

# 2022 LWCF Grant Workshop

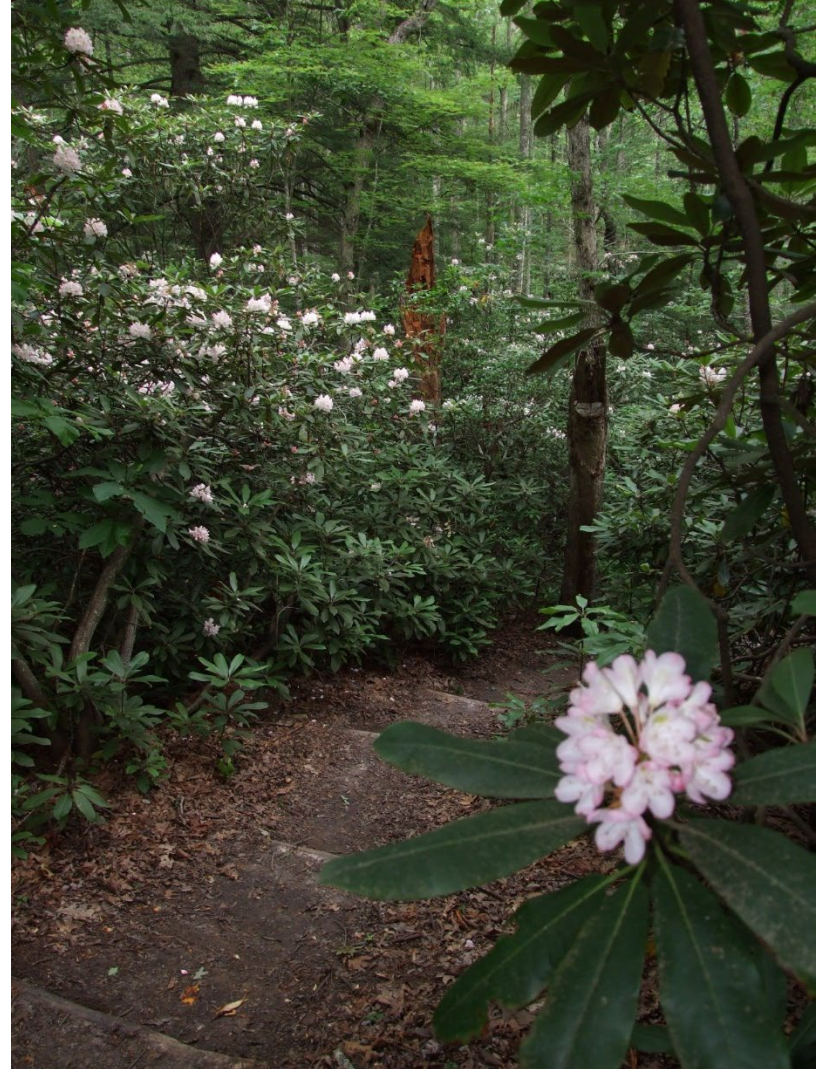


**Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation**  
Division of Planning & Recreation Resources

**Kristal McKelvey – Recreation Grants Manager**  
**Kellie Seaton – Recreation Grants Coordinator**

# Agenda

- LWCF Overview
- Eligibility
- Application Process
- Evaluation Criteria
- Grant Management
- Q&A between each section







# LWCF Overview

- A Federal, State and Local Partnership since 1965 = State Assistance Program
- Purpose: to provide matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.
- Funding: U.S. Department of Interior – **National Park Service – LWCF Act**

