

Funding Sources

County Grants

Montgomery County Green Fields / Green Towns Program, Implementation Project Grants

Website: <http://planning.montcopa.org/planning>

Per Application Guidelines (excerpts):

Introduction: Under this grant program, funds are made available to municipal governments for acquisition of significant open space, green infrastructure projects, heritage resource conservation, farmland protection, trail and pathway development, floodplain restoration, and Schuylkill River Greenway Projects. The selection of the project for grant application should be based upon the County and municipal open space plans and the particular needs of the community.

Use of Funds: For acquisition projects, grants funds are only available for the acquisition of real estate. Real estate acquisition includes fee title purchase, the purchase of easements, or future interests in land (remainders after life estates). Funds are not eligible for any expense in addition to the consideration paid to the existing property owner. Expenses that are not eligible under this grant program include but are not limited to the following: legal fees, condemnation costs, title search, engineering survey, environmental assessment, appraisal, and administrative expenses. These costs should be borne by the municipality acquiring the land.

For non-acquisition projects, eligible use of grant funds is subject to the approval of the Open Space Board and the County Commissioners. Projects may include: tree planting, trail design and construction, refurbishment of existing parks, building demolition, or interpretive signage. Given the nature of these projects, eligible expenses will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Green infrastructure fund will not be used for regular park maintenance needs.

Eligible Non-Acquisition Projects: Projects that are non-acquisition will fall under the options of green infrastructure, trail and pathway development, or Schuylkill River Greenway implementation. These projects must be an integral part of the overall open space system, and must be included within a currently adopted open space or comprehensive plan or a duly adopted amendment to either document.

Match Requirements: County grants will not exceed 80% of the eligible costs of the property acquisition. Municipalities shall provide a 20% match, which can include state, federal or private grants. Multi-municipal projects are eligible for a 90% county match. Norristown and Pottstown will be eligible to receive a 90% county match throughout the program.

NOTE: Program is not currently funded; County staff is still monitoring potential projects and other opportunities with a focus on fostering partnerships for Schuylkill River corridor projects.

Schuylkill River Greenway Initiative

Montgomery County has recently launched a new initiative, ‘the Schuylkill River Greenway’ which is intended to “leverage the recreational, natural resource, educational and economic value of the river...” The County has prepared a draft report (July 2010) of *Schuylkill River Greenway*

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Opportunities and has catalogued the various projects and activities along the river from Philadelphia to Berks County. In the draft *Opportunities* report, the County cites the possibility of grant funding preference for activities along the River from the County's Revitalization and Green Fields/Green Towns Programs. With this initiative in its infancy, additional funding opportunities could be discussed in the future.

State Funding Opportunities

Department of Community and Economic Development

Website: www.newpa.com

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG): Provides grant assistance and technical assistance to aid communities in their community and economic development efforts.

Community Revitalization Program (CR): Provides grant funds to support local initiatives that promote the stability of communities.

Industrial Sites Reuse Program: Grant and low-interest loan financing to perform environmental site assessment and remediation work at former industrial sites.

Local Government Municipal Resources and Development Program (LGMRDP): Construction or rehabilitation of infrastructure, building rehabilitation, acquisition and demolition of structures/land, revitalization or construction of community facilities, purchase or upgrade of machinery and equipment, planning of community assets, public safety, crime prevention, recreation, and training. (Note: fourth round funding application deadline is March 21, 2011)

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Website: www.dcnr.state.pa.us/grants

Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2) - The Community Conservation Partnerships Program provides state and federal grant dollars to help fund community recreation, land trust, rails-to-trails, rivers conservation, and Pennsylvania recreational trails projects.

Contact: Southeast Field Office (Philadelphia):

908 State Office Building

1400 Spring Garden Street

Philadelphia, PA 19130

Phone: 215.560.1182 or 215.560.1183

Fax: 215.560.6722

Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST)

Website: www.pennvest.state.pa.us/pennvest/site/default.asp

Brownfield redevelopment and water/sewer issues

Low-interest loans for the remediation of sites that have been contaminated by past industrial or commercial activity and pose a threat to local groundwater or surface water sources ("brownfield").

Eligibility

Owner of property that needs to be remediated in order to mitigate water quality impacts.

