NEWS

From Lehigh Valley Greenways

For more information, please contact:







Brit Kondravy, Conservation Coordinator Lehigh Valley Greenways Coordinator Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor 2750 Hugh Moore Park Rd. Easton, PA 610.923.3548 ex: 226 or conservation@delawareandlehigh.org

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Lehigh Valley Greenways Announces Call for Applications for 2025 Mini Grant Program

EASTON (February 4) – As the local leader for Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape, <u>Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor</u> (DLNHC) is preparing to disburse \$100,000 as part of the 2025 Lehigh Valley Greenways Mini Grant Program. The online application period is now open and runs through Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 4:00pm.

Lehigh Valley Greenways mini grants are intended to inspire collaboration to carry out ready-to-go, single-year projects that protect and promote the natural resources of the Lehigh Valley and advance the goals of Lehigh Valley Greenways. Land conservation & restoration, outdoor recreation & trail connections, community revitalization, and local education & outreach are among Greenway goals.

Eligible applicants include municipalities, municipal agencies, county conservation districts, educational institutions (colleges, universities, school districts), and non-profit organizations with both tax-exempt 501c3 status and registered with PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Projects must be located within Lehigh or Northampton County.

The current application cycle will be awarded in May 2025 for single-year projects to start and end between June 1, 2025 and November 30, 2026. Grant requests should be a minimum of \$1,000 and maximum of \$20,000 with total project costs at least double the grant request. Mini grants must be matched with cash and/or eligible in-kind contributions at a minimum 1:1 ratio. Awards totaling between \$10,000-\$20,000 will be primarily reserved for resource management and infrastructures projects.

Interested applicants can review full mini grant guidelines and fill out the online application on the Lehigh Valley Greenways website at https://lvgreenways.org/mini-grants/. All applicants are requested to send a representative to the pre-application meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2025, 9:30-11am at Lehigh Gap Nature Center, 8844 Paint Mill Rd, Slatington, PA 18080. Register for the Pre-Application Meeting here: https://lvgreenways.org/events/2025/ The grant awards are part of Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape program and funded by the <u>Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR</u>), Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Environmental Stewardship Fund. Lehigh Valley Greenways mini grant funds may not be used to match other DCNR funded grant projects.

Lehigh Valley Greenways is <u>one of the eight conservation landscapes</u> supported by Pennsylvania DCNR and includes more than 25 organizations and municipal partners in Lehigh and Northampton Counties dedicated to the conservation of and connection to our natural resources.

For more information on Lehigh Valley Greenways and the mini grant program, please contact Brit Kondravy, DLNHC Conservation Coordinator, at 484-215-6227 or <u>conservation@delawareandlehigh.org</u>

Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that preserves and celebrates the historic pathways that carried coal and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol, outside Philadelphia. Today, DLNHC works to connect people to nature, culture, communities, recreation and our industrial heritage.