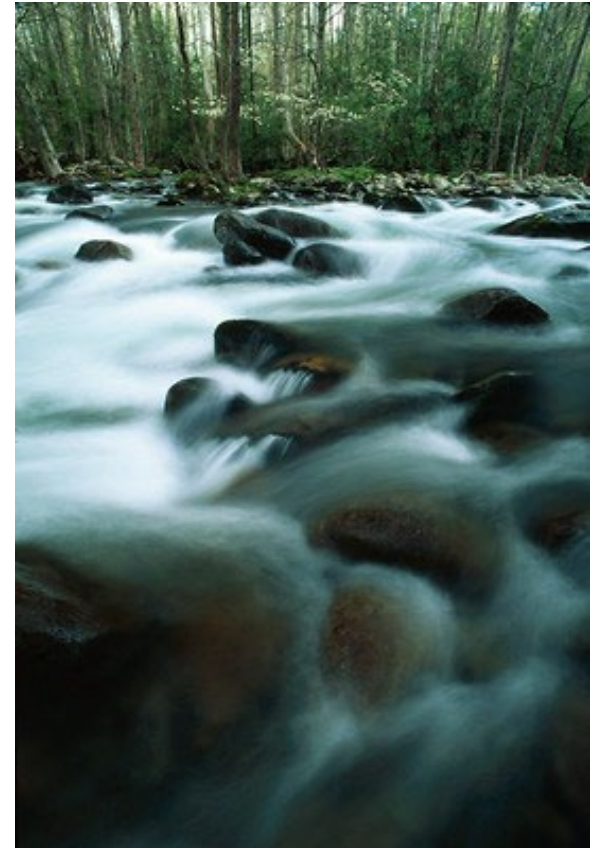
# LWCF Overview

- Grants provided to the States, and through the States to Subrecipients
- **Matching Reimbursement up to 50%**
- Property must be protected *in perpetuity* for the purpose of *outdoor recreation*.
- 388 sites in VA
- VOP (SCORP)



# 2022 LWCF Grant Round

- \$11.64 million LWCF Funding Available
- Acquisition & Development
- \$250,000 minimum request  
(\$500K minimum total project cost)
- \$2 million max request\*
- Must be able to have public outdoor recreation opportunities available/completed within 3 years.





# 2022 LWCF Schedule

- **Feb 1** - announced
- **Mar 15** - Applications due\*
  - Email submission by 4 pm
- **April** - Grant Committee Meeting
  - Recommendations for funding – contact applicants - **site visits**
- Complete additional documentation (NEPA, etc)
- Submit to **NPS** for initial **review**
- July **Grants.gov submission**



# Applicant Eligibility

- Local Governments
- State Agencies
- Tribal Governments
- Public Recreation Government Entities (Park Authorities, etc)



*Final landowner must be able to keep land protected and managed in perpetuity.*

- **All scored together equally.**
- On application, please provide contact of specific entity lead (not contractor)



# Eligible Project Types

## Acquisition Grant Round

- Describe all reservations, easements, ROW's
- New park or additional expansion? (Whole Park = 6f)
- Recreation Uses: describe all proposed

Playgrounds      Sightseeing      Hunting

Walking      **Ball Fields**      Water Sports

Swimming      Horseback Riding      Walking

Public Ampitheater      **Wildlife** Viewing

Boating      Dog Park      Public Garden

Disc Golf      Hiking      Picnicking      Camping

**SUPPORT BUILDINGS**



# Eligible Projects - Development

- Sports & Playfields
- Picnic facilities
- Trails
- Swimming facilities
- Boating facilities
- Fishing/hunting
- Renovation^
- Beautification
- Accessible Facilities
- Beautification
- Camping
- Interpretive/exhibit facilities
- Spectator facilities
- Community gardens
- Target range

## Eligible – Support Facilities

- Needed by the public for outdoor recreation use of an area: roads, parking, utilities, restrooms, kiosks, simple trail shelters, walkways, pavilions, equip rental space = *simple roof or cover*
- Operation & Maintenance – storage, admin offices = in scope and boundary
- **MUST directly serve the outdoor recreation**

# Ineligible Projects

- **Not eligible** acquisitions:
  - Historic Sites/Structures (unless secondary)
  - Semi-Professional/Pro Sports
  - Non-public game refuges
  - Mainly for indoor facilities
  - Lodges, hotels, motels, restaurants (indoor, for-profit establishments)
  - Agricultural purposes/preservation