Eligible Uses

Specific assessment in conjunction with remediation activities on contaminated properties across the Commonwealth. These activities must be related to a water quality benefit, which can include the prevention of contamination. The purpose of this brownfield remediation financing initiative is to encourage the cleanup and reuse of contaminated properties while improving and protecting local water resources. Drinking water, wastewater and storm water infrastructure facilities are also eligible

Funding

1. Loans up to \$11 million per project for one municipality
2. Up to \$20 million for projects that serve 2 or 3 municipalities
3. Amounts more than \$20 million require a special vote of the PENNVEST Board of Directors, and for comprehensive projects that serve all or parts of four or more municipalities

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)

Website: www.phmc.state.pa.us

Note: Whitemarsh Township is not currently a Certified Local Government; if the Township pursues that status in the future, the following grants may be available.

Certified Local Government Grant Program – Provides funding for cultural resource surveys, national register nominations, technical and planning assistance, educational and interpretive programs, staffing and training, and pooling CLG grants and third party administration.

Keystone Historic Preservation Grant Program - Funding for preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation.

Pennsylvania History and Museum Grant Program - Funding under this program is designated to support a wide variety of museum, history, archives, and historic preservation projects as well as nonprofit organizations and local governments. There are ten types of grants available.

Note: Due to budget constraints all grant programs for PHMC have either been eliminated from the 2010-2011 budget or are limited to technical assistance only. Program limitations are explained in greater detail on their website.

Pennsylvania Fish and Wildlife Boating Facilities Grant

Boating Facility Grant Funds are available to public entities, including townships, boroughs, municipal and county governments as well as to nonprofit groups [501(c)(3)] including land trusts, conservancies and watershed associations that have or will have the capability to provide boat access facilities that are open and available for general public use.

The grant will reimburse recipients for up to 75% of the costs for land acquisition, project design and engineering, development, expansion, and major rehabilitation of public recreational boat access facilities. Eligible activities include the rehabilitation, expansion or construction of new boat ramps, bulkheads, courtesy floats, access roads, parking areas, restrooms, signs and localized landscaping. All construction activities must benefit and directly support recreational boating. Eligible projects must occur on public lands owned by the project sponsor, or where the sponsor has a long-term lease

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or agreement on the site. Grant funds are used for major site improvements and not for any routine maintenance or operation activities.

Grant recipients are responsible for at least 25% of the proposed project cost. This 25% match can be cash, the fair market value of any labor or materials, a combination thereof, or grants from other federal, state or local funding sources.

The deadline for consideration of an application for the following fiscal year is **December 18**. However, the Commission encourages prospective co-operators to submit applications anytime. Additional monies are sometimes available as contracted installations turn out to be less expensive than planned and can be funded out of current year funds.

Contact:

Pa Fish and Boat Commission
Bureau of Boating & Access
Boating Facility Grant Program
PO Box 67000
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000
717-346-8196

Regional funding Opportunities

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Website: www.dvrpc.org

Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) - The TCDI program is intended to assist in reversing the trends of disinvestment and decline in many of the region's core cities and first generation suburbs by:

- Supporting local planning projects that will lead to more residential, employment, or retail opportunities.
- Improving the overall character and quality of life within these communities to retain and attract business and residents, which will help to reduce the pressure for further sprawl and expansion into the growing suburbs.
- Enhancing and utilizing the existing transportation infrastructure capacity in these areas to reduce the demands on the region's transportation network.
- Reducing congestion and improving the transportation system's efficiency.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program seeks transportation-related projects that can help the region reduce emissions from highway sources and meet National Clean Air Act standards. The program covers the DVRPC region of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania and Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer counties in New Jersey.

Schuylkill River Heritage Area (SRHA)

Website: www.schuylkillriver.org

Grants are available to counties, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations to develop projects and programs that address SRHA's five core goals: resource conservation (natural and cultural) education and interpretation, recreation, community revitalization, heritage, and tourism.

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Projects should be consistent with criteria established in *Living with the River: The Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement* for the Schuylkill River Heritage Area, available on the SRHA Web site.

