



**Department of Natural Resources
Grant Opportunities**

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Grants**



Mission Statement

The Department of Natural Resources leads Maryland in securing a sustainable future for our environment, society and economy by preserving, protecting, restoring and enhancing the state's natural resources.

DNR-Wide Objectives

1. Sustainable Populations of Living Resources and Aquatic Habitat
2. Healthy Maryland Watershed Lands, Streams and Non-Tidal Rivers
3. Natural Resources Stewardship Opportunities for Maryland's Urban and Rural Citizens
4. Conserved and Managed Statewide Network of Ecologically Valuable Private and Public Lands
5. Diverse Outdoor Recreation Opportunities for Maryland Citizens and Visitors
6. Diverse Workforce and Efficient Operations



Boating Services



The Maryland Marine Sewage Pumpout Grant Program

Boating Services provides reimbursements of up to \$15,000 to marinas for the purchase and installation of marine sewage pumpout facilities. Grant funding is also available for reimbursements of pumpout operations and maintenance, pumpout replacements, and upgrades. This program is funded by the Federal Clean Vessel Act (75%) with supporting funds from the Maryland Waterway Improvement Fund (25%).

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Private, public, and nonprofit marinas	Competitive	Marine sewage pumpout installations, replacements, upgrades, operations, and maintenance.	\$15,000	None	Grant requests for equipment and education – continual open enrollment. Grant requests for Operating & Maintenance grants – due April 15th

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Boating Access Program

Maryland's Federal Boating Access Program (U.S. Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program) funds projects that provide recreational boaters with access to Maryland's waterways by developing new public motor boat access facilities and renovating or improving existing facilities. The program mandates that Maryland uses 15 percent of the state's Sport Fish Restoration Dingell-Johnson funding on recreational public boating access projects.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
State Fish & Wildlife agencies pass funds to sub-recipients including local, state and federal agencies	Federal, Competitive, Reimbursement	Construction/renovation of public motor boat facilities including boat ramps, boarding piers, parking areas and access roads	\$100,000 to \$800,000	Yes - 25% minimum match required from any non-federal source	Proposals accepted year-round

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Federal (USFWS) Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program - Boating Infrastructure Grant Program

Maryland's Federal Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program was established through the Sport Fishing & Boating Safety Act of 1998. BIG provides grant funds for facilities to support public transient boaters in vessels 26 feet or more in length.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
State Fish & Wildlife agencies pass funds to sub-recipients including public and private marinas	Federal, Competitive, Reimbursement	Slips and piers for transient boaters, utilities for overnight slips, amenities for transient boaters (showers and restrooms), mooring buoys, safe harbors for transient boaters, limited dredging	\$100,000 to \$1.5M	Yes - 25% minimum match required from any non-federal source	Preliminary proposals due to DNR Boating on April 30 of each year. Final proposal due to DNR on August 31. Federal notice of Funding Opportunity posted annually with application deadline in mid-September.

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State of Maryland Waterway Improvement Fund Grants

Maryland's Waterway Improvement Grant Program was created in 1966 to support the development, use and enjoyment of all waters of the state for the benefit of the general boating public. Revenues are derived from the one time excise tax that is paid to the State of Maryland when a boat is purchased and titled in the State, along with a portion of the State fuel tax. The fund provides financial support to local governments, the Dept. of Natural Resources, and federal agencies for capital projects and services that benefit the general boating public who contribute to the fund.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Local, state and federal agencies	Competitive, Reimbursement Grants, Special Funds	Construction/ renovation of public motor boat facilities including boat ramps, boarding piers, parking areas and access roads; dredging channels and harbors; vessels/ equipment for state and local marine firefighting and police	\$5,000 to \$1M	Some projects require 50% match contribution from grant recipient	Applications due to DNR Boating in early August of each year for the next fiscal year of funding



Maryland Abandoned Boat and Debris Program

Provides reimbursable grants to assist public agencies in the removal of abandoned boats and debris from state waters.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Authorized public entities	Competitive	Boats and debris must meet program guidelines	Up to \$50,000	None	Open Enrollment Period: July 1 - August 31



Maryland Forest Service

Natural Resources Grant Opportunities



Volunteer Fire Assistance

Provide financial, technical, and related assistance to rural volunteer fire departments and their communities to enhance firefighter safety and promote the use of wildland personal protective equipment.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Local volunteer fire companies	Competitive	Enhancements that increase or improve wildfire fighting capacity	Up to \$3,000	50/50	Open Enrollment Period: July



Chesapeake & Coastal Services

Natural Resources Grant Opportunities



Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund Grants

Annual solicitation that targets projects that both geographically and by practice will deliver the greatest, most cost-effective and measurable non-point source pollution reduction per Trust Fund dollar.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Non-profits and local government.	Competitive	Restoration projects that result in the reduction of nonpoint source pollution - wetland, buffer, floodplain and storm water mgmt.	Project specific. Most project requests are >\$500,000	None- however committing local leveraged funding for the project will improve the cost-effective competitiveness of the proposed project.	Open Enrollment Period: late fall thru early spring. July 1 start.