# Ineligible Projects

- **Not eligible - Development:**
  - INDOOR FACILITIES = meeting rooms, restaurants, lodges, kitchens, equipment sales, etc.
  - Professional facilities
  - Exclusive uses
  - Mobile recreation units
  - Indoor displays
  - Employee housing

# Funding Basics

- Payments made on **reimbursement** basis
  - Must be able to fund project fully up front and provide proof of payment of agreed amount
- **Match** requirement is 50% of project cost
  - Federal Funds cannot be used as match – including Recovery funds\*
  - Can include certain donation values

# Funding - Acquisitions

- NO PURCHASES can be made prior to grant agreement release\*
- Only cost of acquisition purchase eligible (surveys and appraisals not reimbursable)
- Based on appraised and reviewed value
- Appraisals
  - UASFLA (Yellow Book) level and Reviewed
  - Within one year of when NPS will receive it



# Funding - Development

- *Accessibility & protection of resources*
- *Must be designed in conformance with ABA and ADA*

- Construction & Renovation
- Site Planning
- Engineering & Architectural Services
- Contractor = Materials/Labor

# Items of Note:

- **ENTIRE** park (including existing property) must be 6(f) protected upon funding.
- **Public Recreation** will be available w/in 3 years of acquisition or at completion of construction
- **Be clear** about park boundary, acreage, and all existing conditions.



# Is your project ready?

- Beyond conceptual
- Public support
- Clear scope of work
- Financial capability
- Environmental review considerations
  - NEPA and NHPA documentation required prior to NPS authorization

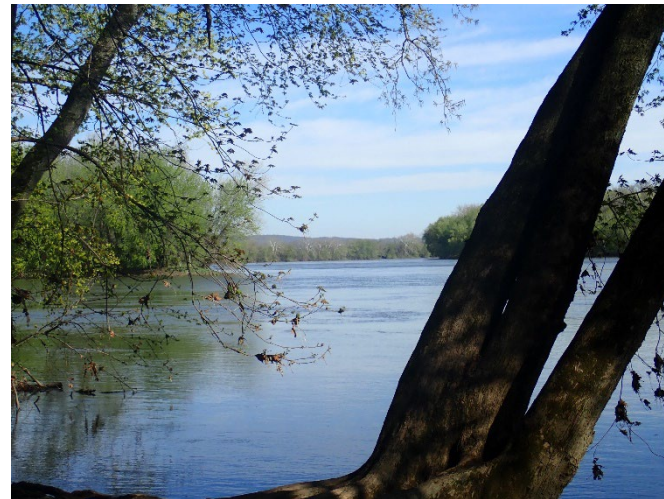


**Projects that are not shovel ready may be recommended for next Grants.gov opportunity.\***



# Application Items

- The application helps:
  - The Scoring Committee
  - Determine Project Readiness
  - Present the project to the NPS
  - Evaluate funding request
  - *Let's take a look!*



# Download all Word documents on DCR LWCF website

## 2022 Grant Application Documents:

Please start the application processing by reading the [DCR LWCF 2022 Application Manual](#) (PDF) which has details about eligibility, match requirements, rules, regulations, and application procedures. Then, please use the following templates when developing your application package. Note that additional documents without templates are also required with your submission, as outlined in the Application Checklist and Application Manual.

- [LWCF-00-Application Checklist](#) (Word)
- [LWCF-01-DCR Application](#) (Word)
- [LWCF-02-Project Budget](#) (Word)
- [LWCF-03-Revised A&R Form](#) (Word)
- [LWCF-04-Project Timeline](#) (Word)
- [LWCF-08-Project Photos](#) (Word)

# Documents Walkthrough

- **Checklist** – do you have the needed info?
- **DCR Application** – eligibility & scoring
- **A&R Form** – NPS required
- **Budget** – detailed and comprehensive, match info, dedicated funding source
- **Timeline** – considers all factors
- **Maps** (3) – boundary, site plan, location



# Application Submission:

- **Deadline is 4:00PM on Tuesday, March 15, 2022.**
- All applications must be submitted electronically by this deadline.  
[RecreationGrants@dcr.Virginia.gov](mailto:RecreationGrants@dcr.Virginia.gov)
- Late submissions will not be accepted.

