<https://www.nps.gov/rtca/>



### Awardee Profile

Cal-Sag Trail

Palos Heights, Illinois

**AMOUNT:** Technical Assistance

**YEAR:** 2017

Technical assistance will go towards the multi-use path along the banks of the Cal-Sag Channel and Calumet River that will one day soon extend from Lemont to Calumet City.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Interior

**Agency:** National Park Service

## FY 2018 Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)

### Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to allow applicants to conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas and create recreation opportunities through locally lead partnerships. Award recipients will receive help from the funding agency's staff to organize, strategize, build public participation in, and help implement conservation and/or recreation projects that are important to the pertinent community. Depending on the needs of the applicant, a skilled National Park Service (NPS) staff member may provide assistance to:

- Recruit a strong local group of project leaders
- Define the project's vision and goals
- Identify and analyze issues and opportunities
- Engage partners and stakeholders
- Define partner roles and responsibilities
- Develop a sustainable organization
- Design community outreach and participation strategies
- Plan projects
- Record progress and celebrate success

Applicants should seek to build a broad community support base for projects and expand NPS contributions to society. Priority is given to projects that involve one or more of the following strategic objectives:

- Building partnerships with health and wellness organizations to promote healthy parks and healthy people
- Engaging youth or youth organizations to promote close-to-home resource conservation, stewardship, and outdoor recreation opportunities
- Developing and/or improving local connections to parks, rivers, trails, and greenways within urban areas
- Improving public access to NPS sites by enhancing connections to local communities
- Advancing the conservation and stewardship of natural landscapes
- Expanding public access to water resources, such as water trails, portages, and adjacent recreational opportunities

### Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- State or local government agencies
- Tribes
- Nonprofit organizations

- Citizen groups

Proposed projects must involve key stakeholders that can include other eligible entities, local businesses, government organizations, nearby national parks, community groups, and tribal or local governments.

Applicants must provide letters of support from at least three key stakeholders.

## Funding

Rather than providing monetary awards, this program provides technical assistance from National Park Service (NPS) staff. If financial assistance is necessary to achieve project goals, NPS will assist successful applicants with identifying and securing sources of funding.

## Contact Information

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<https://www.nps.gov/rtca/>

## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** US Department of Interior  
**Agency:** National Park Service

# FY 2018 Land and Water Conservation Fund: State and Local Assistance Program

### Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to provide funding to states, and through states to local units of government and Indian tribes, for projects that acquire and/or develop lands and waters for parks and other public outdoor recreation purposes, as well as for projects that develop new or renovate existing outdoor recreation facilities.

### Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$45 million	150

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** \$45 million

**Award Range:** \$15,000 to \$2 million

**Match:** One-to-one match required

**Solicitation date:** June 6, 2018

**Application Due:** July 31, 2018

- Applicants must have a current Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in place that assesses demand and need for outdoor recreation services and sets priorities for the use of program funds.

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm>



### Awardee Profile

Springwater Corridor

Portland, OR

**AMOUNT:** \$3.35 million

**YEAR:** 2017

The funding will be used for Springwater Corridor trail system in Portland Oregon.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Interior

**Agency:** National Park Service

# FY 2018 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF): State and Local Assistance Program

## Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to provide funding to states, and through states to local units of government and Indian tribes, for projects that acquire and/or develop lands and waters for parks and other public outdoor recreation purposes, as well as for projects that develop new or renovate existing outdoor recreation facilities. Certain state agencies may also apply for and receive awards to prepare or update Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs) or supporting elements, which are required for overall program eligibility. Outdoor recreation areas and facilities must be publicly owned and open to the general public and not limited to special groups. For either acquisition or development projects, the project sponsor must possess sufficient legal title and control of the property to ensure that it can be managed and maintained for outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

The lead state agency (applicant) is responsible for soliciting project proposals from other state agencies, local units of government, and Indian tribes, and conducting competitions to identify the projects that can best advance the goals or meet the needs identified in the state's SCORP. The top-ranked projects are nominated to the National Park Service (NPS) for consideration and final decision, as well as the actual issuance of the award. Each state will have its own timing and requirements for the development and submission of project proposals.

