

15 FUNDING SOURCES

15.1 Introduction

Each year, local governments receive a set amount of funds from federal and state transportation agencies for transportation projects. They also have funding set aside within their own budgets for transportation projects. Local governments allocate most of this funding for roadway projects and only periodically allocate a small part of this funding for pedestrian and/or bicycle projects. Therefore, local agencies must seek funding from external sources for many proposed greenway, trail, and bikeway projects.

15.2 Organization and Program List

Since completion of the 2004 Champaign County Greenways & Trails Plan, the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission completed an implementation strategy for identifying funding sources to implement proposed greenways and trails projects. This strategy led to the following list, which the Greenways & Trails Technical and Policy Committees approved. The Champaign County Regional Planning Commission will work with the aforementioned committees to update this list as information becomes available. The list shows funding opportunities organized by state, federal, private, and non-profit sources.

State of Illinois		
Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)		
Boat Access Area Development Program		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: Between July 1st & September 1st	Maximum Amount: \$200,000
Description: The Boat Access Area Development Program provides financial assistance to local government agencies for the acquisition, construction, and expansion/rehabilitation, including necessary A/E services, of public boat and canoe access areas on Illinois' lakes and rivers. The program provides up to 100% of approved project construction costs and 90% of approved land acquisition costs.		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newboat2.htm		
Illinois Bicycle Path Program		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: March 1st	Maximum Amount: \$200,000 for Development Projects, None for Acquisition Projects
Description: The Illinois Bicycle Path Grant Program was created to financially assist eligible units of government acquire, construct, and rehabilitate public, non-motorized bicycle paths and directly related support facilities. Grants are available to any local government agency having statutory authority to acquire and develop land for public bicycle path purposes. Financial assistance up to 50% of approved project costs is available through the program.		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newbike2.htm		
Illinois Biodiversity Field Trip		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: January 31st	Maximum Amount: \$500
Description: Grants are only available to teachers in Illinois and should be for the purpose of studying some aspect of Illinois' biodiversity, referring to the variety of life in an area. The field trip site must be in Illinois and can include state parks, natural areas, natural history museums and nature centers. A budget with an itemized list of expenditures to be covered by the grant must be included. Items eligible for funding include: transportation, substitute teachers, admission fees, and guest speakers.		
Website: http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/CLASSRM/grants.htm		

Illinois Forestry Assistance Programs		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: N/A	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: The goals of forestry programs in Illinois are to maintain and improve the State's rural and urban forests, and enable forests to remain as an important component in the ecological processes that sustain the State's valuable natural resources and economy. These goals and private landowner objectives will be accomplished by using non-regulatory approaches and voluntary participation. Programs include Rural Forest Landowner Assistance, Urban and Community Forestry, Nursery Operations, Forest Protection and Health Management, and the Forest Development Act (FDA).		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/conservation/forestry/programs.htm		
Illinois Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant Program		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: November 30th	Maximum Amount: \$1,000
Description: Projects must emphasize student/youth involvement with planning, development and maintenance and increase the educational and wildlife habitat values of the site. The applicant must be prepared to maintain and commit resources to the project for at least five years. The project must be implemented on school grounds or another public place (for example, a park or nature center/forest preserve district land). Funding requests should focus on items necessary for enhancement and development of wildlife habitat, such as native plants, seeds, mulch and lumber/hardware for constructing nesting/roosting boxes and platforms. Teachers, nature center personnel and youth group leaders in Illinois may apply.		
Website: http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/education/CLASSRM/grants.htm		
Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Program		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: March 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: The OHV grant program provides financial aid to government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and other eligible groups or individuals to develop, operate, maintain, and acquire land for off-highway vehicle parks and trails. These facilities must be open and accessible to the public. The program can also help restore areas damaged by unauthorized OHV use. The program can provide up to 100% funding reimbursement assistance for approved, eligible project costs.		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newohv2.htm		
Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Program (OSLAD) & Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: Between May 1st & July 1st	Maximum Amount: \$750,000 for Acquisition Projects, \$400,000 for Development/Renovation Projects
Description: The OSLAD Program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space. The federal LWCF program (also known as LAWCON) is a similar program with similar objectives. Projects vary from small neighborhood parks or tot lots to large community and county parks and nature areas. Both programs provide funding assistance up to 50% of approved project.		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newoslad1.htm		
Partners for Conservation (PFC) Ecosystem Project Grants		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: December 15th	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: Partners for Conservation Ecosystems Program project grants are submitted through Ecosystem Partnerships and are awarded annually on a competitive basis. The Program accepts grants in the following categories: habitat restoration, land acquisition/easement, education/outreach, planning, research, and resource economics. Any project located within the boundaries of an Ecosystem Partnership is eligible for Partners for Conservation funds.		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/orep/pfc/ecosystem/		