# Application Questions?



# Scoring Criteria:

- Available on LWCF Website
- Balance of NPS LWCF requirements and Virginia priorities
  - Project Readiness
  - VOP and ConserveVirginia
  - Outdoor Recreation Access for All
  - Local Need
  - Budget and Grant Match
- **Committee - review and rank for selection**

# Recreation Need – Models:

## Land-based recreation projects

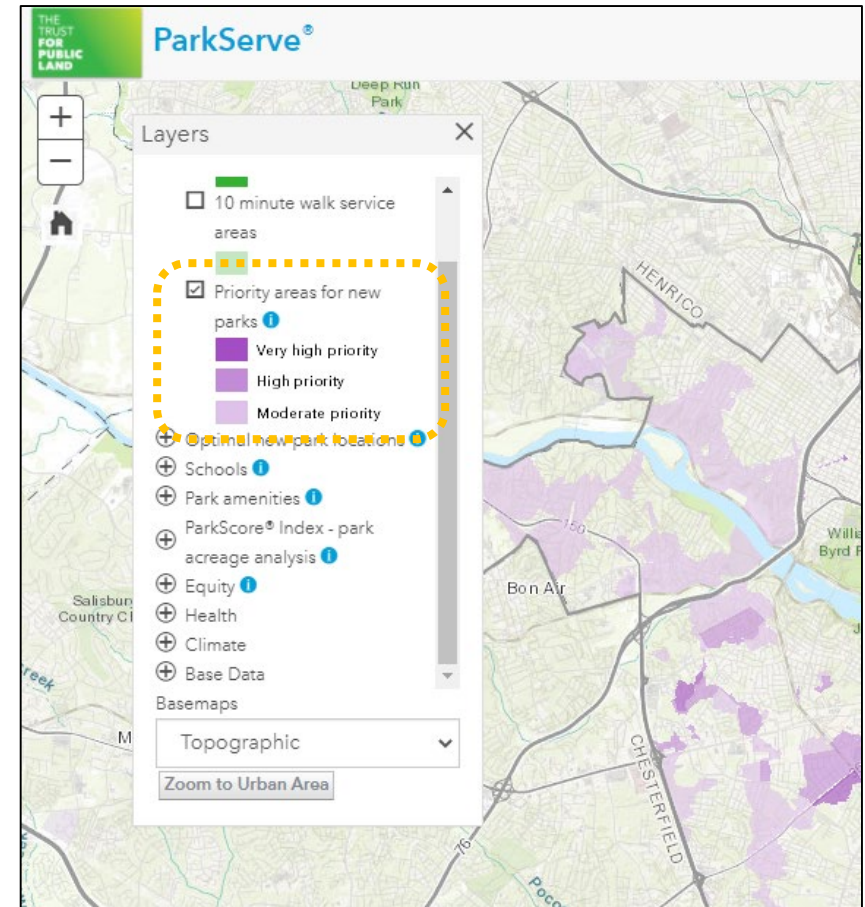
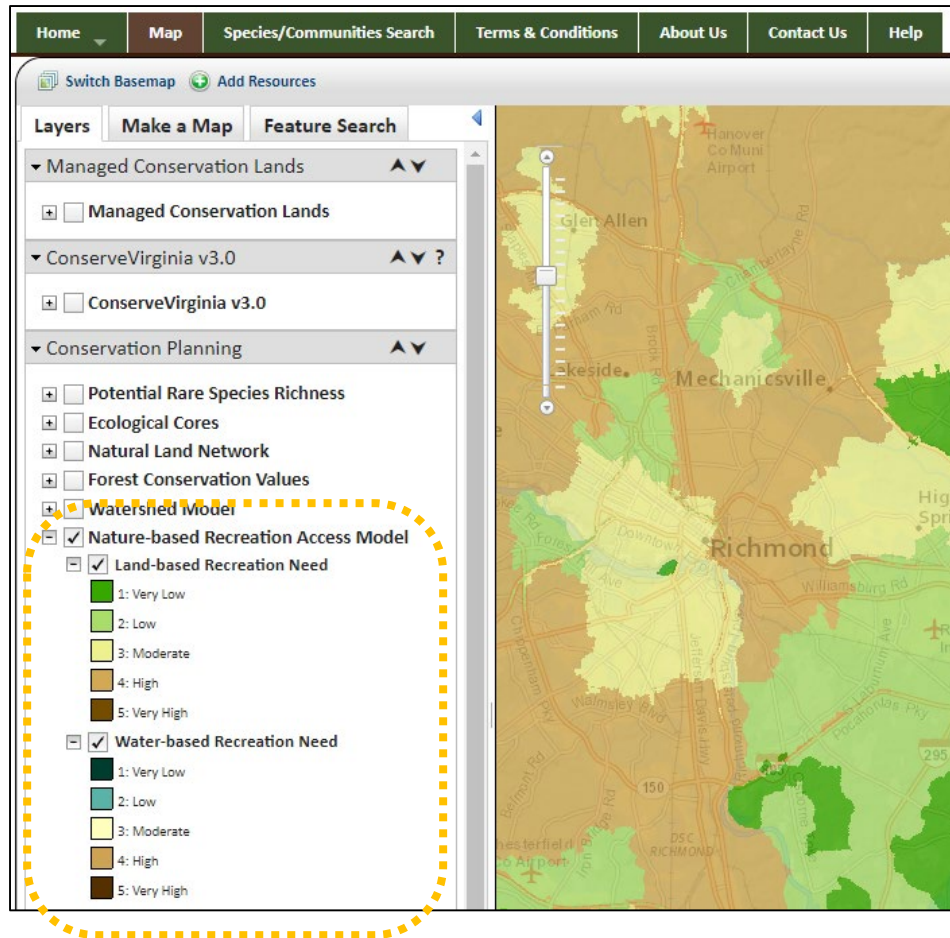
- DCR Land-based Recreation Access Model  
<https://vanhde.org/>  
*or*
- Trust for Public Land ParkServe  
<https://www.tpl.org/parkserve>

