



2016 RECREATION ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS APPLICATION PROCESS

The Recreation Resources Review Committee (RRRC) will be evaluating each application received for funding under the 2014 Open Space and Recreation Development Bond Authorization and the Department of Interior, Land & Water Conservation Fund. The primary goal of the committee is to assist in acquiring, developing and maintaining accessibility to all citizens of quality outdoor recreation facilities.

Funding for 2016 Grant Round will be in Three Categories:

1. Grants will be awarded for recreation acquisition projects. Grants will be for 50% of the project cost. The maximum grant award will be \$400,000.
2. Grants will be awarded for large recreation development projects. Grants will be for 80% of project costs and require a 20% match of which 100% may be In-kind. The maximum grant award will be \$400,000.
3. Grants will be awarded for small recreation development projects. Grants will be for 80% of the project cost and require a 20% match of which 100% may be In-kind. The maximum grant award will be \$100,000.

Who is eligible to apply?

- The applicant must be a municipality of the State of Rhode Island.

What property is eligible?

- The project sponsor must have title or adequate control and tenure of the project area in order to provide reasonable assurances that a conversion of the property will not occur. Copies of the property deeds, leases, restrictions or other appropriate documents must be on file with the municipality.

What conditions will the property be subject to?

- The property must be kept available solely for public outdoor recreation on a permanent basis. Once the funds have been granted, the structures, land and facilities may never be used for non-outdoor recreational purposes.

Project sponsors are expected to:

- Take all reasonable steps to insure the burial, screening or relocation of existing overhead lines at development projects
- Insure that all-new electric wires, under 15 KV, and telephone wires are placed under ground. In no case shall mass recreation use areas (swimming, picnicking, ball fields, etc.) be located under electric wires.
- Project sponsors are encouraged to have all development projects comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and utilize the universal design standards.
- Suitable permanent public acknowledgment of financial assistance by the State Bond Funds at the project site is required by the State.

How to Apply:

- A separate application is required for each grant request.
- Download the 2016 Recreation Grant Application Form from the DEM website at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bpoladm/plandev/grants.htm>
- Save the application form on your computer and enter the information in the boxes provided. Complete the entire application for Acquisition and Large Development Grants and only Questions #1-15 for Small Development Grants. In Section D (Project Merit) Complete either Section D1 for Acquisition Grants or Section D2 for Large Development Grants. Attach additional sheets if necessary.
- Email the following attachments to lisa.mcgreavy@dem.ri.gov prior to the grant deadline:
 - Application form
 - Project Boundary Map (required – see below)
 - Master Plan for the project (optional)
 - Documents supporting local approval (See question #15)
- Grant Deadline: Friday, May 27, 2016 at 4pm
- Applications received after the filing deadline will not be considered for funding during this grant round. Such applications may be resubmitted during a subsequent round.
- The Project Boundary Map must clearly delineate the project area and be on a separate map labeled “Project Boundary Map”. A more accurate map may be submitted upon closing of the grant.

How the Decision is made:

- The RI Recreation Resources Review Committee (RRRC) utilizes an Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) developed as part of the 2009 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Each application will be evaluated and scored on based on the criteria of the Open Project Selection Process.
- After each of the applications are ranked according to score, the RRRC recommends a priority list to the Director of the Department of Environmental Management for funding. The Director may award grants in the order of priority recommended by the Committee. Notwithstanding the above, the Director, with the advice of the rating committee, has the authority to adjust such grant awards, so that no one community receives a disproportionate amount of the funds available and so that a reasonable geographic distribution of funds is achieved.

Proposed Application and Award Schedule:

February 19 to May 27, 2016 @ 4pm	Application Period
June-July 2016	RRRC reviews and scores application
Late Summer 2016	DEM Director Announces Grant Awards

For more information or assistance, please contact:

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