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: March 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: This program provides funding assistance for acquisition, development, rehabilitation and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized recreation trails. Examples of eligible project activities include: trail construction and rehabilitation; restoration of areas adjacent to trails damaged by unauthorized trail uses; construction of trail-related support facilities and amenities; and acquisition from willing sellers of trail corridors through easements or fee simple title. By law, 30% of each state's RTP funding must be earmarked for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized trail projects and the remaining 40% for multi-use (diversified) motorized and non-motorized trails or a combination of either. The RTP program can provide up to 80% federal funding on approved projects and requires a minimum 20% non-federal funding match.</p>		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newrtp2.htm		
Snowmobile Grant Program		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: May 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The state-funded Snowmobile Grant Program for local governments is financed from the registration fees of snowmobiles and provides up to 50% reimbursement of approved facility development/rehabilitation costs and 90% of approved trail corridor land acquisition costs for public snowmobile trails and areas in the state. This program is available to any unit of local government located in a region of Illinois with sufficient snow cover and having statutory authority to acquire and develop lands for public park and recreation purposes.</p>		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newsnow2.htm		
Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund (STEF)		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: May 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund (STEF) Program provides financial assistance to incorporated, private snowmobile clubs in Illinois. The STEF Program provides reimbursement funding assistance up to 100% of eligible project costs. Funds for the program come from a portion of snowmobile registration fees collected by the state. Grants may be obtained by local snowmobile clubs to develop and maintain additional public trails and facilities in the state. Although grants are made to private clubs, STEF-assisted snowmobile trails and facilities must be open and available for general public use.</p>		
Website: http://dnr.state.il.us/ocd/newstef2.htm		
Illinois Habitat Fund		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: August 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Illinois Habitat Fund is one of three programs funded through the purchase of a State Habitat Stamp. Eligible projects are limited to those seeking to preserve, protect, acquire or manage habitat (all wetlands, woodlands, grasslands, and agricultural lands, natural or altered) in Illinois that have the potential to support populations of wildlife in any or all phases of their life cycles. Eligible recipients are limited to any appropriate not-for-profit organization or government agency that has the expertise, equipment, adequate staff/workforce and permission from the landowner (if applicable) to develop and/or manage habitat.</p>		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/grants/Special_Funds/WildGrant.htm		
State Pheasant Fund		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: August 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The State Pheasant Fund Grant Program is dedicated to the conservation of wild pheasants. Eligible projects may include land acquisition, pheasant habitat improvement on public or private land, pheasant research, or education of the public regarding pheasants and pheasant hunting. Eligible recipients are limited to appropriate not-for-profit organizations.</p>		
Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/grants/Special_Funds/WildGrant.htm		

