



Pennsylvania

**Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources**

Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2)

2026 (Round 32) Overview

What's New in 2026?



Longer Grant Window

- 1/12 – 4/30
- > 1 month longer

Updated SCORP and Trail Plans

- Make sure you reference the NEW plans when answering Criteria Question #5





C2P2 Overview

Bureau of Recreation and Conservation



Bureau Staff at the Susquehanna National Heritage Area

Mission

- To be a leader in establishing partnerships for advancing conservation, stewardship, enhancement, and access to Pennsylvania's natural and heritage resources, and for providing inclusive recreational opportunities for all.

How We Do That

- Grants and technical assistance
- Partnering with you!

Grants that Make a Difference



DCNR Grants: 2024 Accomplishments

In 2024, DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation funded more than 300 local projects in Pennsylvania, including:

\$81.5 million
funding awarded

85
local parks
renovated

36
trail projects
supported

6,800
acres of land
protected for
habitat and
recreation

25
new parks
built

19
waterways
restored or
access enhanced

50
partnerships
supported

17
parks
planned

284
acres of trees,
buffers, and
meadows planted

What We Fund



Park Rehab and
New Development



Planning



Acquisition



Trails



ATV and
Snowmobile



Rivers
Conservation



Community and
Watershed Forestry



State and Regional
Partnerships

Who We Fund



Municipalities

- Counties, townships, boroughs, cities

Municipal Agencies

- Councils of government, municipal authorities, intergovernmental commissions

Non-Profit Organizations

- Appropriate/authorized organization
- 501(c)3 non-profit and registered with PA BCO

Pre-Qualified Land Trusts

- Non-profit conservation and preservation organizations
- In existence for 5 years and bureau-approved

For-Profit Businesses*

- Established under Pennsylvania law
- Only eligible for PA Recreational Trails and Snowmobile/ATV Restricted Accounts

When We Fund – 2026 Timeline



January 12, 2026

Grant
Round Opens

Spring/Summer 2026

DCNR Reviews &
Ranks All Applications

January 2027

Typical Grant
Agreements Begin



November 6, 2025

Grant
Workshop

**April 30, 2026
4:00PM**

Grant
Round Closes

Fall 2026

Grant
Announcement

How We Fund



State

- Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund
- Environmental Stewardship Fund
- Heritage Area and Other Parks Fund
- Snowmobile Restricted Account
- ATV Restricted Account
- Keystone Tree Fund

Federal

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (National Park Service)
- Recreational Trails Program (Federal Highway Administration)
- Highlands Conservation Act (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Match Requirements



- Funding source legislation typically sets match requirements
- Most projects require 50/50 (\$1 for \$1) match
- Match is not eligible if spent before grant agreement period
- Match must be secure at time of application. Include letters of match commitment with application.



