PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Land & Water Conservation Fund

North Dakota Parks & Recreation
Be Legendary.
WELCOME TO THE LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND WORKSHOP

• Important things to know:
  • Pre-Application was just released in October 2020.
  • Not Required to Apply Assessment of Project
  • LWCF Application will be released Monday, November 2, 2020.
  • Applications are due by Monday, November 30, at 5:00PM.
Important things to know…

Project applications on average have a 6 to 9 month lead time from application acceptance to notice to proceed.

The project cannot be already in the construction process or finished. NDPRD does pre-site inspections to make sure that the site is suitable for the project and the 6(f) Boundary requirements.
AGENDA

1:00PM – Land & Water Conservation Fund Overview

1:30PM – Break (1 Minute)

1:31PM– LWCF Grant Application Writing Workshop

2:00PM – Break (1 Minute)

2:01PM– The grant is awarded, now what!?!?

2:30PM– Closing & Questions
  • Feel free to stay after to place questions in the chat box!

Title VI compliance trainings are offered at the request of the applicant. To obtain Title VI certification, please email or call Grants Coordinator, Char Binstock, at cbinstock@nd.gov or (701) 328-5364.
WHAT IS THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfINlobxpZ

Land and Water Conservation Act was enacted Congress in 1964 to provide America with areas dedicated for outdoor recreation purposes and the preservation of public land.

The legislation provided 50/50 matching grant each state and their political subdivisions for resource land acquisition & outdoor recreation facility development. The LWCF is administered at the state level by the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department and federally by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.
WHO CAN APPLY?

The following entities are eligible and may apply:

• Cities, Counties, and Townships
• Park Boards and Park Districts
• Water Management Districts
• School Districts
• State and Federal Agencies
• Federally recognized Tribes
EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Sports Courts

Land Acquisition for Outdoor Recreation

Picnic Areas

Campgrounds

Land & Water Conservation Fund
EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Swimming Pools

Comfort Stations

Golf Courses

Playgrounds
PAST FUNDED PROJECTS

2018:
• Bismarck Park & Recreation District - Cottonwood Park Improvements
• Hatton Park District - City Park Rehab
• City of Park River Park District - Green Acres Complex
• Washburn School District 4 - Playground Improvement Project

2017:
• Bismarck Park District - New Generations Park Splash Pad and Building
• Beulah Park District - Lions Park Renovation
• NDPRD - Bodensteiner Acquisition
• NDPRD - Fort Stevenson State Park Campground
• Walsh County - Homme Dam Improvement

2016:
• Barnes County Park Board - Clausen Spring Park Improvements
• Bismarck Park District - Neighborhood Park Medora Avenue
• Crosby Park District - Sand Volleyball Court
• Devils Lake Park Board - Lakewood Beach Project
• Hillsboro Park District - Olsen Softball Complex Upgrades
• NDPRD - Fort Stevenson State Park Playground Equipment
• NDPRD - State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning (SCORP)
• New Salem Park District - North Park Renovation
LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Legal Requirements:

Lands that receive federal assistance through the Land and Water Conservation Fund must remain dedicated to public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. Grantees are required to submit a property boundary map identifying the encumbered area. Property within the project boundary may not be converted to any use other than outdoor recreation without prior approval from the NDPRD and National Park Service. The entire project site identified in the project agreement is subject to public law 88578 Section 6(F).

- Any converted property must be replaced by the local sponsor with the property of equal or greater recreational value and usefulness. NDPRD should be notified before any change in use.
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Local sponsors must pay all project costs upfront and then request reimbursement. Partial reimbursement may be requested periodically. LWCF grants reimburse up to 50% of the total project cost. Project sponsors will not be reimbursed for costs that are incurred before an application is approved and a local grant agreement is signed.

NOTE: A minimum total project cost of $30,000 is required for consideration and project sponsors must have 50% of the total cost available at the time of application. The local share may include tax sources, bond issues, force account, donated labor, equipment, and materials.
RECAP OF IMPORTANT INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The LWCF provides grants for outdoor recreation projects such as ball fields, pools, campgrounds, playgrounds, and land acquisitions for park development.