Funding may support a wide range of outdoor recreation, such as:

- Community parks
- Playgrounds
- Picnic areas
- Campgrounds
- Trails
- Swimming pools
- Sports field

Certain indoor infrastructure, such as restrooms, that support recreational activities may also be funded.

## Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are the state lead agencies designated to be eligible to submit applications in response to this program, whether on behalf of themselves or other entities. For the purposes of this program, states include 50 U.S. states, as well as the territories of American Samoa, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Applicants must have a current Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) in place that assesses demand and need for outdoor recreation services and sets priorities for the use of program funds. The National Park Service (NPS) must review and approve each applicant's SCORP, which is updated at least once every five years.

## Funding

Approximately \$45 million is expected to be available to support up to an estimated 150 awards through this program, with participation varying by state.

States' apportionment amounts from previous fiscal years can be found online at [www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/statefundingstatus](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/statefundingstatus). Funding from different fiscal years may be combined. Award recipients will establish minimum and maximum award funding levels in accordance with their project selection process, and are typically commensurate with their apportionment amounts. On a national basis, awards may range from \$15,000 to \$2 million, but typically average \$150,000.

Applicants must provide at least a one-to-one match of the total award amount via nonfederal cash or in-kind contributions; however, the matching requirement may be waived for any project under \$200,000 for the jurisdictions of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Matching contributions may be derived from state, local, non-governmental, or private sources.

## Contact Information

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<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm>

## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**Agency:** U.S. Forest Service

# FY 2018 the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

## Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefit, such as sustainable forest managements, environmental benefits, and benefits from forest-based educational programs, benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship and recreational benefits secured with public access.

## Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2017	\$2 million	7

## Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** Unspecified

**Award Maximum:** Up to \$600,000

**Match:** 50% match required

**Solicitation date:** April 18, 2018

**Application Due:** June 29, 2018

- Eligible costs include the purchase price, appraisals, appraisal reviews, land surveys, legal closing costs, development of the community forest plan, etc.

<https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/private-land/community-forest>



## Awardee Profile

Hidden Valley Nature Center, ME

**AMOUNT:** \$400,000

**YEAR:** 2017

The Hidden Valley Nature Center serves as a hub for learning about forest management and value-added forest products and hosts a number of forest stewardship and wood-based educational opportunities.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Agency:** U.S. Forest Service

## FY 2018 the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

### Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits, such as sustainable forest management, and environmental benefits, benefits from forest-based educational programs, benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship, and recreational benefits secured with public access. Funding will support the establishment of community forests through fee simple acquisition of private forest land from willing seller. Eligible lands must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least five acres in size
- Be suitable to sustain natural vegetation
- Be at least 75 percent forested
- Be threatened by conversion to non-forest uses
- Allow public access

Priority will be given to projects that maximize the delivery of community benefits, including:

- Economic benefits, such as timber and non-timber products
- Environmental benefits, including clean air and water, stormwater management, and wildlife habitat
- Benefits from forest-based experiential learning, including K-12 conservation education programs, vocational education programs in such disciplines as forestry and environmental biology, and environmental education through individual study or voluntary participation in programs offered by such organization as 4-H, Boy or Girl Scouts, and Master Gardeners
- Benefits from serving as replicable models of effective forest stewardship for private landowners
- Recreational benefits, such as hiking, hunting, and fishing secured through public access.

Eligible costs include the purchase price, appraisals and appraisal reviews, land surveys, legal and closing costs, development of the community forest plan, and title examination.

### Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are:

- Local government entities
- Native American tribes, including Alaska Native corporations
- Nonprofit organizations that are qualified to acquire and manage land



## Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support awards of up to \$600,000, excluding technical assistance requests, through this program. Up to 10 percent of total available funds may be allocated to state foresters and equivalent tribal officials to provide technical assistance.

Applicants must provide at least 50 percent of the total project costs via nonfederal cash and/or in-kind contributions.

The purchase or donation of lands located within the community forest may be used as a match if the land is provided by an eligible entity and legally dedicated to perpetual land conservation consistent with the program's objectives.

