IDNR 2018 Funding Opportunities

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Grants – Illinois DNR

- Office of Grant Management and Assistance, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1272.
- Telephone: 217-782-7481
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IDNR Suspended Grant Programs

- Grant programs suspended until further notice:
  - OSLAD, Boat Access, Bicycle Path, Off Highway Vehicle, PARC, Museum Capital, SNOW and STEF.

- Illinois DNR Coastal Management Program
  - Though federally funded, currently paused in 2017, anticipated re-open unknown
Federally Funded Grant programs

• Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)  
  (2018 funding level approx 2.5M – will vary yearly)

• Recreational Trails Program  
  (2018 funding level approx 1.5M – will vary yearly)

• Other grants:  
  • Habitat/Pheasant/other grants  
  • Schoolyard Habitat grants
1. Areas providing frontage on public surface waters or land for creating public water impoundments to promote **water-based recreation opportunities**.

2. **Areas of outstanding natural quality** where the objective is to preserve the scenic or natural values, including areas of physical or biological importance such as pristine natural areas, sites protecting threatened or endangered species, flood plains, wetlands, geological features, wildlife habitats, or scenic waters, etc.

3. Areas for general purpose, **public outdoor recreation** use such as neighborhood and community park areas, play fields and competitive, non-professional sports facilities, as well as public parklands for passive recreation uses.

4. **Additions to existing parks**, wildlife areas, nature preserves, beaches, and greenways or parkways for public outdoor recreation purposes.

5. **Linear greenway corridors** and abandoned rights-of-way for outdoor recreation purposes.
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) 2.5M

- Offered annually
- Provides up to **50% funding** assistance
- To eligible local units of government
- For **ACQUISITION** - public outdoor recreation/natural areas
- Current policy –
  - Maximum of **$750,000** per acquisition;
  - Counties exceeding 2.0 million pop. - **$1.15M**;
  - Municipalities exceeding 2M pop. - **$2.3M**
- Applications must be received by the IDNR **no sooner than May 1 and no later than July 1** of each year
LWCF

• NEW LWCF Manual
• Requires GATA registration
• Cannot match other federally funded grants (e.g. IEPA 319)
Recreational Trails Program – $1.5M

Examples of eligible project activities include:

• Trail construction and rehabilitation
• Restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized trail uses
• Construction of trail-related support facilities and amenities
• Acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easements or fee simple title.
Recreational Trails Program

- By law, 30% of each state's RTP funding must be earmarked for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized trail projects, and 40% for multi-use (diversified) motorized and non-motorized trails or a combination of either.

- Can provide up to 80% federal funding - requires a minimum 20% non-federal funding match.

- Maximum - $200,000 awarded per application for nonmotorized projects.

- No maximum grant award amount is set for acquisition projects and for motorized projects.

- Announcement generally 180 days following the application deadline date.
Recreational Trails Program

• The Federal Recreational Trails (RTP) grant program will begin accepting applications - January 1, 2018 until 5pm on March 1, 2018.

• The Trails Grant Programs now require a non-refundable Application fee. See Attachment #4 of the Trails manual for further instructions.
Recreational Trails Program

• NEW RTP Manual
• Requires GATA registration
• Cannot match other federally funded grants (e.g. - Federal Coastal grants)
Status of Watershed Based Plans in Northeastern Illinois
Conservation Opportunity Areas (COA)

Lake / McHenry Wetland COA
Conservation Opportunity Areas (COA)

LOWER FOX COA
Google following:

• Illinois Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Plan 2005


Illinois Wildlife Action Plan – Revision 4-18-16
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