Federal Grants

National Park Service

Website: www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/

Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program – The program offers technical assistance only to nonprofit organizations, community groups, and local or state government agencies. The program's technical staff offers the following types of assistance for recreation and conservation projects:

- Building partnerships to achieve community-set goals
- Assessing resources
- Developing concept plans
- Engaging public participation
- Identifying potential sources of funding
- Creating public outreach
- Organizational development
- Providing conservation and recreation information

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pg. 29)

The LWCF was established in 1965 to help provide “close-to-home” park and recreation opportunities throughout the nation. Money for the fund comes from the sale or lease of non-renewable resources, primarily federal offshore oil and gas leases and surplus federal land sales. A large portion of the annual LWCF allocation goes toward acquisition of land for federal land management agencies; however, a portion of the money is provided to cities, counties and park districts to acquire land and develop parks. LWCF funds are provided to each state annually by the National Park Service. State funding is based on a population formula. A state administers the program through a State Liaison Officer, who recommends projects to the National Park Service for approval. Local governments are eligible applicants. Communities must be able to match LWCF grants with a 50 percent provision of funding or services.

In order to qualify for funding, a project must meet two criteria. First, the project must be primarily for recreation purposes, not transportation. Second, the organization leading the project must guarantee that the project will be maintained in perpetuity for public recreational use. Any deviation from recreational use must be approved by the National Park Service, and property of at least equal recreational value must be provided to replace the loss.

Americans for Our Heritage and Recreation provides an overview of the LWCF program at http://www.ahrinfo.org/lwcf_overview.htm and links to the National Park Service and State Liaison Officers.

The National Park Service maintains the LWCF website: <http://www.ncrc.nps.gov/wcf> .

Pennsylvania’s State Liaison Officer may be contacted at:

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Bureau of Recreation and Conservation
PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 8767, Harrisburg, PA 17105

North American Wetlands Conservation Act Small Grants Program

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pgs. 31-32)

The 1989 North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) promotes long-term conservation of North American wetlands ecosystems and the waterfowl and other migratory birds, fish and wildlife that depend on such habitats. Principal conservation actions supported by NAWCA are acquisition, creation, enhancement and restoration of wetlands and associated habitat. The US Fish and Wildlife Service administers the Small Grants Program, which promotes long-term wetlands conservation through encouraging participation by new grantees and partners who may not be able to compete in the regular grants program. The maximum grant award is \$50,000, and the proposals must represent on-the-ground projects rather than educational, interpretive, or other types of projects. There is a 1:1 non-federal match requirement.

More information on the program can be obtained through the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird Habitat Conservation at:

<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/Small/index.shtm>

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

(All SAFETEA-LU information was taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pgs. 32-34).

Note: Currently not funded; will be re-considered by Congress in 2012.

On August 10, 2005, President George W. Bush signed the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). SAFETEA-LU authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 5-year period 2005-2009.

With guaranteed funding for highways, highway safety, and public transportation totaling \$244.1 billion, SAFETEA-LU represents the largest surface transportation investment in our Nation's history. The two landmark bills that brought surface transportation into the 21st century—the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) and the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)—shaped the highway program to meet the Nation's changing transportation needs. SAFETEA-LU builds on this firm foundation, supplying the funds and refining the programmatic framework for investments needed to maintain and grow our vital transportation infrastructure.

SAFETEA-LU addresses the many challenges facing our transportation system today – challenges such as improving safety, reducing traffic congestion, improving efficiency in freight movement, increasing intermodal connectivity, and protecting the environment – as well as laying the

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groundwork for addressing future challenges. SAFETEA-LU promotes more efficient and effective Federal surface transportation programs by focusing on transportation issues of national significance, while giving State and local transportation decision makers more flexibility for solving transportation problems in their communities.

SAFETEA-LU continues a strong fundamental core formula program emphasis coupled with targeted investment.

For more information about SAFETEA-LU go to the US Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration's website at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu/summary.htm>.

Contacts are also available for every metropolitan or county planning organization nationwide.

In the Philadelphia metro region contact:

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
The Bourse Building
111 S. Independence Mall East, 8th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-592-1800

SAFETEA-LU Surface Transportation Program

The Surface Transportation Program within SAFETEA-LU provides flexible funding that may be used by States and localities for projects on any Federal-aid highway, including the NHS, bridge projects on any public road, transit capital projects, and intricacy and intercity bus terminals and facilities.

