

The logo for MI Funding Hub features the text "MI Funding Hub" in white. The "MI" is positioned to the left of "Funding Hub". A yellow circle is placed between "MI" and "Funding". Above the "MI" is a horizontal bar with a blue-to-green gradient and a white circle in the center. Below "Funding Hub" is a horizontal bar with an orange-to-blue gradient and a white circle in the center, followed by a yellow circle.

MI Funding Hub

Welcome!

February 19, 2026



The MI Funding Hub is a joint venture of The Michigan Municipal League and The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.



Helping Michigan municipalities navigate state and federal funding opportunities

The MI Funding Hub is a joint venture of The Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO).

We aggregate grant opportunities and support municipal grant seekers through our website, newsletters, and webinars.

Team Introductions



Shanna Draheim,
Director of Policy
Research Labs



Melissa Milton-Pung,
Program Manager



Agnes Khran,
Communications
Associate



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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR & ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY

Polling Activity

Agenda

- MI Funding Hub Recap
- Guest Speakers
 - Syncurrent: Dhruv Patel
 - Michigan DNR: Jon Mayes
- Grant Updates
- Recap and adjourn

Guest Speakers



Dhruv Patel
CEO
Syncurrent



Jon Mayes
Recreation Grants Manager
Michigan Department of Natural Resources



MI Funding Hub Review

- Federal and State of Michigan grants database
- Articles, toolkits, and other resources
- Ongoing newsletter and webinars

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New Partnership with:



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Questions?



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Jon Mayes,
Michigan DNR



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Department of Natural Resources Recreation Grant Programs



Recreation Grants



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

- Founded in 1976 with oil and gas royalties, funded from interest earned on investments.
- +/- \$21 million



Land and Water Conservation Fund

- Federal Program, established in 1965. State allocations administered by the National Park Service.
- +/- \$7 million



Recreation Passport Grant Program

- Started in 2011. Funded by Recreation Passport purchased with vehicle registrations.
- +/- \$2 million



Eligible Applicants

- State and Local Units of Government
- Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority
- Regional recreation authorities (if DNR approved)
- School Districts if sole provider of outdoor recreation
- Federally recognized Native American Tribes (LWCF)
- Applicant must have:
 - DNR-Approved 5-year Recreation Plan
 - OR
 - Capital Improvement Plan (Recreation Passport only)



5-Year Recreation Plans

- Community park, recreation, open space and greenways plans are commonly referred to as a "five-year recreation plan."
 - Intent is to create and inventory of existing facilities and resources, identify community recreation needs, and set a plan of action.
 - Can be coordinated at a regional level (joint-recreation plans)
- Must be submitted to the DNR by February 1st of the application year.



Eligible Projects

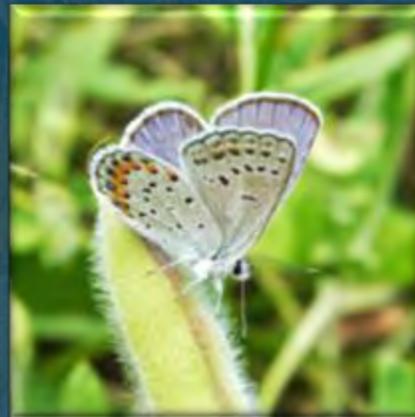
- Acquisition of land or rights in land
 - MNRTF & LWCF
- Development of public outdoor recreation
- Development of indoor facilities - RP



Acquisition Projects



- Priorities of Michigan's Wildlife Action Plan / Forest Management Plan
- Conserves imperiled or rare species and community types, or includes Critical Dune areas, frontage on Great Lakes or their connecting waters
- Conserve or provide direct access to quality natural amenities or resources, rivers, or lakes



Development Projects



- Trails & trailheads
- Canoe or kayak launches
- Marinas and boat launches
- Fishing piers
- Picnic pavilions
- Athletic fields & Pickleball
- Playscapes
- Campgrounds
- Restrooms and bathhouses
- **And More!**



Grant Request Amounts

	Minimum	Maximum	% Match
TF Acquisition	N/A	N/A	25% min
TF Development	\$15,000	\$400,000	25% min
LWCF Acquisition	N/A	N/A	50% fixed
LWCF Development	\$30,000	\$500,000	50% fixed
Rec Passport	\$7,500	\$150,000	25% min

