

# Local Grants Updates

NC Division of Parks & Recreation  
Grants and Outreach Program  
February 2, 2024



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## New Division Leader




Brian Strong, a 23-year veteran of the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation, has been named director of the division by the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Strong has been acting director of the division since early 2023 and has been a member of the state parks staff since 2000, most recently as deputy director/chief of planning and natural resources. In his roles, Strong has managed the division's State Trails Program and its major grants initiatives, including the NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund and Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership.



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## WebGrants

### Online Grant Application & Management


We are excited to announce that NC Division of Parks & Recreation (DPR) grants are moving to a web-based application and grant management system. This includes the following grant programs:

- Parks & Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF)
- 2024 Accessible Parks Program (AP)
- Great Trails State Program (GTSP)
- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- Recreational Trails Fund (RTP)
- Complete the Trails (CTP)
- Connecting Communities to State Trails (CCST)

WebGrants has been successfully implemented and utilized by many grant organizations across the country, and DPR looks forward to bringing this system to our NC communities. Over the next year, all applications, active grants, and closed grants will be migrated to WebGrants.



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## Facility Inventory


### Electronic

Our GIS staff is working with the Center for Geospatial Analytical at NCSU to develop a statewide public parks data layer as the framework for an electronic park and trails facility Inventory.

This is an extension of the RRS Municipal and County Parks and Recreation Services Study and RRS has presented the results of the Facilities Survey of local departments conducted at this conference.



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**Division  
Initiatives**

## Shaping Outdoor Recreation From Mountains to SEA

2025-2030 NC Outdoor Recreation Plan


We need your help as we develop the NC Outdoor Recreation Plan! We want to identify needs within communities across the state as well as new opportunities and improvements in outdoor recreation and conservation. This information will allow us to create an action plan to provide the most benefits for residents and visitors of North Carolina and the state's natural and cultural resources.



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## State Grants




**Parks and  
Recreation  
Trust Fund  
(PARTF)**

Notification of Funding: 11/1/2023  
Application Deadline: 5/1/2024  
Award Selection: 8/23/24 (Parks & Recreation Authority)  
Match: 50%  
No Minimum Request  
Maximum Request: \$500,000

Eligible applicants can download a copy of the application for paper submission or submit online in WebGrants.

The funding opportunity will close in WebGrants on May 1, 2024, at 5pm; no submissions will be possible after 5pm. Paper submissions must be postmarked May 1, 2024, or before to be eligible for consideration.



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## State Grants



Notification of Funding: 1/2/2024  
Application Deadline: 5/1/2024  
Award Selection: 8/23/24 (Parks & Recreation Authority)  
Match: 20%  
No Minimum Request  
Maximum Request: \$500,000  
Available funding: \$12.5 million for FY23-24 (Non-Recurring)

Eligible applicants can submit online in WebGrants. The funding opportunity will close in WebGrants on May 1, 2024, at 5pm; no submissions will be possible after 5pm.

The AP grants will be scored based on access:

- 1) no access to minimum access,
- 2) minimum access to maximum access, and
- 3) no access to maximum access.

### Definitions

**Maximum Access:** the site, facility, work environment, service or program is compliant and meets the accessibility standards as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and as required by law. Additionally, it has been designed with the intention of barrier removal to create usability by all people to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or modification. The design allows for seamless connectivity and usability between all features.

**Minimum access:** the site, facility, work environment, service or program is compliant. It meets the accessibility standards as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and as required by law.

**No access:** the site, facility, work environment, service or program is not compliant. It does not meet accessibility standards as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and required by law.



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## State Grants



Notification of Funding: 3/1/2024  
Application Deadline: 9/3/2024  
Projected Award Selection: December 2024  
Match: Based on the average budget over the last 5 years  
Minimum Request: TBD  
Maximum Request: \$500,000

Available funding: \$12.5 million for each FY23-24 and FY24-25 (Non-Recurring)

Eligible applicants can submit online in WebGrants. The funding opportunity will close in WebGrants on September 3, 2024, at 5pm; no submissions will be possible after 5pm.

Eligible applicants: NC counties and municipalities, regional council of governments, public authorities, and non-profits.

Grant applications scored and ranked by DPR and recommendations made to the Secretary of Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (DNCR).



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## State Grants

**Connecting  
Communities  
to State Trails  
Grant (CCST)**

Notification of Funding: 1/24/24  
Application Deadline: 4/30/24  
Projected Award Selection: Fall/Winter 2024  
Match: 50% (with non-State funds)  
Minimum request: \$ 25,000  
Maximum request: \$100,000

Available funding: \$1,930,500 is available for the entire grant. \$1,287,006 is reserved for communities with less than 5,000 population. \$643,494 is reserved for communities with a population greater than 5,000, but less than 25,000.

Eligible applicants: North Carolina municipalities less than 25,000 in population and located within 6 miles of an existing or planned segment of a component of the state trails system.

A map of the eligible communities is available online.

Contact: Sam Little

[sam.little@ncparks.gov](mailto:sam.little@ncparks.gov)

919-707-9308



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## Federal Grants

**Recreation  
Trails  
Program  
(RTP)**

Notification of Funding: 3/1/2024  
Anticipated Application Deadline: 9/6/2024  
Award Selection: TBD  
Match: 25%  
Minimum Request: \$10,000  
Maximum Request: \$100,000

NC Allocation: Approx. \$1.49 million

Eligible applicants: local governments and non-profits

Website: <https://trails.nc.gov/>

Contact:

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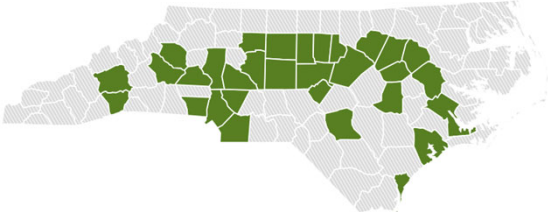
north carolina state parks  
**NC TRAILS**



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## Federal Grants




**Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program**

Pre-Application Deadline: 4/30/2024  
Final Application Deadline: 11/1/2025  
Award Selection: 2/1/26  
Match: 50%  
Minimum Request: \$300,000  
Maximum Request: \$15,000,000

ORLP is nationwide competition and has specific goals to fund projects that:


- Are located within or serve an Urbanized Area (population of 30,000 or more) as designated by the Census Bureau from the 2010 Census; and
- Are in, or are directly accessible to, neighborhoods or communities that are underserved in terms of parks and recreation resources and where there are significant populations of people who are economically disadvantaged.

To determine eligibility, please look up your site on the map available on the DPR website and the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.



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## Federal Grants




**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

Funding Year: 2025  
Notification of Funding: 3/1/2024  
Application Deadline: 8/1/2024  
Award Selection: TBD  
Match: 50%  
Minimum Request: \$10,000  
Maximum Request: \$500,000

Total NC Allocation: Approx. \$7 million  
Allocation is shared with State Parks

Please note we are moving to a single application deadline for LWCF. DPR will work with RRS and applicants to workshop applications submitted by August 1 and submit in the appropriate NPS funding cycle. Applications submitted after August 1 will not be considered.



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