



## DELAWARE & LEHIGH NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

### TRAIL ALLIANCE

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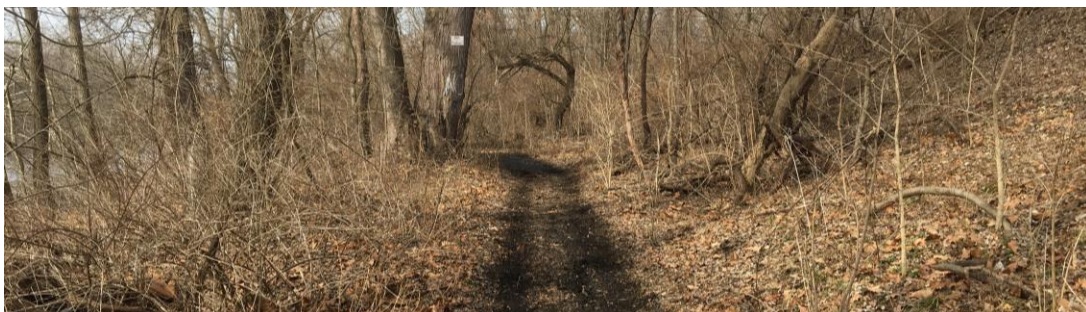
## D&L TRAIL MAINTENANCE GRANT

### Guidelines and Instructions for D&L Trail Owners

The D&L Trail Alliance is a partnership of more than 100 federal, state, municipal, non-profit, and private stakeholders that share in the management and promotion of the nearly 165-mile D&L Trail. The Ownership Council (formerly Stewardship Council) of landowners shares best practices and coordinates policy for the D&L Trail.

The D&L is pleased to open the 2019 D&L Trail Alliance Trail Maintenance Grant Program, a reimbursement grant program funded in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and administered by the D&L Trail Alliance. The purpose of the Trail Maintenance Grants are to help trail owners make improvements to specific areas of the trail in order to improve the user experience and long term sustainability of the D&L Trail and its associated features.

This is a single round grant with a total \$25,000 available. The grants will be disbursed with 50% of the funding available at the start of the grant period and the final 50% available at the close of the project. Invoices for all funds expended will be required for final reimbursement.



## 2019 Trail Maintenance Grant Priorities:

- Keeping improved sections of D&L Trail open and in good condition
- Increase the capacity of D&L Trail owners to maintain their section of D&L Trail
- Maintain the historic features along the trail that tell the story of coal transportation at the heart of the D&L Trail

## Eligibility:

### *Who is eligible?*

Any entity, organization, or municipality that owns a section of D&L Trail and is an active member of the D&L Trail Alliance Ownership Council may apply. Additional weight will be given to those organizations who schedule a maintenance assessment with D&L staff. Partnership applications, between a member of the Ownership Council and a supporting organization, will be entertained with the submission of a cooperative agreement.

### *What type of project is eligible?*

The intent of this grant is to help maintain the D&L Trail. As a multi-use trail, the D&L Trail conditions should match those outlined in the [Universal Access Trails and Shared Use Paths](#) guidelines as closely as the historic features will allow. For this grant, funds could;

- Purchase materials or equipment to be used on an unimproved section, or a section that has deteriorated (due to storm water washout or other unforeseen circumstance).
- Training or equipment that would enable staff and volunteers to expand their maintenance capacity could also be funded through this grant.

Questions regarding trail conditions that qualify can be clarified during an annual maintenance inspection scheduled with D&L Trail staff.

### *What are the match requirements?*

- Maintenance grants are on a **reimbursement basis** so the grantee will be expected to expend eligible project costs then submit for 50% reimbursement of total costs up to the awarded grant amount. All maintenance grants must be matched with cash and/or eligible non-cash (in-kind) contributions at a minimum ratio of 1:1. Example: Grant Request (50% or less) + Eligible Match (50% or more) = Total Project Cost (100%). Your application **MUST** include commitment letters from any partner organization(s) that states the agreed upon donation amount or value to be used as match. D&L Maintenance grants may not be used to fulfill match requirements for other DCNR funded grant projects and DCNR funds may not be used as match for maintenance grants.
- Grantees are responsible for following the competitive bidding requirements that apply to

their organizations. These vary based on local municipal policies.

- Reimbursement may be applied for as one complete payment or broken into two payments, one mid-way through the project and the remaining funds after completion of the project. If requesting two payments, at least ten percent (10%) of the mini grant award will be held as the second payment until all final reporting is submitted complete and accurate.

**ALL project funds should be expensed by May 15, 2020.**

**Application:**

**To apply, please submit an application that includes the following by August 23, 2019 at 3:00pm:**

- Clearly identify the proposal with the trail section/feature that will be addressed
- Name, date(s), and organization applying and conducting the work
- Amount of funding requested (between \$5,000 and \$10,000) and match sources
- Funding commitment letters from cash or in kind match sources
- Timeline detailing how and when the funding will be disbursed within the grant timeline
- Cooperative agreement, if the project will involve organizational partnership
- Relevant supporting documents: maps, photos, plans, etc.
- Support letters from interested organizations, local businesses, trail users, etc. (optional, not required)