

# LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Information Session  
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DIV. CONSERVATION  
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# Agenda

Grant Program Goals

Grant Awards

Eligibility

Grant Requirements

Application Materials & Appraisals

Grant Timeline

Questions





# Landscape Partnership Program Goals



To protect contiguous, large-scale landscapes necessary to sustain the integrity and resiliency of ecosystems and viability of local farms and forest economies



To enable projects that stretch beyond the scope of other state grant programs, standard spheres of operation, and involve cooperation of multiple actors



To support Executive Order 569, which calls for state government to adapt to climate change and build a more resilient Commonwealth

# Seeking projects that:

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- Address conservation of contiguous land and working landscapes (farms & forests)
- Protect important natural resources
- Reflect municipal involvement
- Support meaningful partnerships
- Provide public access for passive recreation
- Will promote good stewardship
- Promote climate change mitigation and resiliency







# Grant Awards

- Up to 50% reimbursement
- Maximum award: \$1,250,000
- Funding available FY27, FY28
- Project contracts can be 1 or 2 years.
- May not request reimbursement for more than 50% of costs in first of a 2-year project.



# Eligible Partners

PROJECTS MUST INCLUDE PARTNERS FROM 2 OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

## MUNICIPALITIES

- Conservation or agricultural commissions
- Municipal water departments

## 501C3 NONPROFITS

- Land Trusts
- Environmental or conservation organizations.

## STATE / FEDERAL LAND AGENCIES

- MA Dept. of Fish & Game (DFG)
- MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)
- MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)
- NPS; USDA

Federal agencies may not receive reimbursement.

# Eligible Projects

## PURCHASE OF:

- Fee Simple
  - Fee properties acquired by a LT partner will require a CR conveyed to another eligible entity.
- Conservation Restriction (CR)
- Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR)
- Watershed Preservation Restriction (WPR)