## Contact Information

Scott Stewart  
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<https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/private-land/community-forest>

FEDERAL  
GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. National Endowment for the Arts  
**Agency:** Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (CIRD)

## FY 2018 Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (CIRD): Workshops Award

### Grant Overview

The purpose of this program is to help smaller rural communities address specific physical, environmental, social, and economic challenges by connecting local leaders and residents to resources, evidence-based knowledge, and design expertise.

### Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2016	\$60,000	6

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** Varies

**Award Range:** \$10,000 maximum stipend with technical assistance

**Match:** Match of \$10,000

**Solicitation date:** Rolling

**Application Due:** February 16, 2018

- Awards include a cash stipend for planning and hosting a two-day community design workshop attended by at least 35 to 40 participants.

<https://www.arts.gov/partnership/citizens-institute-rural-design>



### Awardee Profile

Thomasville, GA

**AMOUNT:** \$10,000 to support a workshop and follow-up planning sessions

**YEAR:** 2016

The workshop will support park revitalization and storm water management in Thomasville, GA.

**Department:** U.S. National Endowment for the Arts

**Agency:** Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (CIRD)

## FY 2018 Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (CIRD): Workshop Award

### Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to help smaller rural communities address specific physical, environmental, social, and economic challenges by connecting local leaders and residents to resources, evidence-based knowledge, and design expertise. Awards will include a cash stipend for planning and hosting a two-day community design workshop attended by at least 35 to 40 participants and follow up activities, as well as a comprehensive package of technical assistance services to support the workshops. Holding a public event that is open to the broader community is strongly encouraged.

A key goal of the program is to form collaborative multisectoral partnerships that cross county lines, town boundaries, and governmental agency jurisdictions that include trusted local institutions and public agencies. The program is focused on helping rural leaders and residents come together to find a creative solutions for the following design issues:

- Multimodal transportation: including improving bike/pedestrian access, retrofitting commercial strips to accommodate pedestrians, developing recreational trails for mobility and economic development, mobility for the elderly and aging in place, context-sensitive rural highways and byways, and integration of arts/culture/design to improve transportation or pedestrian experience
- Healthy living by design: including creating public space that supports play and active recreation, improving access to healthy food and local food ecosystems, enhancing access for walking, biking, and active transportation/recreation, and building social cohesion and opportunities for social interaction via creative placemaking
- Main streets: Including leveraging main streets for economic development, redesigning main streets as local streets versus state highways/thruways, cultivating/enhancing public space on main streets via design or creative placemaking, branding, and design along main streets, historic preservation and adaptive reuse of main street buildings, and maximizing the role that arts and culture can play as an economic driver for local and regional economies

Applicants are required to form a local planning committee comprised of key constituents with whom they will meet on a regular and ongoing basis throughout the workshop planning period.

### Applicant Eligibility

Eligible lead applicants are: municipal, tribal or county governments; local nonprofit organizations, such as main street organizations, arts and cultural centers, preservation groups, historical societies, or chambers of commerce; regional planning organizations; and university community design centers or university agricultural/extension offices.

Rural communities served must have a population of 50,000 or less.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin building or expanding local partnerships during the application process. Preference will be given to applications submitted on behalf of coalitions or partnerships that already exist within the community.

Regions may apply jointly, provided that each community partner has a population of 50,000 or less; county or regional-level governments may have a greater population, provided the communities that are the focus of project assistance all have population of 50,000 or less.

## Funding

An unspecified amount of funding is available to support up to four awards that include a \$10,000 cash stipend, as well as technical assistance services that include the following:

- Honoraria, travel, and lodging expenses for up to four regional or national resource team members
- Advice on development and production of workshop content and instructional materials
- One-on-one assistance and site visits by the funding agency to support planning the workshops logistics and content
- Conference calls and webinars on relevant rural design topics
- A write up of an action plan and key summary of the workshop event
- Opportunities to connect with a broad network of rural practitioners and resources

Applicants must provide a match of \$10,000 via nonfederal cash and/or in-kind matching contributions. The local match must be used for the planning and executing of the hosted workshop.