For detailed information on funding per year 2005-2009 (*note: Funding reauthorized until December 31, 2010*) and fact sheets on individual programs see US Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration's website at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/safetealu/factsheets.htm>.

SAFETEA-LU Transportation Enhancements Program

Transportation Enhancement Activities offer communities the opportunity to expand transportation choices. Activities such as safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, scenic routes, beautification, and other investments increase opportunities for recreation, accessibility, and safety for everyone beyond traditional highway programs.

US Department of Transportation/Federal Highway Administration's website serves as a resource to States providing official legislation and guidance documents:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/te/>

The National Transportation Enhancements Clearinghouse (NTEC) website provides a very good can get an introduction to TE, allows you to access a database of TE projects, to find your state TE contacts, to order TE related documents, and more. Go to: <http://www.enhancements.org/>

Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program (TCSP)

The Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) Program is a comprehensive initiative of research and grants to investigate the relationships between transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices and identify and provide sector-based initiatives to improve such relationships. States, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and tribal

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governments are eligible for discretionary grants to carry out eligible projects to integrate transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices that:

- Improve the efficiency of the transportation system of the United States.
- Reduce environmental impacts of transportation.
- Reduce the need for costly future public infrastructure investments.
- Ensure efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade.
- Examine community development patterns and identify strategies to encourage private sector development patterns and investments that support these goals.

Section 1117 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFTEA-LU, Public Law 109-203) authorized the TCSP Program through FY 2009. A total of \$270 million is authorized for this Program in FY's 2005-2009 (*note: Funding reauthorized until December 31, 2010*).

For more information, go to the Federal Highway Administration's TCSP website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tcsp>.

Recreational Trails Program

Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/>

As described by the Federal Highway website:

The **Recreational Trails Program (RTP)** provides funds to the States to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. The RTP is an assistance program of the Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Federal transportation funds benefit recreation including hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, equestrian use, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, four-wheel driving, or using other off-road motorized vehicles.

The RTP funds come from the Federal Highway Trust Fund, and represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational fuel use: fuel used for off-highway recreation by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-highway light trucks.

The RTP funds are distributed to the States by legislative formula: half of the funds are distributed equally among all States, and half are distributed in proportion to the estimated amount of non-highway recreational fuel use in each State.

Each State administers its own program. Contact your State RTP Administrator for guidance on State policies and project eligibility requirements:

Vanyla Tierney, State Trails Administrator

Greenways and Conservation Partnerships Div

Bureau of Recreation & Conservation

PO Box 8475

Harrisburg PA 17105-8475

717-783-2654; Fax 717-772-4363

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Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pg. 35).

The WRP program, operated by the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), is available to help restore wetlands on non-federal lands. Private landowners and state, county and local governments can get the cost share funds to pay 75 percent of the restoration costs by agreeing to maintain the restoration for at least 10 years. To sign up or get more information, contact the local NRCS or conservation district office. Conservation Districts are listed in the “county government” section of most phone books. In many states, they are called Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

For more information on the program, see the Farm Bill Network website:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp/>

US Environmental Protection Agency - Green Building Funding Information

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pg. 36)

Numerous sources of funding for green building are available at the national, state and local levels for homeowners, industry, government organizations and nonprofits. The US EPA provides the links to help variety of funding sources including grants, tax-credits, loans, or others.

For more information see:<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/greenbuilding/tools/funding.htm>

Private

Bikes Belong Coalition Grants Program

Website: <http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants/>

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pg. 42)

The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by the bicycle industry, with the mission of putting more people on bicycles more often. The Bikes Belong Coalition Grants Program <http://bikesbelong.org/site/page.cfm?PageID=21> provides grants of up to \$10,000 to nonprofit organizations and public agencies at the national, regional, and local level for facility, capacity, and education projects. Priority is given to organizations that are directly involved in building coalitions for bicycling by collaborating the efforts of bicycle industry and advocacy groups. Requests are reviewed quarterly, please see the website each year for application deadlines and guidelines.

Claneil Foundation, Inc.

