

BRIAN KEMP
GOVERNOR

WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

April 15, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Qualified Applicants

FROM: Soheila Naji *SN*
Grants Supervisor, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program and Recreational Trails Program
2025-2026 Funding Cycle Dates and Educational Workshop Announcement

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is pleased to announce the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding cycle dates and Educational Workshops for the 2025-2026 funding cycle.

Below you will find information on both programs, as well as the dates and times for the webinar-based and in-person workshops that are being offered. These are excellent opportunities to become familiar with each program and get invaluable guidance on the application process and criteria. The funding cycle dates for both programs are outlined below and are also posted at <https://gadnr.org/grants>.

Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program

Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) is a grant and loan program administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and authorized by the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act. Through GOSP, Conserve Georgia Grants and Loans are dispersed for the purpose of providing stewardship to state parks; state lands and wildlife management areas; to support local parks and trails; and to protect critical conservation lands. Eligible applicants include qualified local governments (as determined by the Department of Community Affairs), constituted recreation authorities, state agencies and nongovernmental entities with a core mission of conservation.

GOSP Funding Cycle dates are as follows:

August 1, 2025	Pre-application window opens
October 17, 2025	Pre-application window closes
Spring 2026	Successful Pre-applicants notified
Spring 2026	Second-level Application period opens
May 29, 2026	Second-level Application period closes
Summer 2026	Final Approval of Project Agreements

Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal grant program funded by the Federal Highway Administration and administered at the state level by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The purpose of RTP is to support recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both nonmotorized and motorized recreational trail uses. Eligible applicants include qualified local governments (as determined by the Department of Community Affairs), authorized commissions, state agencies and federal agencies.

RTP Funding Cycle dates are as follows:

September 1, 2025	Pre-application window opens
November 1, 2025	Pre-application window closes
February 2026	Successful Pre-applicants invited to Second-level Application
March 2026	Second-level Application period opens
May 2026	Second level Application period closes
Winter 2026	Final approval of Projects anticipated

For more information about the GOSP or RTP, please visit <https://gadnr.org/grants>.

GOSP and RTP Workshops

DNR Grants Staff will conduct one in-person and one webinar-based educational workshops about GOSP and RTP's Nonmotorized Grants. The two sessions will cover the same material and will highlight each program and introduce the application process. RTP will conduct a separate webinar-based workshop solely addressing Motorized Trail grant opportunities. These workshops will be at no cost to the public, but we ask that you register at the following links or at <https://gadnr.org/grants>.

Workshop dates are as follows:

<i>In-person</i> - Tuesday, June 3, 2025	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	RTP Nonmotorized Trail and GOSP Grants
Indian Springs State Park, Idlewilde Center 678 Lake Clark Rd., Flovilla, GA 30216		

Register for In-Person Workshop:

<https://forms.gle/nkT6SV9LBghPkyAw5>

<i>Webinar</i> - Thursday, June 5, 2025	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	RTP Nonmotorized Trail and GOSP Grants
--	------------------------	--

Register for Online Webinar, RTP Nonmotorized Trail and GOSP Grants:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2580972050424476503>

<i>Webinar</i> - Tuesday, June 17, 2025	9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	RTP Motorized Trail Grants
--	------------------------	----------------------------

Register for Online Webinar, RTP Motorized Trail Grants:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4691088795754533725>

If you have any questions or need additional information concerning the workshops, please contact:

GOSP - Trevor Brownlee at 404-463-0288 or Miltontrevor.Brownlee@dnr.ga.gov

RTP - Stacy Garnier at 404-463-1030 or stacy.garnier@dnr.ga.gov

We look forward to partnering with you in providing quality outdoor resources for your citizens.