

Call for 50th Anniversary National Trails and Wild and Scenic Rivers Projects

This is a request for information about projects that can be completed in 2018, as well as projects that can be implemented over the next 3 years; however, highest priority will be given for projects completed this year.

The National Park Foundation has identified more than \$300,000 in corporate support to highlight the 50th anniversaries of the National Trails System and National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 2018. There may also be other sources to support anniversary projects. Projects should align with the Department of the Interior Secretarial priorities related to creating a conservation/stewardship legacy, modernizing infrastructure, and working with local communities. Projects should also contribute to sustainable relationships; funding will not support one-off celebration events.

Eligible projects in 2018 include wild and scenic rivers in parks, Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers, national scenic and historic trails administered by NPS, and parks that host sections of national trails. NPF is primarily interested in projects for \$25,000 - \$100,000. However, we are also interested in projects in the \$5,000 - \$25,000 range to match with other potential funders.

The intent of this short survey form is to get some preliminary information about projects, so that we can match projects with potential funders and move quickly to get more detailed information as funding becomes available.

Please work with your park, PWSR, and trail contacts to fill out the following request for initial project information by Sunday, March 11, 2018. Form must be submitted by Park Service staff. Please contact Joan Harn (joan_harn@nps.gov, 202-354-6929) or Rita Hennessy (rita_hennessy@nps.gov, 202-354-6938) if you have questions.

Your email address (first_last@nps.gov) will be recorded when you submit this form.

Project Themes [check all that apply] * Required

We identified these themes based on needs addressed by managers and interest from potential funders.

1. Improvements for Recreation Access and Infrastructure * Check all that apply--(see highlights)
 - Infrastructure improvements (boat ramps, treadway, signage) educational signage could be included
 - Sustainable access or improved access to trails and rivers - investigate potential for new trail connecting the borough residents to open space
 - Other:
2. Trail and River/Riverside Protection and Restoration * Check all that apply.
 - Water quality improvement (green infrastructure, vegetation buffers)
 - Exotic and invasive plant management
 - Land protection (planning, easements, acquisition) – already protected open space
 - Other:
3. Improving Stewardship through Public Engagement * Check all that apply.
 - Data collection and monitoring to assess natural, cultural, and recreational resources
 - Volunteers, including Citizen Science
 - Youth and Service Corps engagement and employment
 - Other:
4. Increasing Public Use and Awareness * Check all that apply.
 - Local community engagement, interpretation, and education on river and trail stewardship
 - Transportation or gear to bring people to rivers and trails
 - Youth engagement, internships, and employment

- Other:

Project Information

5. Project Title *

Streambank restoration and implementation of smaller infiltration practices on adjacent residential properties in West Grove Borough along the headwaters of the East Branch White Clay Creek.

6. Project Abstract * (2-3 sentence summary of the project.)

West Grove Borough is an urbanized area within the headwaters of the White Clay watershed, most of the borough is built out, but there is some open space in the southeast corner of the borough where a streambank restoration could provide the best opportunity for them to address pollutants such as sediment. The targeted stream stretch is approximately 3000 linear feet traversing three parcels (21 acres total). Phase one of this restoration would target a minimum of 900 linear feet, approximately 700 linear feet are on land owned by West Grove Borough and the remaining footage is owned by the Heather Grove Homeowners Association on the upstream end, and one private land owner downstream. The parcels are bordered by several high density and low density residential developments where infiltration practices (White Clay Catch the Rain Program) could be implemented to support stream restoration efforts and improve community engagement in watershed stewardship.

7. Is this project related to a National Trail or Wild and Scenic River? * Mark only one oval.

- Trail
- River
- Both

8. Which park(s), trail(s) or river(s) are involved?*

White Clay Creek Watershed National Wild and Scenic River, PA/DE

9. Purpose * (1-2 sentence description or bullets about how will funding be used. [e.g. wages for intern, purchasing gear, etc.]

Phase 1 (infiltration projects/education via White Clay Catch the Rain)

- Rebates to homeowners who implement green infrastructure on their property through participation in the White Clay Catch the Rain Program.
- Education materials and administration costs associated with running the Catch the Rain Program (workshop, site visits, and reporting)

Phase 2 (stream restoration and associated monitoring)

- Professional services rendered by a restoration specialist(s) to plan and design the streambank restoration
- Implementation of the stream restoration over minimum of 900 linear feet on municipal owned land and one additional land owner (overall goal would be full 3000 linear feet over the three parcels).
- Installation of one remote stream sensor to collect continuous data pre, and post construction downstream of restoration site.
- Lab analysis on ten water samples/year (over three years) for nutrients, sediment, chlorides, and bacteria.

10. Measure of success * (Please list metrics [e.g., Volunteer hours; infrastructure improvements; youth engaged; acres protected; monitoring completed; etc.]