## Contact Information

Angela Moreno-Long

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<https://www.arts.gov/partnership/citizens-institute-rural-design>

## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

# FY 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

## Grant Overview

This grant program invites government, tribal, educational, and non-profit institutions to create programs which develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources. The program provides support for partnerships that focus on water and habitat protection. All projects must be implemented by five or more partners.

## Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
FY 2018	\$2.2 million	59
FY 2017	\$2.5 million	65
FY 2016	\$2.2 million	58

## Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** \$2,000,000

**Award Range:** \$20,000 - \$50,000

**Match:** 50 percent

**Solicitation date:** November 1, 2017

**Proposal due:** January 31, 2018

- Preference will be given to organizations directly connected to the local community, which can monitor and sustain their project for five years or more.

<https://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/home.aspx>



## Awardee Profile

Alaska Geographic Association

**YEAR:** 2018

The Connecting Anchorage Residents to their Watersheds project removed 20 acres of Invasive European bird cherry from the Campbell Creek watershed to provide improved habitat and opportunities for urban youth and families to become better stewards of local natural resources through watershed education and hand-on restoration.

**Department:** U.S. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

# FY 2018 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

## Detailed Summary

The purpose of this program is to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing support for diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds, and the species and habitats they support. Eligible activities may include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. Projects should also increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards, and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach, and implementation. Projects must serve urban areas with a population of approximately 50,000 or more. Project sites may be located on public or private lands.

Project must address at least one activity under each of the following five priorities:

On-the-ground-restoration: restoring and/or creating wetlands and coastal or riparian areas; activities include:

- Addressing key species and habitats and linking directly to established watershed and conservation plans
- Managing stormwater, addressing water scarcity, and protecting drinking water by designing and/or implementing green infrastructure best management practices
- Collecting and analyzing local waterway samples that could be used to determine the effectiveness of current stream/wetland restoration and green infrastructure efforts and inform future planning and decision making
- Developing/implementing trash and litter prevention programs designed to keep urban waterways and riverfronts clean

Environmental outreach, education and training: integrating meaningful outreach, education and/or training into the proposed on-the-ground activities that advance local watershed and conservation goals; activities include:

- Engaging the public, particularly youth, in hands-on, outdoor conservation experiences
- Engaging communities in restoration at public areas for public health and recreation
- Establishing or advancing a citizen science or water quality monitoring program
- Improving citizen understanding of damaging trash and litter impacts

Community partnerships: involving five or more partners, including the applicant; activities include:

- Directly engaging a diverse group of community partners to achieve ecological and specific educational outcomes
- Demonstrating that the project will advance existing local watershed or conservation plans

Measurable results: resulting in specific, measurable ecological, educational and community benefits; activities include:

- Identifying measurable activities and metrics that clearly link to watershed and community outcomes
- Documenting a high level of community engagement

Sustainability: including a plan for maintenance and care of the project beyond the project period; activities include:

- Reflecting a commitment to community strength and long-term capacity to remain engaged as partners
- Addressing any priority and/or at-risk species, habitats, or conservation actions identified in State Wildlife Action Plans or other recovery or conservation plans
- Directly connecting outcomes to community benefits of watershed restoration
- Fulfilling or advancing priorities identified through local planning efforts

## Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes and educational institutions.

Projects must be implemented by five or more partners, including the applicant. Partners may include any local community, nonprofit organization, for-profit organization, tribe and/or local, state, or federal government agency that contributes to the project and is closely involved in the completion of the project.

Geographic priorities are determined by the funding partners from which the total funding available through this program is derived, as follows:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Funding is available nationwide for any size community.
- U.S. Forest Service and EPA, through the Urban Waters Federal Partnership: Funding is available nationwide for urban areas; special consideration will be made for projects that directly advance the priorities of the 19 Urban Waters Federal Partnership designated locations
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS): Funding is available for projects within approximately 25 miles of FWS lands or offices.
- Southern Company and its affiliates: Funding is available for projects in the key areas listed on page 7 of the NOFA file.
- FedEx: Funding is available for projects in the metropolitan areas listed on page 8 of the NOFA file.
- Additional private foundations: Funding is available for projects in the seven states listed on page 8 of the NOFA file.