Migratory Waterfowl Stamp Fund		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: January 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Migratory Waterfowl Stamp Fund Grant Program is dedicated to the conservation of waterfowl that pass through Illinois during their migrations. Eligible projects are limited to development of waterfowl propagation areas within the Dominion of Canada or the United States that specifically provide waterfowl for the Mississippi Flyway, and projects to implement the North American Waterfowl Management Plan for the development of waterfowl areas within the Dominion of Canada or the United States that specifically provide waterfowl for the Mississippi Flyway. Eligible recipients are limited to appropriate not-for-profit organizations.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/grants/Special_Funds/WildGrant.htm</p>		
Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: April 1st	Maximum Amount: \$2,000
<p>Description: The Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund Grant Program is designed to preserve, protect, perpetuate and enhance non-game wildlife and native plant resources of Illinois through preservation of a satisfactory environment and an ecological balance. Projects proposed for grant funding must focus on management, site inventories, or education. Management projects are those activities related to stewardship of land and/or water which are of direct benefit to non-game wildlife, native plants and natural communities. Examples of this type of project include exotic species removal, brush cutting, nest structures, and vegetation management. Site inventory projects are those activities which inventory species, taxa (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, plants, invertebrates, etc.), vegetation, habitats, etc. on an area of land. Education projects are those activities that teach Illinoisans about the natural world around them and hopefully have lasting effects. Examples of this type of project include interpretive trails, trail signs, curricula, displays, workshops, development of ongoing outdoor education activities, instructional packets and materials. ("One time only" projects directed at one small group of students will generally not be funded.)</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/grants/Special_Funds/WildGrant.htm</p>		
Illinois Wildlife Preservation Fund - Maintenance of Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities that take care of Threatened or Endangered Species		
Department: IDNR	Deadline: April 1st	Maximum Amount: \$2,000
<p>Description: This portion of the Special Wildlife Funds Grant Program is designed to keep wildlife rehabilitation facilities that take care of threatened or endangered species in a state of good repair necessary to provide safe and sanitary conditions for threatened or endangered wildlife species being cared for in the facility and for facility staff. Only persons who possess a current wildlife rehabilitation license/permit issued by IDNR and who have provided care for threatened or endangered wildlife species during the 3-year period preceding the date of their application qualify for grant funds.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.dnr.state.il.us/grants/Special_Funds/WildGrant.htm</p>		

Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)

Department: IDOT	Deadline: Set by IDOT	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: ITEP provides funding for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historic, aesthetic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for project costs. The remaining 20 percent is the responsibility of the project sponsor. A project must qualify as one of the 6 eligible categories listed in the ITEP Guidelines Manual and it must relate to surface transportation to be eligible for funding.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.dot.il.gov/opp/itep.html</p>		

Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Program (PBS)

Department: IDOT	Deadline: Set by IDOT	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program (PBS) is designed to aid public agencies in funding cost-effective projects that improve pedestrian and bicycle safety through education and enforcement. The primary focus of this program will be on areas experiencing disproportionately high pedestrian and bicycle crashes and surrounding facilities such as schools, parks, and senior centers.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.trafficsafetygrantsillinois.org</p>		

Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Department: IDOT	Deadline: Set by IDOT	Maximum Amount: \$200,000 for Infrastructure Applications, \$30,000 for Non-Infrastructure Applications
<p>Description: The Illinois Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS) is a federally funded program administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. The Illinois SRTS Program supports projects and programs that enable and encourage walking and bicycling to and from school. The program applies to schools serving grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. Project sponsors may receive up to 80 percent reimbursement for project costs. The remaining 20 percent is the responsibility of the project sponsor.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes/saferouteshome.aspx</p>		

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Illinois Clean Lakes Program (ICLP)

Department: IEPA	Deadlines: August 31st for Pre-Applications, October 31st for Final Applications	Maximum Amount: \$75,000 for Phase I Study \$300,000 for Phase II Implementation Grants
<p>Description: The Illinois Clean Lakes Program (ICLP) is a financial assistance grant program that supports lake owners' interest and commitment to long-term, comprehensive lake management. Through this program, IEPA provides technical and financial assistance primarily to governmental entities that manage publicly-owned lakes with extensive public access and use. Phase I lake study grants are awarded to identify problems and sources of pollution, and to develop a feasible course of corrective action. This study period typically lasts two years. Phase II grants support the implementation of procedures recommended in the Phase I report to improve water quality, recreational and ecological aspects of the lake. IEPA evaluates all applications on three primary factors: an assessment of the lake's overall water quality, its potential for improved water quality, and potential public benefits.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/conservation/iclp.html</p>		