1. Volunteer hours for riparian buffer planting as part of the stream restoration project: 60 volunteers x 4 hours each = 240 hours total
2. Youth engagement in any plantings and or monitoring. Local youth organizations include the West Grove Garage, Avon Grove High School, and Assumption BVM (catholic School). 2 volunteers x 4 hours per month over three years + training = 300 hours total
3. The 16 acres are already in protected open space, this project aims to improve the current lands both in terms of suitable habitat, invasive species management, and floodplain reconnection/streambank stabilization, as well as provide needed land stewardship so that it is used by the surrounding residents (green space for West Grove borough residents and Heather Grove residents). The potential for a trail that connects West Grove residents to the creek will also be explored during the design phase and consideration will be given to whether a local friends group should be organized to help with maintaining the trail and monitoring the buffer.
4. Community Engagement via White Clay Catch the Rain Program Implementation: A direct mailing to 500 homeowners adjacent (or in the headwaters) to the open space parcels of the proposed stream restoration, including the Heather Grove HOA to invite them to a Catch the Rain Workshop. Goal of 20 individual one on one site visits, and implementation of a minimum of 10 Catch the Rain Practices (see whiteclay.org/catchtherain)
5. Estimated Pollutant Reductions from restoration of 900 linear feet of stream (annual)** (per 2017 West Grove TMDL plan submission to DEP)
 - Nitrogen: 900 LF @ 0.192 lb./ft. = 172.80 lb.
 - Phosphorus: 900 LF @ 0.174 lb./ft. = 156.60 lb.
 - Sediment: 900 LF @ 115.00 lb./ft. = 103,500.00 lb.

11. Estimated Cost *

This project has two components and would be supported by matching funds from West Grove Borough. Additional matches and grant funding would also be sought. We are asking for \$25,000 to support the Catch the Rain component, in addition to \$75,000 to support the streambank restoration design, implementation, and monitoring. **Total ask is \$100,000:**

1. **\$25,000** for implementation of the White Clay Catch the Rain Program (Estimated 10 residential properties at \$2500 rebate per property).
2. **\$75,000** for Stream Restoration Design, Implementation and Monitoring: total costs estimated at \$200 per linear foot*, or \$200 x 900 linear feet = \$180,000. **based on estimates from the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance stream restoration projects*
 - 30 surface water samples for full water quality analysis @ \$100/sample = \$3,000;
 - purchase and installation of one remote stream sensor station to collect continuous data \$2000.

12. Estimated Timeline * (*What is the projected start/end date. Ideally projects could be completed or at least started in 2018.*)

The Catch the Rain:

- 2018 initial outreach and workshop
- 2018-2019 individual site visits, begin implementation
- 2019 – 2020 completion of ten projects.

The Stream Restoration:

- 2018 development of conceptual design and commencement of pre-installation monitoring
- 2019 design and permitting (potential construction)
- 2020 Construction (pending additional funding)

Stream Monitoring:

- 2018 Install sensor station, train volunteers, collect pre-installation data

- 2019 – 2020 Continue to collect data during and post construction

13. Potential Project Partners and Match *

What partners will be leveraged through this project? Briefly describe their role. What matching dollars, services or time will be contributed? Matching dollars are not required. [For example, Friends Groups, Scouts, YMCA, Military or Veteran's Organizations]

West Grove Borough – land owner, project beneficiary, in kind engineering services, meeting space, \$25,000

West Grove Garage (youth center), Avon Grove School District, Assumption BVM (private school), Heather Grove HOA, other community residents – in-kind volunteer hours, planting and monitoring assistance

Citizen Scientists from Save Our Water (in-kind, these are current citizen scientists who could help with training new volunteers)

Stroud (stream restoration consulting – in-kind)

Christina Watershed Municipal Partnership (consultation, in-kind, and potential funding match via NFWF grant)

Other potential grant sources:

TreeVitalize Program (no max indicated) through Chester County Conservation District and Pennsylvania Horticultural Society: they cover %75 of total material costs. Stewardship can be counted as a match. (applications for shovel ready projects only, due in November)

Application to PECO Green Region Grant (\$10,000 max): PECO has committed to supporting municipalities, recreational authorities and nonprofits in Southeastern Pennsylvania with their ongoing efforts to preserve, protect and improve public spaces. Eligible activities include improving municipal, organizational or authority-owned open spaces, including planning costs. Funds may be used for habitat improvements such as installing or improving meadows, woodlands and riparian buffers. The plans also may include the installation of capital improvements for passive recreation such as trails, boardwalks, kiosks and observation platforms, but not parking lots. Such expenses may include consultant fees for landscape architects, park designers, botanists, engineers, etc. (applications generally due at the end of the year)

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener Grant: generally fund larger projects up to \$300,000. No application out yet.

William Penn Foundation support of the Delaware River Watershed Initiative: funding via Stroud Water Research Center for water quality monitoring may become available for stream sensor and water quality analyses (notification in June/July)

14. Questions and comments?

How soon would the funding award need to be spent down? (i.e. as long as we were demonstrating progress what would be our allowable time frame? How would we need to report progress? Are there any limitations on how the money could be spent (changes to the budget). Project initiation, Catch the Rain outreach, and the concept design for the stream restoration could happen as early as 2018. However, the implementation of the stream restoration will be dependent on leveraging additional funds beyond what I have estimated and would likely be dependent on application to addition grants as well as permitting which could take additional time and money.

15. NPS contact email: Jamie Fosburgh, jamie_fosburgh@nps.gov

16. NPS contact phone: 617-223-5191

17. Additional River or Trail contact information (name, email, phone):

Shane Morgan, Watershed Coordinator, White Clay Wild and Scenic Program

mpc@whiteclay.org

484-716-6836