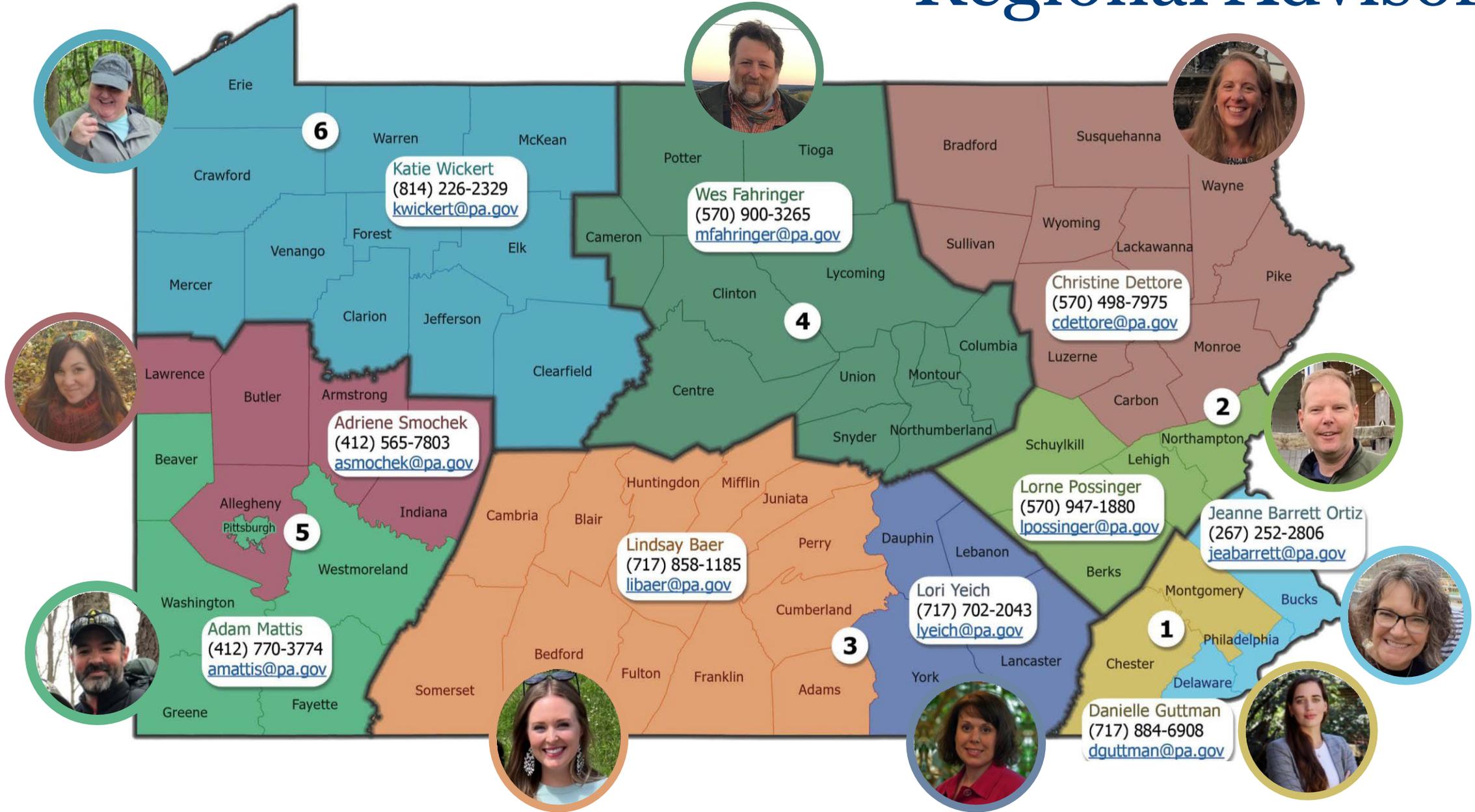
Match Sources



- Cash
 - MOST federal funds
 - MOST local funds
 - MOST private funds
 - SOME state funds
- Non-Cash
 - In-house labor
 - Equipment use
 - Volunteer time
 - Donations (goods and services)



