FY 22 LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

GRANT WORKSHOP
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022

Executive Office of
Energy and Environmental Affairs

Division of Conservation Services

Sibley/Warner Farm, Spencer

Program Goals

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

Program Goals

- Matrix of working and conservation land
- High-quality natural resources
- Municipal involvement
- Partnerships
- Stewardship
- Public access
- Leverage
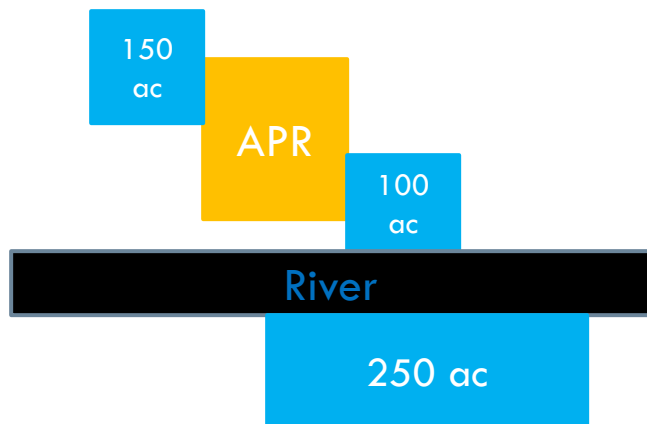- Climate change mitigation and resiliency

Girouard CR, Winchendon

Eligible Applicants

Each application must include at least two partners from, at minimum, two of the following categories:

- Municipalities – conservation or agricultural commissions, or public water departments

- Non-profit public water suppliers or water or fire districts

- Environmental non-profit 501(c)3 organizations

- State agencies: Departments of Fish and Game, Agricultural Resources, Conservation and Recreation

- Federal agencies – Department of the Interior and US Department of Agriculture (but may not receive reimbursement)

- Municipal park and recreation departments

Eligible Project Configurations

500 acres

250 ac | State forest | 250 ac

150 ac

APR

100 ac

River

250 ac

additional acres

≥500 acres

no roads,
no fragmentation

Eligible Projects

- Purchase of property interest
  - In fee simple for open space, forestry, agriculture, or water supply
  - Conservation Restriction
  - Agricultural Preservation Restriction
  - Watershed Preservation Restriction

- Purchase and/or construction of a local park or playground (towns with a population of 6,000 or below)

- Forest Carbon Credit projects

Ineligible Projects

- Property that is already permanently protected

- Property in which eligible applicants already hold an interest (fee or permanent CR)

- Land to be used for ineligible uses

- Property located in EOHED designated Priority Development Area

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

Funding

- Up to 50% reimbursement
- Maximum award: $1,250,000

Eligible project costs include:

- Acquisition
- Title research & certification
- Recording fees
- Inventory and related assessment for carbon credits ($50,000)

- Survey or plan of land
- Forest Management Plan
- Appraisal (only if completed after the contract period)
- Baseline Documentation Report (up to $1,500 per BDR)

Eligible Match

- Foundation grants
- Municipal land, open space, CPA, drinking water, or agricultural accounts
- Private donations
- Federal grants/loans
- Natural resources damages settlement funds

- Non-profit accounts
- Bargain sale
- Gifts of land
- State agency acquisition funds
- Other non-state funds as approved by EEA

Grant Requirements

- Public access:
  - Some portion of all parcels (donated or match)
  - *All* parcels acquired in fee
- Working lands:
  - All projects are encouraged to include working lands (active farming or forestry)
- Match parcels – closing of matched parcels are required for reimbursement for each year
- Specific project requirements

Project Terms

- Municipalities, water suppliers, and non-profits will receive contracts; state agencies will receive ISAs or capital allocations

- Reimbursements for grantees with a contract can be made only on *documented payment*, such as the submission of a canceled check or wire transfer statement

- All project parcels must have certified clear title

Appraisal Reports

REQUIRED for ALL project parcels, to be funded or used as match. May not be older than 1 year at the time of the grant deadline.