## Water-based recreation projects

- DCR Water-based Recreation Access Model  
<https://vanhde.org/>

\*If very low or no need is identified in the models, can provide **supporting evidence** for additional points





Refer to Appendices in Application Manual



# Next Steps

- Committee Review & Recommendations
- Applicant Correspondence
- Site Visit
- Complete Requirements
- Submit to NPS review/[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- **NPS Authorization**
- **\*\*project begins\*\***



# Grant Terms

- Three Year Project Period
- NPS will likely not allow drawdown of funding or ground disturbance until the NEPA/NHPA is approved.
  - *Tribal Consult (NPS)*
  - *Further clarification*
- **Subgrant:**  
*NPS → DCR → Sponsor*





# Project Closeout

- Site Inspection
- Acknowledgement Sign
- Final Deed with 6f
- Final Map
- Proof of Payment
- NPS closeout
- Transfer of Funds



## In General: LWCF Applications

- All eligible projects will be considered - present what you have.
- NPS has final authority; DCR is your advocate.
- Be patient – advise partners it can take time to get authorized.
- Effective way to protect parkland; develop access for all; invest in local public resources



# Other DCR Grant Opportunities:

- Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (VLCF) – State funds - for protection of **open spaces and parklands**, lands of historic or cultural significance, farmlands and forests, and natural areas.
- Suzan Bulbulkaya – Land Conservation Manager
- <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia-land-conservation-foundation/>





# DCR PRR Grant Opportunities:

- LWCF continued
  - 2022 Apportionment TBD
  - Goal is to have annual grant rounds
- Recreational Trails Program
  - FHWA – 80/20 Match Reimbursement
  - Diversified, Non-Motorized, Motorized Trails
  - Preliminary Engineering & Construction
  - 2022 grant round pending

# Contact Information

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