



Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Program Overview

- **Objective:** The MNRTF provides financial assistance for land acquisition and development projects to enhance public outdoor recreation opportunities and protect natural resources.
- **Eligible Applicants:** State and local units of government, such as cities, counties, and townships, as well as public authorities, boards, commissions, and school districts.
- **Funding Priorities:**
 - Acquisition of land for public recreation or natural resource conservation.
 - Development of outdoor recreation facilities, such as parks, trails, and water access.
 - Projects that preserve unique natural resources or support wildlife habitats.
- **Types of Projects Funded:**
 - Park development (e.g., playgrounds, picnic areas, restrooms).
 - Note: Development applications should be for a single park site.
 - Trails and pathways for hiking, biking, and equestrian use.
 - Water-based recreation such as boat launches, fishing piers, and beach access.
 - Acquisition of land for parks or natural areas.
- **Grant Size:** Minimum \$15,000; Maximum \$400,000
- **Match Requirement:** Applicants must provide a local match of at least **25%** of the total project cost.
 - Note: You may earn points for your application if you provide additional funds above the required minimum applicant match.
- **Application Deadline:** Applications are typically due by **April 1** of each year, with grant awards announced later in the year.
- **Evaluation Criteria:** Applications are scored based on factors such as the project's impact on public recreation, community need, regional and state benefits, and the preservation of natural resources.
- **Program Administration:** The grant is administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in collaboration with the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board.

For more detailed information, visit the Michigan DNR website at <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/Buy-and-Apply/grants/rec/mnrtf>.