## Funding

Approximately \$2 million is available through this program to support 40-50 awards ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000. The total funding available through this program is comprised of contributions from this program's funding partners. In general, funds will be distributed on a reimbursement basis.

The ratio of matching contributions offered is considered during the review process, and projects are required to meet or exceed a 1:1 match ratio to be competitive. Matching contributions must be non-federal in nature and may include in-kind contributions of staff and volunteer time, work performed, materials and services donated, cash or other tangible contributions to the project objectives and outcomes. The cost of recent land acquisition or easement may also qualify as match for a project involving work at the acquired site.

Additionally, partner contributions can serve as matching contributions and grantees for this grant program commonly use a large amount of in-kind matching contributions to reach this threshold by utilizing their community partnerships to generate match. **Applicants are highly encouraged to contact NFWF for assistance in determining what qualifies as in-kind or any other matching contributions.**

## Contact Information

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<https://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/home.aspx>



## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

# FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

### Grant Overview

These set-aside funds include all projects and activities that were previously eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale transportation project such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.

### Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2018	\$850 million	Varies by State
2017	\$835 million	Varies by State

### Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** \$850 million

**Award Range:** \$

**Match:** 20% match required

**Solicitation date:** Varies based on state

**Proposal due:** Varies based on state

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/stbgfs.cfm>



### Awardee Profile

Town of Wytheville, VA

**AMOUNT:** \$310,462

**YEAR:** 2019

Approximately 1,400 linear feet of brick paver sidewalk connecting previous phases of the Heritage Walk to the Wytheville Visitors Center, Lakes to Florida Museum and Willowbrook Jackson Homestead museum.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

## FY 2018 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside

### Detailed Summary

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act replaced the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) with a set-aside of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funding for transportation alternatives (TA). These set-aside funds include all projects and activities that were previously eligible under TAP, encompassing a variety of smaller-scale transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, recreational trails, safe routes to school projects, community improvements such as historic preservation and vegetation management, and environmental mitigation related to stormwater and habitat connectivity.

### Applicant Eligibility

Entities eligible to receive TA Set-Aside funds include: local governments; regional transportation authorities; transit agencies; natural resource/public land agencies; school districts, local education agencies or schools; Tribal governments; and non-profit organizations. Check your states TAP website to check eligibility.

### Funding

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program is estimated to be \$11.876 billion for 2019.

### Contact Information

Each State administers its own program. [Contact your State RTP Administrator](#) for guidance on State policies and project eligibility requirements.

[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational\\_trails/](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/)

## FEDERAL GRANT PROFILE



**Department:** U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

# FY 2018 Recreational Trails Program

## Grant Overview

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides funds to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses.

## Program History

	Total Funding	# of Awards
2017	\$835 million	Varies by State
2016	\$835 million	Varies by State

## Key Information and Tips

**Total Funding:** \$850 million

**Match:** 20% match required

**Solicitation date:** Varies based on state

**Proposal due:** Varies based on state

[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational\\_trails/](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/)



## Awardee Profile

City of Hannibal Parks and Rec.,  
Missouri

**AMOUNT:** \$37,497

**YEAR:** 2017

½ mile extension of a paved trail through the 185 acre Sodalis Nature Preserve. The trail begins in a large neighborhood and connects to the Sodalis Trail and Bear Creek Trail ending in the Historic Downtown Hannibal.

**Department:** U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Agency:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

## FY 2018 Recreational Trails Program

### Detailed Summary

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides funds to the State to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trails uses. Federal transportation funds benefit recreation including hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, four-wheel driving, or using other off-road motorized vehicles.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act reauthorized the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for Federal fiscal years 2016 through 2020 as a set-aside of funds from the Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside under Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG).

### Applicant Eligibility

States may provide grants to organizations and agencies such as: private organizations; municipal agencies; state agencies; federal agencies; and Tribal governments. Check your state's RTP website to check eligibility.

### Funding

The amount set aside is equal to the State's FY 2009 RTP apportionment. See [Funding Levels by State](#).

### Contact Information

Each State administers its own program. [Contact your State RTP Administrator](#) for guidance on State policies and project eligibility requirements.

[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational\\_trails/](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/)