2. LWCF projects must be sponsored by political subdivisions of the state of North Dakota.

3. Project sponsors must have clear title to project lands (for 6(f) Boundary Requirements).

4. LWCF projects must be remain public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.

5. Projects can not be in the process of being constructed or finished when applying. They are in planning phase only.

6. Local sponsors are required to pay all costs upfront. This is a 50/50 match requirement program where the match needs to be secured. Project sponsors will be reimbursed after the grant agreement is signed when project expenses are furnished.
GENERAL PRIORITIES ON PROJECTS

- The LWCF provides grants for outdoor recreation projects such as ball fields, pools, campgrounds, playgrounds, and land acquisitions for park development.
- Multiple Use Facilities
- Acquisition of Land for Outdoor Recreation
- Project Serves Multiple Age Groups or Interests
- Open and Accessible to the Public
- Barrier Free Act
- Title VI Compliant
LAND ACQUISITION

- Land purchase and/or donation sometimes combined with development of facilities.
  - Land must be *Yellow Book* appraised, following all state and federal guidelines.
  - Acquisition through donation from non-public sources may be used as a portion of the sponsor’s share for development purposes.
  - The land must remain in non-public ownership until after project approval is obtained from the National Park Service.
BARRIER FREE ACT

• All facilities must conform with the Architectural Barriers Act, ADA guidelines and the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards or with Section 504 and the Minimum Guidelines and Requirements for Accessible Designs.

• Section 504 is a part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that prohibits discrimination based upon disability. Section 504 is an anti-discrimination, civil rights statute that requires that disability services are to be adequately addressed.
https://www.accessboard.gov/guidelines-and-standards/recreation-facilities/outdoor-developed-areas

This website is a great resource to figure out accessibility requirements for your project!
Land and Water Conservation Fund

Land & Water Conservation Fund Workshop - January 28, 2020

Workshop details


Pre-application

The pre-application is a new step in the grant process. It is not necessary to complete the pre-application in order to apply for the grant in the upcoming cycle; however, it is highly recommended. This pre-application is a tool to prepare grantees for the upcoming grant application. NDPRD will review all pre-applications and provide feedback to future applicants to help align expectations about the application and grant management.


Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a 50/50 matching grant reimbursement program administered at the state level by the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD) and funded at the federal level by the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service (NPS). The LWCF provides grants for outdoor recreation projects such as ball fields, pools, campgrounds, playgrounds, and land acquisitions for park development.

The following entities are eligible to apply:
- Cities, counties, and townships
- Park boards and park districts
- School districts
- State agencies
- Water management districts
- Federally-recognized Indian tribes

Legal Requirements

Lands that receive federal assistance through the Land and Water Conservation Fund must remain dedicated to public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity. Grantees are required to submit a property boundary map identifying the encumbered area. Property within the project boundary may not be converted to any use incompatible with LWCF. The purpose of this is to prevent land from being sold or transferred in a manner that would allow it to be used for a purpose other than enjoyment of outdoor recreation.
OTHER RESOURCES

- Land and Water Conservation Fund Manual
- SCORP
- Forms:
  1. Reimbursement Form
  2. Force Account Time Sheet
  3. Donated Equipment Form
  4. Donated Material Form
  5. Donated Labor Form

https://www.parkrec.nd.gov/business/grants/land-and-water-conservation-fund
SCORP– State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

This plan needs to be referenced in the application, so make sure that you read the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

This manual was written based off the National Park Service Land & Water Conservation Fund Manual to help grantees understand the program as it relates specifically to North Dakota.
RECAP: 8 STEPS TO APPLICATION PHASE

1. Plan Project
2. Submit Pre-application
3. Attend the Land & Water Conservation Fund Workshop
4. Submit Application
5. Do not start your project! The project can only be in planning phase only until you are awarded the LWCF grant and sign the agreement.
6. The applications will be under review for about a month, please contact the Grants Coordinator if you have any questions on the LWCF process.
7. Notification letters will be sent on behalf of your grant.
8. If awarded, do not start the project. NPS and NDPRD will conduct environmental and Section 106 reviews.

Remember: Project applications on average have a 6 to 9-month lead time from application acceptance to notice to proceed.
QUESTIONS

Thank you!