Lake Education Assistance Program (LEAP)		
Department: IEPA	Deadline: September 30th, January 31st	Maximum Amount: \$500
<p>Description: The Lake Education Assistance Program (LEAP) is part of an education initiative offered by the Illinois EPA. LEAP funds are available to all school children whether they attend public or private schools, and for grades from kindergarten through graduate school. Funds are also available to not-for-profit organizations, such as lake associations, scouting groups, parks, and communities. The IEPA provides funding for approximately one hundred lake and lake watershed related educational field trips, seminars/workshops, projects, and activities per fiscal year. Projects and activities must have stated goals and involve the enhanced lake/lake watershed education of teachers, students, organizations and/or the community.</p>		
Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/conservation/leap.html		
Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program		
Department: IEPA	Deadline: Between June 1st & August 1st	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: Grants are available to local units of government and other organizations to protect water quality in Illinois. Projects must address water quality issues relating directly to nonpoint source pollution. Funds can be used for the implementation of IEPA approved watershed-based management plans including the development of information/education programs and for the installation of best management practices.</p>		
Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/non-point.html		
Priority Lake & Watershed Implementation Program (PLWIP)		
Department: IEPA	Deadline: March 1st	Maximum Amount: \$40,000
<p>Description: The Priority Lake and Watershed Implementation Program (PLWIP) is a program initiative that supports lake protection, restoration, and enhancement activities at lakes designated by the IEPA as "priority" lakes. These are lakes where causes and sources of problems are apparent, project sites are highly accessible, project size is relatively small, and local entities are in a position to quickly implement necessary treatments.</p>		
Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/conservation/plwip.html		
Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP)		
Department: IEPA	Deadline: March 31st for Pre-Applications	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Public Water Supply Loan Program (PWSLP) provides low interest loans to eligible recipients, primarily local government units, for the construction of community water supply facilities and other facilities that fulfill federal State Revolving Fund (SRF) requirements for a Green Project Reserve. The loan program is capitalized annually with federal grants and state matching funds, with these amounts supplemented by program repayments that now exceed \$20 million on an annual basis. Loans carry a maximum 20 year term, with interest rates set annually at one-half the bond market rate.</p>		
Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/drinking-water/index.html		
Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP)		
Department: IEPA	Deadline: March 31st for Pre-Applications	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Water Pollution Control Loan Program (WPCLP) provides low interest loans to eligible recipients, primarily local government units, for the construction of wastewater and wastewater treatment works and other facilities that fulfill federal State Revolving Fund (SRF) requirements for a Green Project Reserve, including certain types of storm water facilities. The loan program is capitalized annually with federal grants and state matching funds, with these amounts supplemented by program repayments that now exceed \$100 million on an annual basis. Loans carry a maximum 20 year term, with interest rates set annually at one-half the bond market rate.</p>		
Website: http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/financial-assistance/waste-water/index.html		

United States Federal Government		
Department of Agriculture (USDA)		
Community Facilities Direct and Guaranteed Loan Program		
Department: USDA	Deadline: None; Pre-Application Required	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: Community Programs can make and guarantee loans to develop essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Loans and guarantees are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special-purpose districts, as well as to non-profit corporations and tribal governments. Applicants must have the legal authority to borrow and repay loans, to pledge security for loans, and to construct, operate, and maintain the facilities. They must also be financially sound and able to organize and manage the facility effectively.</p>		
Website: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/HAD-CF_Loans.html		
Community Facilities Grant Program		
Department: USDA	Deadline: N/A	Maximum Amount: Varies, depending on population and income, economic feasibility, and availability of funds.
<p>Description: Community Programs provides grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population. Grants are authorized on a graduated scale. Applicants located in small communities with low populations and low incomes will receive a higher percentage of grants. Grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, and special-purpose districts, as well as non-profit corporations and tribal governments. In addition, applicants must have the legal authority necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance of the proposed facility and also be unable to obtain needed funds from commercial sources at reasonable rates and terms. Grant funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities. A grant may be made in combination with other CF financial assistance such as a direct or guaranteed loan, applicant contributions, or loans and grants from other sources.</p>		
Website: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/HAD-CF_Grants.html		
Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)		
Department: USDA	Deadline: N/A	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. Under the Agricultural Land Easements component, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps Indian tribes, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations protect working agricultural lands and limit non-agricultural uses of the land. Under the Wetlands Reserve Easements component, NRCS helps to restore, protect, and enhance enrolled wetlands.</p>		
Website: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/acep		
Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP)		
Department: USDA	Deadline: N/A	Maximum Amount: N/A
<p>Description: The Healthy Forests Reserve Program (HFRP) helps landowners restore, enhance, and protect forestland resources on private lands through easements and financial assistance. Through HFRP, landowners promote the recovery of endangered or threatened species, improve plant and animal biodiversity, and enhance carbon sequestration.</p>		
Website: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/forests		

Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)		
Conservation Grants		
Department: FWS	Deadline: Set by FWS	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: Conservation Grants provide financial assistance to States and Territories to implement conservation projects for listed species and at-risk species. Funded activities include habitat restoration, species status surveys, public education and outreach, captive propagation and reintroduction, nesting surveys, genetic studies, and development of management plans.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/grant-programs.html		
Recovery Land Acquisition Grants		
Department: FWS	Deadline: Set by FWS	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: Recovery Land Acquisition Grants provide funds to States and Territories for the acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of draft and approved recovery plans. Acquisition of habitat to secure long-term protection is often an essential element of a comprehensive recovery effort for a listed species.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/grant-programs.html		
Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants		
Department: FWS	Deadline: Set by FWS	Maximum Amount: \$750,000
Description: Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grants provide funds to States and Territories to support the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) through support of baseline surveys and inventories, document preparation, outreach, and similar planning activities. The purpose of an HCP is to ensure adequate protection of suitable habitat for threatened and endangered species, while at the same time providing for economic growth and development.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/grant-programs.html		
Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition Grants		
Department: FWS	Deadline: Set by FWS	Maximum Amount: \$2,000,000
Description: HCP Land Acquisition Grants provide funding to States and Territories to acquire land associated with approved HCPs. Grants do not fund the mitigation required of an HCP permittee; instead, they support land acquisition by the State or local governments that complement mitigation.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/grant-programs.html		
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act Grants		
Department: FWS	Deadline: Set by FWS	Maximum Amount: \$200,000
Description: The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act establishes a competitive, matching grants program that supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean that promote the long-term conservation of Neotropical migratory birds and their habitats. The goals of the Act include perpetuating healthy populations of these birds, providing financial resources for bird conservation initiatives, and fostering international cooperation for such initiatives.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NMBCA/index.shtm		
North American Wetland Conservation Act - Standard Grants Program		
Department: FWS	Deadlines: February 28th, July 8th	Maximum Amount: N/A
Description: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. The Standard Grants Program supports projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico that involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats.		
Website: http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm		

North American Wetland Conservation Act - Small Grants Program

Department: FWS	Deadline: November 7th	Maximum Amount: \$75,000
<p>Description: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife. The Small Grants Program operates only in the United States; it supports the same type of projects and adheres to the same selection criteria and administrative guidelines as the U.S. Standard Grants Program. However, project activities are usually smaller in scope and involve fewer project dollars.</p>		
<p>Website: http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm</p>		

Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR)

Department: FWS	Deadline: Varies	Maximum Amount: Varies
<p>Description: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) works with states, insular areas and the District of Columbia to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, their habitats, and the hunting, sport fishing and recreational boating opportunities they provide. The Division of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program provides oversight and/or administrative support for the following grant programs: Wildlife Restoration Grant Program, Sport Fish Restoration Grant Program, Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, Boating Infrastructure Grant Program, National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, State Wildlife Grant Program, Landowner Incentive Grant Program, Multistate Grant Program, Tribal Wildlife Grant Program, and the Tribal Landowner Incentive Grant Program.</p>		
<p>Website: http://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/</p>		