Website: www.claneilfoundation.org/mission.php

Purpose and activities: Given primarily for the arts, education, health, the environment, and community development. Geographic focus: Pennsylvania

Contact: Executive Director Cathy M. Weiss
630 W. Germantown Pike, Ste. 400, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-1059

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The Conservation Fund

Website: www.conservationfund.org

Watershed Action Grant Program: Watershed Action Grants aid nonprofit organizations and their partners in implementing conservation plans to protect watersheds, improve water quality, and promote watershed stewardship. For complete information, go directly to www.conservationfund.org

Foundation Center

Website: www.fdncenter.org

Foundation Grants –Contact the Foundation Center at 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003. Their website has a large database of organizations that make grants for many different types of projects.

Kodak American Greenways Grants Program

Website: www.conservationfund.org/?article=2106

The Kodak American Greenways Awards Program, a partnership project of the Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, provides small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America.

Greenways are corridors of protected public and private land established along rivers, stream valleys, ridges, abandoned railroad corridors, utility rights-of-way, canals, scenic roads, or other linear features. In general, grants can be used for all appropriate expenses needed to complete a greenway project, including planning, technical assistance, legal and other costs, annually.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Website: www.nfwf.org/programs.cfm

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, established by Congress in 1984 and dedicated to the conservation of fish, wildlife, and plants, and the habitat on which they depend. The foundation's goals are to promote healthy populations of fish, wildlife, and plants by generating new commerce for conservation. The foundation meets these goals by creating partnerships between the public and private sectors and strategically invests in conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. One of the newest grant programs, Acres for America, is a partnership with Wal-Mart that seeks to preserve lands to offset the loss of habitat when stores are constructed.

PECO Energy

“Green Region” administered by Natural Lands Trust

Website: www.natlands.org

Grants for municipalities in Southeastern Pennsylvania

- Up to 50% of the planning expenses associated with developing or updating municipal open space protection plans.
- Up to 75% of the direct and indirect expenses associated with the fee simple purchase (or receipt by donation) of open space properties identified in a municipal open space plan.
- Up to 75% of the direct and indirect expenses associated with the purchase (or receipt by donation) of conservation easements (also known as “development rights”) on properties identified in a municipal open space plan.
- Up to 75% of the planning expenses to improve municipal-owned open spaces or lands to be acquired by a municipality.

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- Up to 50% of the cost of materials and labor to install habitat improvements and capital improvements for passive recreation on municipal-owned open space, when such improvements are identified in a municipal open space plan.

Contact:

Green Region, c/o Natural Lands Trust
1031 Palmers Mill Road, Media, PA 19063
Phone: 610.353.5587

Exelon (PECO) & Philadelphia Water Department Schuylkill River Watershed Restoration

Excerpt from 2010 Funding Guidelines PDF:

Goals and Purposes of Watershed Restoration Grants – Watershed Restoration grants are available to non-profit organizations, county & municipal governments, and other related government agencies to undertake implementation projects that will improve the quality and quantity of water in the Schuylkill River and its tributaries. The goal of the Schuylkill River Restoration Program is to fund projects in the Schuylkill River Basin that are consistent with restoration and water management goals for the Schuylkill River.

General Funding Area – Funding will be given to projects that mitigate water quality and quantity problems in the Schuylkill River watershed resulting from acid mine drainage, agricultural runoff, and stormwater issues. A portion of the overall fund will be targeted to focus areas in the watershed:

Focus Area 1: Perkiomen Creek - At least 10% of available Exelon funds may be targeted toward implementation projects within the Perkiomen watershed. Eligible projects in the Perkiomen Creek Watershed may include stormwater management, agricultural runoff mitigation, and pathogen remediation.

Focus Area 2: Philadelphia Water Supply - A portion of the available funds will be set aside for projects that are able to demonstrate direct protection of the Philadelphia drinking water supply. Eligible projects will address stormwater management, agriculture runoff mitigation and pathogen remediation directly upstream of, within the drainage of, or in areas of significant influence on the Philadelphia drinking water intakes in the Schuylkill River.

Award Amounts –

- Grant applicants may request between \$25,000 and \$100,000.
- Applicants working in the Perkiomen Creek Watershed may request between \$5,000 and \$100,000.

Note: by the publication date of this report, 2010 funding applications will have been submitted. Further funding opportunities should be monitored.

