

EJ UPDATE

Your Environment, Your Voice



TOM WOLF, GOVERNOR • PATRICK MCDONNELL, DEP SECRETARY

Greetings, Environmental Justice partners!

We are sending this update to share some great information with you. As always, we welcome your suggestions or inquiries about our work, programs, or policies. Please feel free to contact us at RA-EPOEJ@pa.gov.

GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE: NOMINATE SOMEONE NOW!

[Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence](#)

The Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence is open to any Pennsylvania business, farm, government agency, educational institution, non-profit organization and individual that has created, or participated in, the development of a project that promotes environmental stewardship in Pennsylvania. The deadline to apply is December 17, 2019.

DEP GRANTS:

[Food Recovery Infrastructure Grant](#)

These grants of up to \$200,000 provide assistance to eligible nonprofit organizations such as shelters and food banks for proper food management. "Access to fresh food in underserved communities is a public health and quality of life issue, but it's also an environmental justice issue. While traveling across the state, my staff and I often hear from underserved communities that access to fresh food is a significant concern, so we wanted to do our part to address this issue in a meaningful, environmentally focused way," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. The grant application deadline is April 24, 2020.

[Growing Greener Plus Grants](#)

Growing Greener Plus provides \$30 million in funding to help communities restore and protect water quality throughout the commonwealth. "We've developed a flexible, multifaceted funding package to help communities around the state meet their targeted priority water quality challenges and improve the health of local streams and rivers for better flood control, drinking water supply, public health, and economic vitality," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 PM on December 20, 2019. Applicants should contact the appropriate Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff as soon as possible to discuss the anticipated project, but no later than Friday, December 6, 2019.

[Environmental Education Grants](#)

Funding is available through the Environmental Education Grant program to support a wide range of environmental education projects. "Pennsylvania's environmental educators are talented and passionate about engaging youth and adults in air, land, and water quality protection and restoration in their own neighborhoods and statewide," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. A recorded webinar can be found on the DEP website that provides guidance to interested applicants. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on December 31, 2019.

[Abandoned Mine Land \(AML\) Pilot Grant](#)

This grant opportunity provides \$25 million in funding for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development reuse goals. "The funding provides opportunities to transform abandoned mine lands, creating economic opportunity, and transitioning our coal communities to a new and brighter future," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 PM on Friday, January 31, 2020.

OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

[EPA Environmental Education Grants](#)

The purpose of the Environmental Education Local Grants Program in Region 3 is to support locally-focused environmental education projects that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental and conservation issues and provide the skills that participants in its funded projects need to make informed decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment. Applications will be accepted until January 6, 2020.

[EPA Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement](#)

Cooperative agreements will be awarded to local community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations seeking to address environmental and public health concerns in local underserved communities through collaboration with other stakeholders, such as local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, and academia. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on February 7, 2020.

[NOAA Environmental Literacy Program](#)

NOAA's Environmental Literacy Program provides grants and in-kind support for programs that educate and inspire people to use Earth system science to improve ecosystem stewardship and increase resilience to environmental hazards. Pre-applications are required, and the deadline is 11:59 PM on November 25, 2019.

[EPA Brownfields Grants](#)

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds through its Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants. These funds empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on December 3, 2019.

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