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OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT PROGRAM

How It Works

Provides matching grants to local units of government for up to 50% of the cost of acquisition, development and/or redevelopment costs of local parks and recreation areas, with the purpose of increasing and enhancing outdoor recreation facilities in the state. The program is delivered through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Eligible Applicants

Cities, counties, townships and recognized tribal governments.

Eligible Projects

Park acquisition and/or development/redevelopment activities including: internal park trails, picnic shelters, playgrounds, athletic facilities, boat accesses, fishing piers, swimming beaches and campgrounds.

Minimum Requirements

Projects must include at least one eligible primary outdoor recreation facility and have a total project cost of at least \$10,000. Land proposed for development and/or redevelopment must be owned by the applicant or be part of an acquisition project.

Program Funding

The program can provide a maximum of 50% of the total eligible project costs. Applicants must be able to fund at least 50% of the total costs. The "local share" can consist of cash or the value of materials, labor and equipment usage by the local sponsor, or by donations or any combination of these. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement can be made. Applicants are eligible to receive more than one grant. Significant progress must be completed on active projects before an additional proposal can be submitted.

2008 Funding Cycle

Projects cannot begin until all requested final documentation has been submitted and an agreement between the applicant and the State has been signed. Project start dates may be in the fall of 2008 or later, depending on the funding available and the project ranking. Funded projects must begin promptly after an agreement has been signed.

Timetable

1. To receive an application packet, the first step is to submit an Application Request Form.
2. DNR recommends that the Application Request Form be submitted to them no later than January 31, 2008.
3. The completed application is due by March 31, 2008.

The above description is adapted from the Department of Natural Resources' web site.
For more information, visit DNR at...

www.dnr.state.mn.us