

**2019 Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River
Mini Grant Program**

**Overview**

The Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic (LDWS) River Management Council announces the availability of Wild & Scenic Mini Grants for 2019. These grants are intended for projects that support and enhance the goals and policies of the LDWS Management Plan.

**Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic Management Council Goals and Policies**The following goals were developed as the basis for the LDWS Management Plan. Detailed Management Plan information is available at <https://lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org/index.php/resources/documents/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-management-plan>.

[**Goal 1: Water Quality**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#waterquality)

Maintain existing water quality in the Delaware River and its tributaries from measurable degradation and improve it where practical.

[**Goal 2: Natural Resources**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#naturalresources)

Preserve and protect the river's outstanding natural resources, including rare and endangered plant and animal species, river islands, steep slopes and buffer areas in the river corridor and along the tributaries.

[**Goal 3: Historic Resources**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#historicresources)

Preserve and protect the character of historic structures, districts and sites, including landscapes, in the river corridor.

[**Goal 4: Recreation**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#recreation)

Encourage recreational use of the river corridor that has a low environmental and social impact and is compatible with public safety, the protection of private property and with the preservation of natural and cultural qualities of the river corridor.

[**Goal 5: Economic Development**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#economic)

Identify principles for minimizing the adverse impact of development within the river corridor and to encourage sustainable development where appropriate.

[**Goal 6: Open Space Preservation**](https://www.delrivgreenway.org/index.php/publications/lower-delaware-wild-and-scenic-publications/ldw-s-management-committee-action-plan-2007-to-2011#openspace)

Preserve open space as a means of maximizing the health of the ecosystem, preserving scenic values, and minimizing the impact of new development in the river corridor.

**Application Deadline**

Grant applications will be accepted through February 22, 2019.

**Who May Apply**

Eligible entities include LDWS communities or their community appointed committees, schools, and community or non-profit (501c3) organizations that operate within the watershed. Partnerships are encouraged.

**Eligible Projects**

Projects that are consistent with the LDWS management plan and that further its goals will be considered. Possible project ideas include but are not limited to:

* Conservation, restoration or enhancement of fish, wildlife, riverine ecology, water quality, historic or recreational resources
* Protection of land along the river or its included tributaries
* Public education about the river and its resources and importance
* Research studies that increase understanding and lead to improved management of rive resources
* Promotion of recreation to encourage people to use and protect the river
* Invasive species management
* Water conservation education and implementation
* Protection of natural river flow regimes
* Projects that engage students in the arts and sciences related to river resources
* Efforts to plan and manage for climate resilience

Mandated mitigation projects, permit requirement studies and capital or construction projects are not eligible.

**Project Timeline:** Projects must be completed by December 31, 2019.

**Funding**

Grants typically range from $1,000 to $2,000. However, larger projects will be considered. Up to 50% of the grant funds may be awarded before the project begins. The balance will be paid once the project is completed. Projects that include partnerships or in-kind matches will be given preference.

**Application process**

Interested parties must complete the attached application form. Supporting materials are acceptable. Entire application and support materials should not exceed eight pages.

Email proposals to:

info@lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org

Use W&S Mini Grant Proposal in the subject line

The LDWS Steering Committee will evaluate all proposals and present acceptable proposals to the LDWS Management Council for final approval. Applicants may be required to attend a formal meeting to further explain their projects.

Acceptable proposals must address the review criteria itemized below. Grantees will be notified via email and a formal letter on or before the first quarter Management Council meeting on March 28, 2019.

**Review Criteria**

The merits of each proposal will be reviewed on the criteria listed below. Projects do not have to meet all criteria to be eligible, however more consideration will be given to proposals that address most or all of the following:

* **Wild and Scenic Outstanding Resources.** Does the proposed project protect, enhance or promote appreciation of one or more of the river’s outstanding resources?
* **Stewardship.** Will the project strengthen relationships among communities, non-profits, and/or the public that will protect river resources?
* **Awareness.** Does the project engage a broad range of diverse partners and/or raise public awareness of the river?
* **Resources needed for implementation.** Can the project be completed with the funding available and within the timeline proposed?
* **Long-term benefits.** Can future activities or decisions of the river communities or regional or state entities build on the results of the project?
* **Sustainability of benefits.** Is there a plan for maintenance or ongoing work (if relevant) after the project is completed?
* **Leveraging of additional resources**. Are there matching funds or in-kind contributions to the project? These are not required, but strongly recommended.
* **Measurable results**. How will the effectiveness and impact of the project be measured?
* **Administrative capacity**. Is there demonstrated capability on the part of the applicant to complete this project?

**Final Report**

Awardees will be contacted between June and August 2019 for a verbal or email status report of their projects. Awardees will be required to submit a final written report on their projects. Reports should include a summary of their actions and activities, not to exceed two pages. Any press releases, products and other pertinent materials should also be included. Before and after photos are required, if applicable for the project. Photos must be high-resolution JPG images that are at least 300 dpi and not copyright protected.