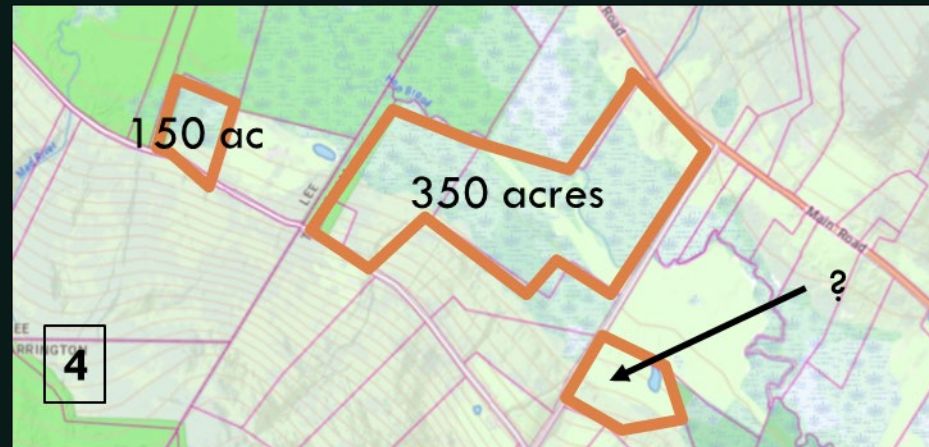
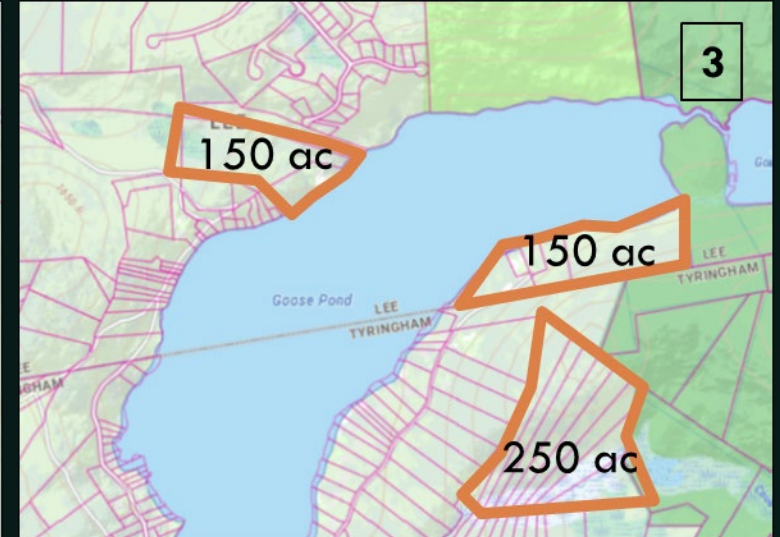
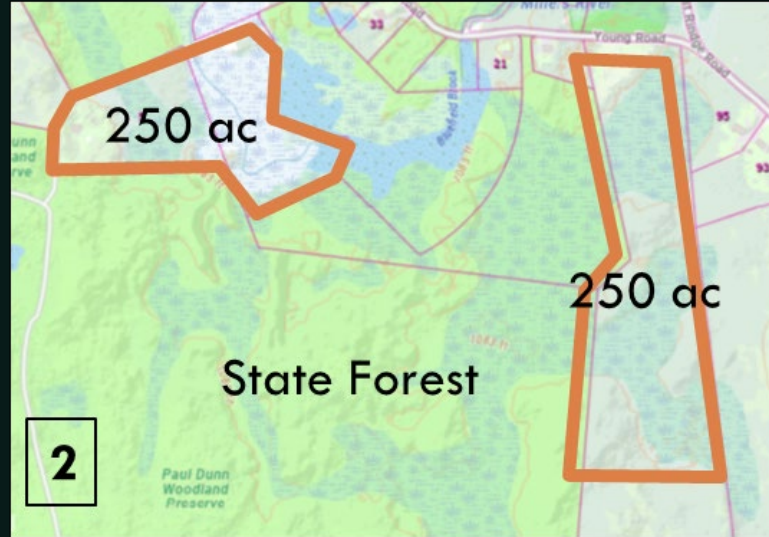
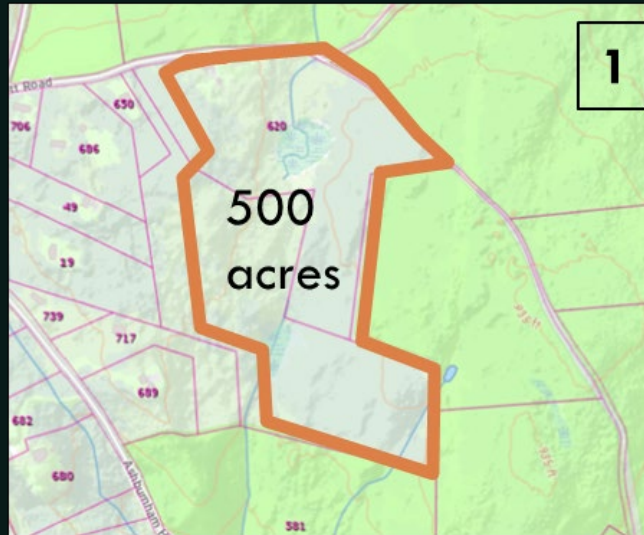
# Eligible Projects – Minimum Acreage

County	Minimum Project Size
Berkshire, Franklin, Worcester	500 acres
Hampden	300 acres
Bristol, Hampshire, Plymouth	250 acres
Essex	200 acres
Barnstable, Dukes, Middlesex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Suffolk	100 acres

- Projects adjacent to protected open space and/ or that are not transected by roads are prioritized.
- Parcels separated by minimally traveled roads or connected by wildlife passages will be considered at EEAs discretion.