Pew Charitable Trusts

Website: www.pewtrusts.org

Grants for private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations

Contact:

Josh Reichert

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c/o The Pew Charitable Trusts,
2005 Market Street, Suite 1700,
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215.575.4740

Recreational Equipment, Incorporated (REI) Conservation and Recreation Grants

Website: <http://www.rei.com/aboutrei/grants02.html>

(Taken from *Feasibility Study for the Whitemarsh Township Pedestrian and Bicycle Network Plan*, Campbell Thomas & Co., May 14, 2009, pg. 45)

REI awards conservation grants to organizations for the protection and enhancement of natural resources for use in outdoor recreation. Small grants of up to \$5,000 are offered to accomplish the following:

- Preservation of wildlands and open space
- Advocacy oriented education for the general public about conservation issues
- Building the membership base of a conservation organization
- Direct citizen action campaigns on public land and water recreation issues
- Projects working to organize a trails constituency or to enhance the effectiveness of a trails organization's work as a trails advocate at the state or local level

In addition to preserving and protecting the environment, REI also encourages people to get outdoors for recreation. Outdoor recreation grants support projects that do the following:

- increase access to outdoor activities
- encourage involvement in muscle-powered recreation
- promote safe participation in outdoor muscle-powered recreation and proper care for outdoor resources

William Penn Foundation

Website: www.wpennfdn.org

Grants for private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations in Southeastern PA

Funding Priorities:

- Promote sustainable watershed assets.
- Promote strategic, coordinated policies and investments to ensure land and water protection. Implement projects in targeted areas that demonstrate model practices and policies.
- Promote sustainable regional development.
- Promote coordinated, strategic public redevelopment policies and investments that build on existing infrastructure and regional assets of older communities.
- Foster innovation and implement community redevelopment models in the urban core (targeted communities in Philadelphia and Camden).

Their approach is based on the belief that older, urban neighborhoods, even those that have suffered decades of urban decline, have unique assets that distinguish them from their suburban counterparts. By enhancing and leveraging these assets, urban communities can reconnect to the regional economy and become more attractive places to live and do business. The changing field of community

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development highlights the need for comprehensive solutions that include systems change and market-oriented approaches.

WREN – Water Resources Education Network

Website: www.palwv.org/wren

Watershed Education Grants (Administered through the League of Women Voters of PA)

The League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Citizen Education Fund (LWVPA-CEF) funds a limited number of community based educational projects that protect and improve the community's watershed. The grant application forms and instructions are on the website. WREN will have both Source Water Protection and Watershed Education grants in 2011. Applications will be due in the Spring, with projects to take place July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012.

Grants are available for water resources education projects, especially projects that raise awareness about protecting drinking water sources and preventing non-point pollution.

TreeVitalize Watersheds (Philadelphia Region)

As per the TreeVitalize website:

TreeVitalize Southeast Watershed includes Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties. Conservation Districts located within that region are eligible for funding through separate funds available through the PA Horticultural Society. Contact Michael Leff at 215-988-8800 or www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org/home/index.html

DCNR launched TreeVitalize as a broad-based public-private partnership to increase public awareness of the importance of community trees, and to reverse the loss of tree cover in the state's metropolitan areas. The program began in southeast Pennsylvania in partnership with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. In 2008 it was launched in Pittsburgh, in partnership with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and by the end of 2009 it will be available in all 14 of the state's metropolitan areas, as defined by the US Census Bureau.

The goal of the TreeVitalize Program is to plant 1 million trees within the next five years, by 2012. These are to include larger caliper trees for city streets, parks, and other public property; seedlings in buffer plantings along streams to reduce erosion and improve water quality; and those purchased by homeowners for planting on private property with a TreeVitalize rebate discount. An additional goal is to train 10,000 volunteers in basic tree biology and tree care to assist their communities in establishing and maintaining new plantings. Ultimately, the goal of TreeVitalize is to establish strong urban forestry partnerships in all 14 Pennsylvania metropolitan areas and to build local capacity for sustaining the urban forest resource.

Note: Contact with the TreeVitalize Program Administrator confirmed that there is a riparian buffer component which could be applicable along the Schuylkill River.