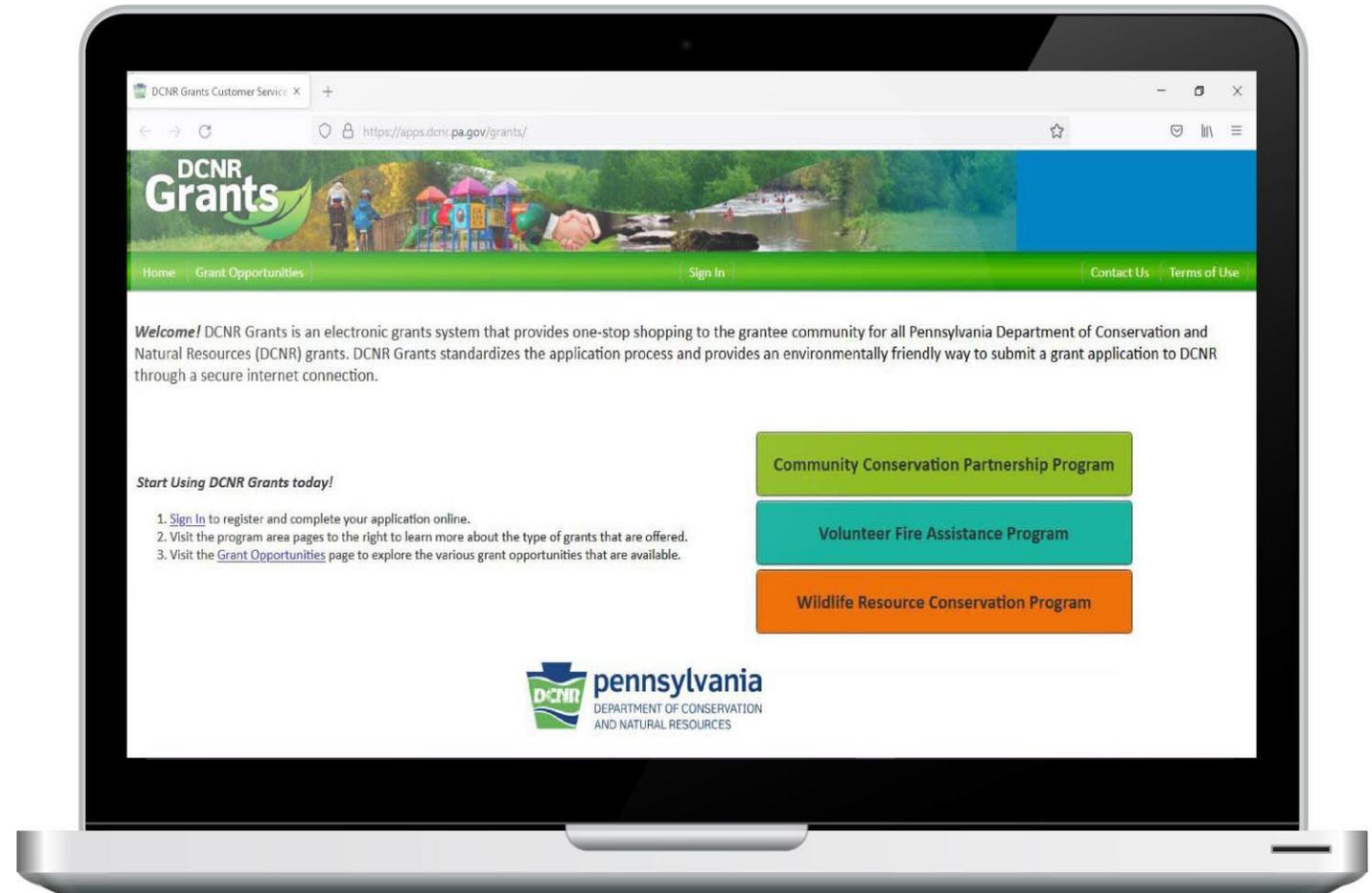
Regional Advisors



Grants Customer Service Portal



- apps.dcnr.pa.gov/grants
- One-stop shop for applying for and managing all DCNR grants





Program Areas

Park Rehab and New Development



- Rehabilitation and/or new development of outdoor recreation and park facilities that are open to the public
 - Playgrounds
 - Skate parks
 - Sport fields, courts, rinks
 - Swimming pools
 - Splash pads
 - Pavilions and comfort stations
 - Indoor recreational facilities
- Typical award: \$100,000 - \$250,000



Park Rehab and New Development (Small Communities)



