



Frequently Asked Questions:

Important Dates

Letter of Intent (LOI): 5:00 p.m. January 31, 2017

Invited applicants notified by: February 13, 2017

Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m. March 10, 2017

Grant Awards Announced: April 7, 2017

Project Completion: December 31, 2018

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<http://www.lancasterconservancy.org/about/susquehanna-riverlands-program/>

Purpose

Mini-Grants for the Susquehanna Riverlands region are intended to stimulate on the ground projects that align with the goals of the landscape. These projects should work to sustain the Susquehanna Riverlands sense of place whether it is through protection, promotion, or building on our region's assets. These assets include ecological/natural resources, heritage / cultural resources, and recreation. Projects that have the greatest benefit and overlap between partner interests will be funded. The following is a quick overview of frequently asked questions about the Mini-Grants:

- **Who can apply?** Municipalities, municipal agency, a pre-qualified land trust and authorized nonprofit organizations are all eligible applicants. Authorized organizations must be both tax-exempt under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and registered with the PA Dept. of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations.
- **When is the deadline for the LOI ?** January 31, 2017 at 5 PM.
- **What are the grant request limits?**
There is a grant request maximum of \$25,000 and a minimum of \$2,500.
- **What kinds of projects are eligible?** All projects must be within the outlined areas as shown on the above map in Lancaster and York Counties and have significant ties to the assets of the Susquehanna Riverlands, to the communities tied to these assets, and to the lands surrounding it.



- **How will you decide what LOI's to consider?** A diverse committee made up of several partnering organizations and interests will rank the LOI's based on the following criteria:
 - Has Sufficient Project Scope
 - Promotes Partner Collaboration
 - Satisfies the Goals and Objectives
 - Overlaps Many Categories of Interest
 - Has Measurable Success
 - Match Is Secured
- **Who decides what applications are awarded?** The Mini Grant Review Committee will decide who will be awarded funding based on the criteria.
- **Does this grant program require a match?** Yes. A 1:1 match is required. At least 50% of the match must be in cash.
- **When do we have to have the cash match available?** Your cash match should be available when you list this match on your grant application. **Your grant application must include a support letter from the partner organization(s) that notes the agreed upon donation amount.**
- **Can a non-cash match be used?** Yes. Non-cash match can include donated materials, professional time, volunteer time, donated land value, and services conducted in-house for which the grantee organization does not receive compensation. Only donated land value will be accepted as non-cash match for acquisition projects. **Your grant application must include a support letter from the partner organization(s) that notes the agreed upon donation amount.**
- **Can I match the Mini-grant to another DCNR grant?** No, because the Mini-grant is a DCNR funding source you cannot match DCNR funds to DCNR funds.
- **If awarded a grant, how much money would we get up front?** Terms can vary, but generally you would get 50% of the amount up front and then 40%. The final 10% will be provided after sufficient close out materials have been submitted.
- **What are the terms and conditions of the grant agreement if I am awarded a grant?** Mini-Grant funds originally come from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as part of DCNR's Environmental Stewardship Fund Program. The Lancaster County Conservancy is the grant administrator but will require any recipient to comply with the standard Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) terms and conditions. To view an example of a past agreement, including the terms and conditions, [click here](#).