

# NEWS

## From Lehigh Valley Greenways



### For more information, please contact:

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 5, 2019

### Lehigh Valley Greenways Mini Grants Application are now open until May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**EASTON (April 5)** – As the local leader for Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape, Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (D&L) is preparing to disburse \$75,000 as part of the 2019 Lehigh Valley Greenways Mini-Grant Program. The online application period is now open and runs through Friday, May 3, 2019 at 4:00pm.

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

Priorities for the 2019 are:

- (Municipalities) Adopt model ordinances and/or an official map to protect natural resources and improve bicycle/pedestrian connections
- Implement ecological restoration projects (ex. stream habitat improvements, riparian buffers, native grass/wildflower meadows, rain gardens, no-mow areas along streams and in public parks)
- Host educational events, trainings and workshops which involve an inclusive audience to advance the goals of Lehigh Valley Greenways
- Improve THE LINK, the trail network in the Lehigh Valley (ex. Close trail gaps, install safety and directional signage, create safe road crossings, add trail amenities)

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

The current application cycle will be awarded in June 2019 for single-year projects to start and end between July 1, 2019 and July 31, 2020. Grant requests should be a minimum of \$1,000 and maximum of \$10,000 with total project costs at least double the grant request. Mini-grants must be matched with cash and/or eligible in-kind contributions at a minimum 1:1 ratio.

Interested applicants can review full mini grant guidelines and fill out the online application at <https://lvgreenways.org/mini-grants/apply-for-a-mini-grant/>. All applicants who did not attend the pre-application meeting are requested to contact Claire Sadler to discuss their project before applying.

The grant awards are part of Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape program and funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Environmental Stewardship Fund and administered by Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor. Lehigh Valley Greenways mini-grant funds may not be used to match other DCNR funded grant projects.

Lehigh Valley Greenways is one of seven Conservation Landscapes supported by Pennsylvania DCNR and includes more than 25 organizations and municipal partners in Lehigh and Northampton Counties dedicated to the conservation of and connection to our natural resources.

For more information on Lehigh Valley Greenways and the mini grant program, please contact Claire Sadler at 610-923-3548 x226 or [Claire@delawareandlehigh.org](mailto:Claire@delawareandlehigh.org).

#### **ABOUT THE DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR**

*The Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that preserves historic pathway that carried coal and iron from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol. Today, the D&L Trail connects people to nature, culture, communities, recreation and our industrial heritage.*

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