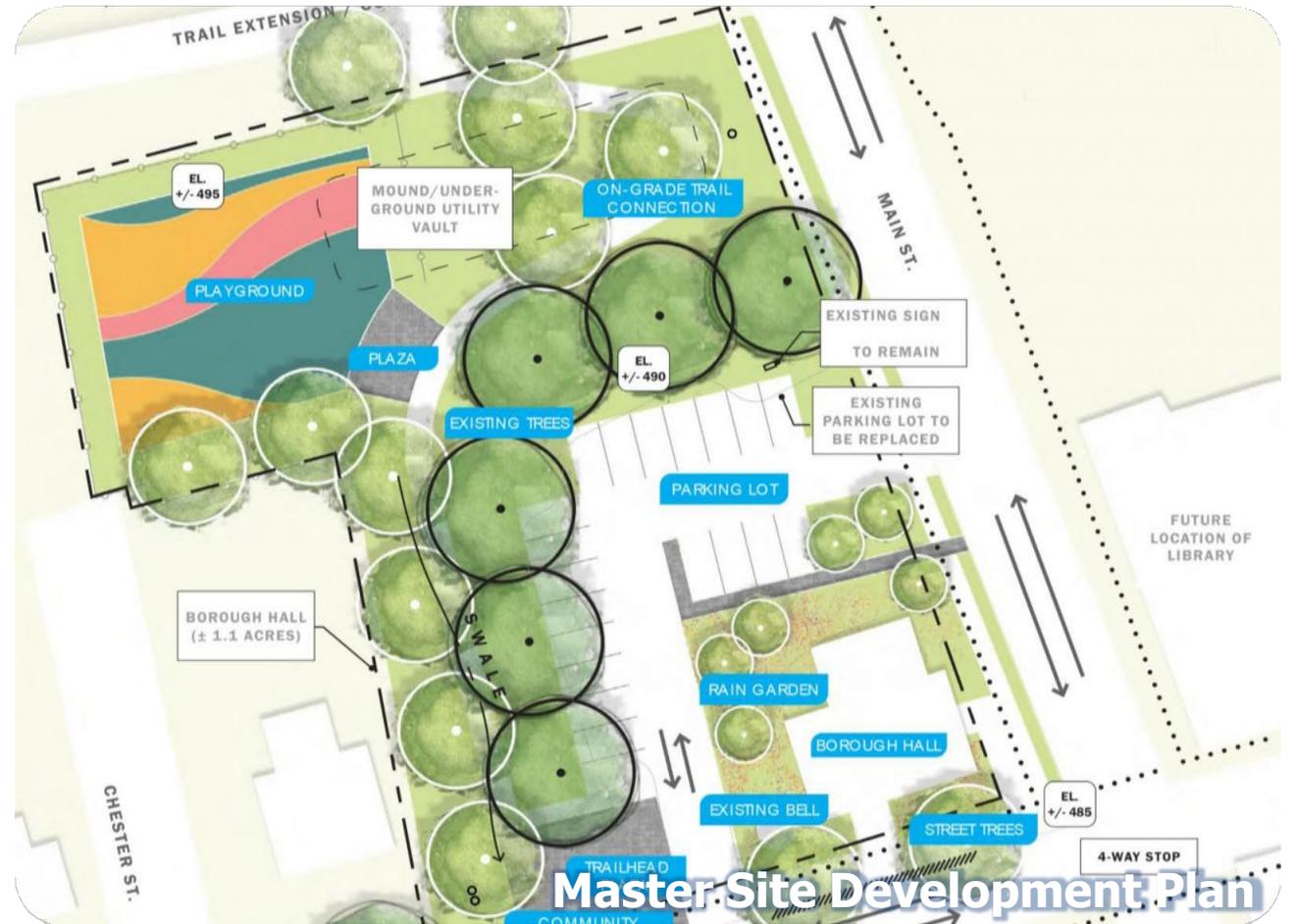
- Lower-match option for municipalities with population of 5,000 or less
- Rehabilitation and/or new development of basic outdoor recreation and park facilities that are open to the public
- Grant requests of \$60,000 - \$100,000

Grant Request	Match Required
\$60,000	\$30,000
\$70,000	\$40,000
\$80,000	\$50,000
\$90,000	\$60,000
\$100,000	\$70,000