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CoastSmart Communities Grants

Dedicated to assisting Maryland's coastal communities address short- and long-term coastal hazards, such as coastal flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise. CoastSmart connects local planners to essential information, tools, people, and trainings

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Incorporated local government, counties and municipalities	Competitive	To further the understanding, planning, or plan implementation of coastal hazards and sea level rise adaptation	Up to \$75,000	None	Open Enrollment Period: Dec. thru Feb. July 1 start



Manure to Energy Grants (Animal Waste Technology Fund)

Annual solicitation targeting proven and innovative technologies that manage agricultural manure and on farm generated waste in a manner that improves their utility as a fertilizer, changes their form or function for alternative uses or produces energy or other marketable products. The overall outcome will result in reduction of nitrogen and/or phosphorus movement to surface waters and be associated with animal manure produced on farms in Maryland.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
For-profit entities	Competitive	Demonstration of innovative technologies to manage animal manure while reducing phosphorus and/or nitrogen from surface water	No minimum amount	None	Open Enrollment Period: Dec. thru March July 1 start.

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Watershed Assistance Grants Program

The purpose of this assistance is to promote local engagement in the Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) process by pursuing projects that advance the near term goals of the WIPs. The WIP milestones reflect the near-term commitments of Maryland's partners in the collaborative effort to restore the Chesapeake Bay and our local rivers, lakes and streams. The framework is designed to accelerate nutrient and sediment reductions to benefit local communities and the Chesapeake Bay. Funding will help grantees accomplish the earliest phases of restoration projects and will assist with programmatic project support.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Non-profits and local governments	Competitive	Design assistance, watershed planning and programmatic development for projects that lead to improved water quality in the Maryland portion of the Bay	\$5,001 - \$75,000	Match is encouraged but not required	Open Enrollment Period: August thru Sept. July 1 start

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Working Waterfront Grants Program

The program assists with the preservation of existing and historic working waterfronts in Maryland. The history, culture and community identity of our coastal communities is inextricably linked to the existence of the working waterfront. At the same time, Maryland has experienced a decline in historic working waterfront infrastructure and activities. WWP engages partners throughout the state to define working waterfront lands, infrastructure and activities; identify community needs; and offer technical and financial assistance to ensure public access and support for water-dependent businesses and industries.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Local governments in the coastal zone	Competitive	Planning or implementation projects that result in a program change (ex: development of new programs or planning tools; waterfront plans, maritime zoning.) Funding may not be used for acquisition or construction projects.	\$75,000	Match is encouraged but not required	Open Enrollment Period: Sept. thru Oct.



Land Acquisition & Planning

Natural Resources Grant Opportunities



Program Open Space Local

Provides financial and technical assistance to local subdivisions (counties and municipalities) for the planning, acquisition, and/or development of recreation land and open space areas. DBM allocates POS Local funds annually to every County and Baltimore City according to a formula.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Counties and Baltimore City	Formula	Capital projects that include the planning, acquisition, and/or development of recreation land and open space areas	Total allocation varies by year. DBM allocates funding to each County and Baltimore City based on a formula.	None for acquisition projects Match required for development projects	Rolling

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Rural Legacy Program

Provides grants to Rural Legacy sponsors (either county government or land trust) to protect working farms and forests through the purchase of conservation easements to support Maryland's resource-based economy.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Rural Legacy Area sponsors- either the county government or a land trust	Competitive	Grants to Rural Legacy areas to purchase conservation easements from willing sellers on working farms and forests located within the designated Rural Legacy area	Annual funding varies by year.	None	Applications are due in February of each year for the next fiscal year's funding

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Community Parks and Playgrounds Program

Provides grants to municipal governments to rehabilitate, expand or improve existing parks, create new parks, or purchase and install playground equipment.

Who's Eligible?	Grant Type	Type of Qualifying Projects	Funding Range	Match Required	Deadline
Municipalities	Competitive	Capital projects in municipalities that rehabilitate, expand or improve existing parks, create new parks, or to purchase and install playground equipment	Typical funding provided in the state's capital budget is \$2.5M for projects statewide	None	Applications for funding are due in August of each year for the next fiscal year's funding



THANK YOU