# Eligible Projects – Acreage Configuration



# Ineligible Projects

- Land already permanently protected
- Property owned by one of the applicants,
- Property owned by a conservation 501(c)(3). \*See bid for specific exceptions.
- Property located in EOHLC designated Priority Development Area

This is not a comprehensive list – always call or email if you aren't sure

# Eligible Costs

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- Purchase of the property interest
- Title research & certification
- Recording fees
- Survey
- Forest Management Plan
- Appraisal (if completed during the contract period)
- Baseline Documentation Report (up to \$1,500 of invoices)





# Eligible Funding Sources

- Municipal funding (e.g., Open Space Fund, CPA, or drinking water accounts)
- Non-profit contributions
- State agency acquisition funds (DFW, DFG, MDAR)
- Property donations including value of a bargain sale
- Private or federal grants
- Other non-state funds approved by EEA





# Grant Requirements

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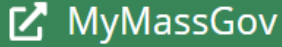


- A portion of the Project must be publicly accessible
- Projects are encouraged to include working lands (active farming or forestry)
- Donated parcels where the value is counted toward match (“match parcels”) – must close in FY identified in proposed budget)

# Application

Submissions are via EEA Grant Management Software (GMS)

<https://greenhub.appianportals.com/applicants-portal/page/grantee-portal>



Filter and Sort Grant Programs

Program Abbreviation

LP FY26

✓ HHPD

✓ LCA26

✓ LWCF

✓ Sensor Grant

✓ LP FY26

✓ Fleet Vehicles

✓ VFC 2025

Program Id

Ascending



# Application – Required Materials

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- Appraisal(s)
- Project narrative
- Budget
- Maps
- MHC and NHESP letters (or request for letters)
- Letters from partners authorizing grant application/project manager
- Documentation of project quality as needed
- Municipal vote(s) (as applicable; a draft if pending)
- Draft CR/APR/WPR (as applicable)





# Appraisals – Required for all project components

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- Estim. value < \$350,000: Restricted appraisal report is acceptable.
- Estim. value > \$1M: Encourage a 2nd appraisal or review appraisal.
- Must break out the relevant property value (e.g. fee or CR)
- ≤ 1 year old at grant deadline (Obtained after 4/22/2025)



# Appraisals – Deadlines

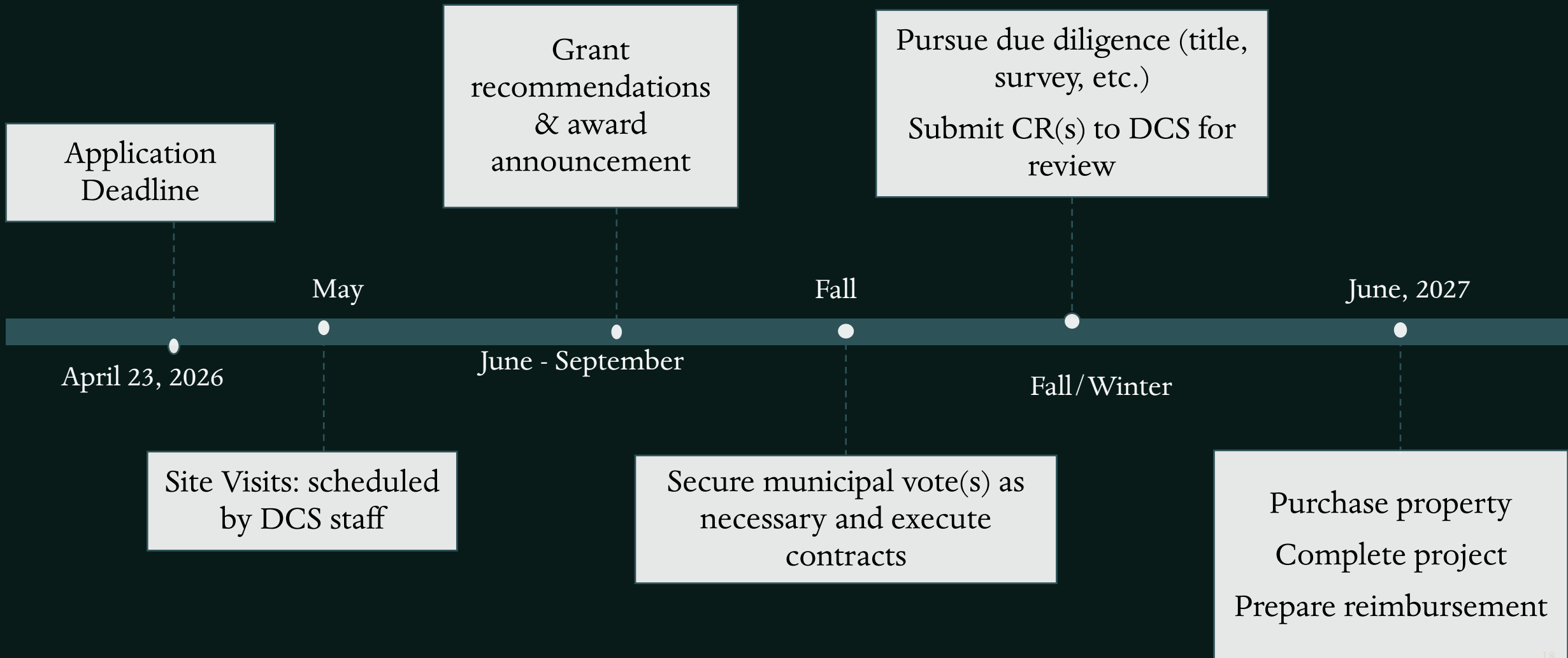
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- FY26: Grant Deadline (April 23, 2026)
- FY27: Earlier of July 1, 2026 or 30 days prior to closing;
- FY 28: Earlier of January 31, 2027 or 30 days prior to closing.