Private & Non-Profit Organizations (Nationwide, State)		
AmeriCorps Funding Opportunities		
Organization: Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)	Deadline: Varies	Maximum Amount: Varies
Description: The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) provides grants through its AmeriCorps program to national and local nonprofits, schools, government agencies, faith-based and community organizations, and other groups committed to strengthening their communities through volunteering. The promotion of environmental stewardship is one of CNCS' six focus areas.		
Website: http://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities		
Conservation Alliance Grants		
Organization: The Conservation Alliance	Deadlines: Nominations are due May 1st & November 1st; Proposals are due June 1st & December 1st	Maximum Amount: \$50,000
Description: The Conservation Alliance is a group of outdoor industry companies that seeks to protect threatened wild places and waterways throughout North America for their habitat and recreational values. The only eligible grant applicants are non-profit organizations that are nominated by one of the Conservation Alliance's member companies. Grant applications must seek to secure permanent protection of a specific wild land or waterway for its habitat and recreational values; use a campaign to engage grassroots citizen action in support of the conservation effort; be quantifiable with specific goals, objectives, and action plans; should include a clear measure for evaluating success; and should have a good chance of final success within four years.		
Website: http://www.conservationalliance.com/grants/grant_criteria		
Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation Grants		
Organization: Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation	Deadline: Varies	Maximum Amount: Varies
Description: The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation Grant Program supports environmental best practices to create a healthy and prosperous Illinois. The Foundation financially supports programs and projects that benefit the public in three program areas: implementing and improving the use of energy efficient technologies and methods, developing and increasing the use of renewable energy resources, and preserving and enhancing natural areas and wildlife habitats throughout Illinois. The Foundation provides funding to federally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and state and local government agencies serving Illinois residents.		
Website: http://www.illinoiscleanenergy.org/how-to-apply/		
National Trails Fund		
Organization: American Hiking Society	Deadline: Mid-December	Maximum Amount: \$5,000
Description: The American Hiking Society's National Trails Fund is the only privately funded, national grants program dedicated solely to building and protecting hiking trails. Created in response to the growing backlog of trail maintenance projects, the National Trails Fund has helped hundreds of grassroots organizations acquire the resources needed to protect America's cherished hiking trails. Grant applicants must be a member of the American Hiking Society Alliance and a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.		
Website: http://www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-fund/		

New Belgium Environmental Stewardship Grants Program		
Organization: New Belgium Brewing Company	Deadline: Varies depending on grant strategy	Maximum Amount: \$10,000
Description: The purpose of New Belgium’s Environmental Stewardship Grants Program is to serve and connect with the communities where they sell their beers. Their goal is to improve the health of the planet and inspire others to joyously embrace sustainable choices. They focus their grants on the following four strategies to mitigate human impacts on the planet: youth environmental education, sustainable agriculture, sensible transportation & bike advocacy, and water stewardship.		
Website: http://www.newbelgium.com/sustainability/Community/Philanthropy.aspx		
People for Bikes (PFB) Community Grants Program		
Organization: People for Bikes	Deadlines: Varies; Letter of Interest Required	Maximum Amount: \$10,000
Description: The People for Bikes (PFB) Community Grants Program provides funding for important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include bike paths, bike lanes, rail trails, bridges, mountain bike trails, bike parks, BMX facilities, end-of-trip facilities, and large-scale bicycle advocacy initiatives.		
Website: http://www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants		
Walmart Community Grant Program		
Organization: Walmart Foundation	Deadline: December 31st	Maximum Amount: \$2,500
Description: Walmart believes in operating globally and giving back locally – creating impact in the neighborhoods where they live and work. Through the Community Grant Program, their associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations. These include non-profit organizations, state and local government entities, educational institutions, and faith-based organizations. The Walmart Foundation engages in opportunities to align with its key areas of focus: Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating, Sustainability, Women’s Economic Empowerment, and Career Opportunity. However, programs that do not align with these areas will still be given consideration.		
Website: http://foundation.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/local-giving		