Parcels to be <u>funded</u>:

Self-contained full narrative appraisal, limited or restricted use appraisal, or contracted market analysis

Review BID document (starting on page 8) for details on submittal deadline on planned closing date
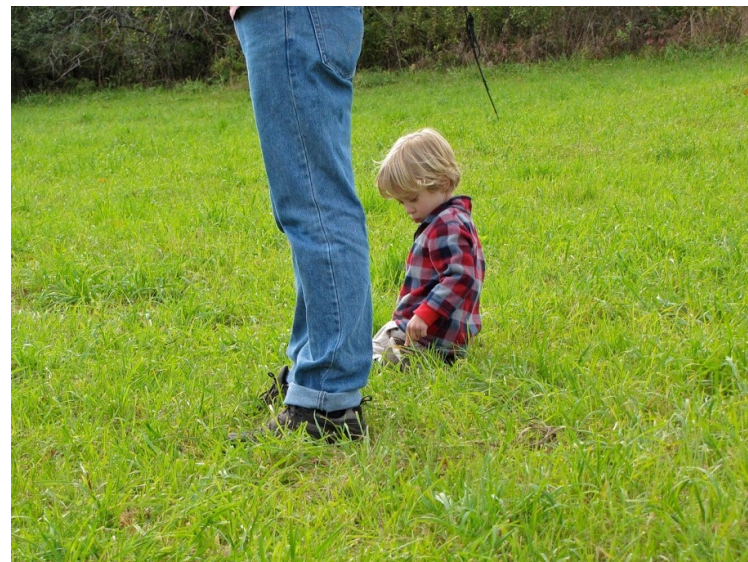
Project Evaluation

100 point rating system

Local support, land use planning (13 pts)

Project quality (87 pts)

- Size
- Biodiversity
- Climate change resilience
- Connectivity and catalyst
- Water resources
- Working lands
- Climate Vulnerability Preparedness
- Recreation
- Stewardship capacity
- Project readiness
- Community Compact (2 bonus points)

Sibley/Warner Farm, Spencer

Grant Application

An application must include the following:

- Application form
- Appraisal reports
- Project narrative
- Budget details
- Maps
- MHC and NHESP letters
- Cover letter
- Documentation supportive of project quality
- One hard copy and one electronic copy – note this is the first year using the online submission form

More on Online Application

- Extremely important to not wait until the last minute to begin working on it

- Look to page 18 of the BID document or page 1 of the application form for explicit instructions on how to complete the form

- Total of **all** attachments is **25 MB** (appraisal may be emailed to Vanessa separately)

- Make file names consistent by using the following convention: [Name of municipality]_[Shorthand version of project title]_[Name of attachment from attachment checklist]_LP

- For example, the Town of Madeup's Smith Property Acquistion Project Narrative would be labeled: Madeup_SmithProp_ProjNarr_LP

Application Form Instructions

Landscape Partnership Grant Program
APPLICATION FORM – FY2022
Deadline: Monday, May 2, 2022 at 3:00 pm

Instructions:

- *The application must be submitted through this online form. The Applicant will be asked to enter all of the information in the table below directly into the form.*
- *The application can be saved while working on it. Click "Save and Resume Later" at the bottom of the form and then click on "Save and Get Link." A link to the application will be provided which must be copied and saved in order to return to the application. A good way to ensure that the link is not lost is to email it to yourself.*
- *Please note that all documents which have been uploaded at the end of the application will not be saved if leaving the site before submitting the application. The files must be uploaded again upon re-entering the site and submitting the application.*
- *Total size of all documents attached to the online form cannot exceed 25 MB.*
- *Please ensure that all files you upload are consistently labeled. Please make file names consistent with the following: [Name of municipality]_[Shorthand version of project title]_[Name of attachment from attachment checklist]_LP*
- *Please upload files to the online form as PDFs if possible, unless otherwise specified*

FormStack Screenshot

Grant Contact

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