# Grant Project Timeline (FY27 Award)



# Terms for Reimbursement

- Project components must close in the FY reflected in the budget.
- Grantees must document payments (e.g. canceled check or wire transfer statement) or provide a Treasurers Statement.
- Fee property must have certificate of clear title.
- Recorded survey(s) for all property.
- Accommodations for public access



# NEW! EEA Grant Management System



An official website of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts [Here's how you know](#) ▼



Login to Applicant Portal



MyMassGov



Executive Office of Energy & Environmental  
Affairs Grants Management System

Use this page to browse all

## Grant Programs

Filter and Sort Grant Programs



If you have already started an application and need to access your applicant portal, [click here](#).

<https://greenhub.appianportals.com/applicants-portal/page/grantee-portal>

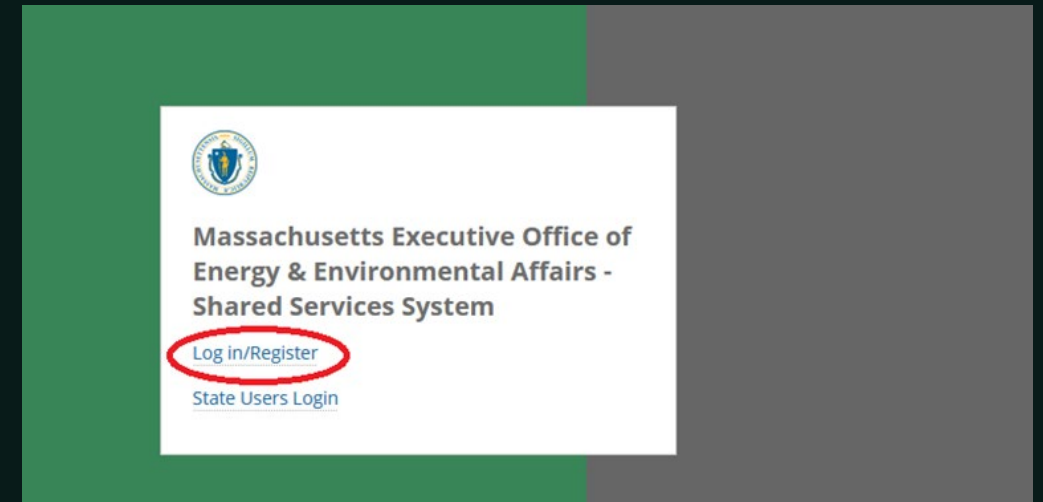




# Create an Account

- User guide on the GMS Portal
- Instructional playlist on YouTube.

Account provides access to all posted grant opportunities.



Application MUST be submitted by the Primary Contact for the Project.

You may save work, log-out/log-in.

Bid document includes application – Review in advance.

Download templates to submit budget, parcel information.



## **Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs Grants Management System**

The grants administration team is reviewing your user profile information. You'll be able to access the grantee portal once it's verified. You can still edit your user profile.

[Update your user profile](#)



Questions?