- General Fund
- Donations
- Some Other Grants
- Volunteer labor
- Force account labor
- Community owned materials

**Reimbursement Grants – Based on Grant Percentage



Application Timeline

- **January** Applications Open in MiGrants
- **February 1** New 5-Year Recreation Plans Due
- **April 1** Application Deadline
- **April / May** Administrative Review
- **June / July** Site Visits & Staff Scoring
- **September** Preliminary Scores Issued



Application Parts

- Application Sections
 - Applicant site and project information
 - Project funding and match sources
 - Project details
 - Site conditions
- Narrative
- Attachments



Development Scoring Criteria	MNRTF - Dev	LWCF	RP
Natural Resources	X		
Urban Area	X		
Additional Applicant Match	X		
TF Board Priority: Trail OR Regionally Significance	X		
Entrance Fees	X	X	
Public Support	X	X	
Universal Design	X	X	X
Renovation	X	X	X
Site Quality	X	X	X
Over-all Park Design	X	X	X
Maintenance	X	X	X
Applicant History and Compliance	X	X	X
Sustainable Design	X	X	X
Financial Need	X	X	X
Per Capita Development Grant Assistance	X	X	X

Grant Timeline

- **RP:** Projects Agreements (PA) issued in January
- **MNRTF:** Legislative and Governor Approval
May take 4-6 months before PA issued
- **LWCF:** National Park Service Approval before PA
- Grantee has 2 years to complete the project
- May begin certain activities on January 1



Long-Term Obligations

- Open to the public
- Well maintained
- Program acknowledgement plaque required
- MNRTF & LWCF – site must remain in public outdoor recreation *in perpetuity*
- RP – public outdoor recreation 20 years or 40 years for structures



Questions?

Thank you!



www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants

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Featured Grant Opportunities



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US Environmental Protection Agency



Environmental Education Grant Program

Deadline: March 3, 2026

Awards: \$3.2 Million funding level; award levels vary

The Environmental Education Grant Program supports locally and regionally focused environmental education projects that promote environmental stewardship and help develop knowledgeable and responsible students, teachers, and community members. This grant program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques that increase public awareness and knowledge about local environmental issues and provides participants in its programs the skills necessary to make informed decisions and to take responsible actions toward the environment.



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US Department of Agriculture



Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grants in Michigan

Deadline: Still Open; Applications Accepted on a Rolling Basis

Awards: \$60,000 maximum or 75 percent of the predevelopment planning costs

This program helps eligible low-income communities plan and develop applications for proposed USDA Rural Development water or waste disposal projects. Rural areas for this program are defined as 10,000 people or fewer (check eligibility on the program link above), and the program area must have a median household income below the poverty line or less than 80 percent of the statewide non-metropolitan median household income to be eligible for the funding.

USDA encourages interested entities to reach out to the state program office before applying for this grant—it will save you valuable time in your application! Michigan's Rural Development State Office contact information is here: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/mi>.



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[Michigan Department of Transportation Safe Routes to School Major Grant](#)

Deadline: June 17, 2026

Awards: Not Specified

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Major Grant program, administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Michigan Fitness Foundation, is designed to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children in grades K-8 to walk and bicycle to school. The program aims to increase physical activity, reduce traffic congestion, and improve air quality around schools. To be eligible for a Major Grant, the primary applicant must be a local transportation (Act 51) agency (e.g., City, Village, or County Road Commission). Schools and school districts must partner with these agencies to apply. Projects must serve schools with at least one grade in the K-8 range.

(Federal) Housing & Urban Development



HUD Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grants

Deadline: March 9, 2026

Awards: \$75 Million funding level

Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of a comprehensive plan that focuses on the revitalization of a severely distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing project, while also improving the surrounding neighborhood and providing supportive services to improve quality of life outcomes for residents of the target housing project.



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MML Inside 208 Blog



Live with the League





Closing

What's Next?

- Our next webinar is Thursday, June 18, 2026, 10am
- Grants are continually being added to the database
- Sign up for the newsletter or forward to a friend!



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Questions?

Contact Us

Sign up for monthly newsletters

<https://mml.org/programs-services/mifundinghub/signup/>

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