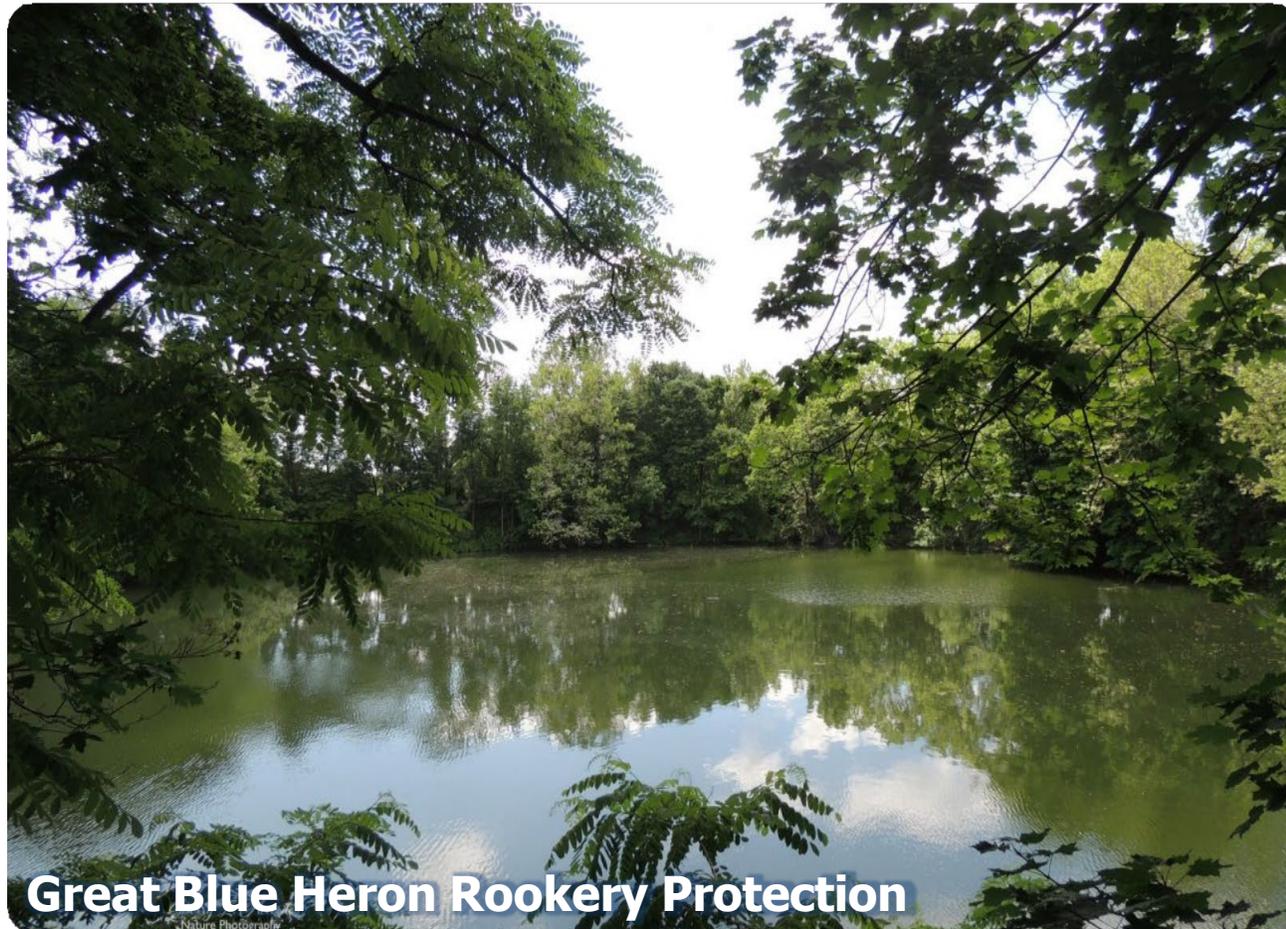
Planning



- Comprehensive park, recreation, open space, and greenway plans
 - Typical award: \$30,000 - \$150,000
- Site Specific Plans
 - Master site development plans
 - Swimming pool complex
 - Indoor recreation facility
 - Land conservation and stewardship plans
 - Typical award: \$20,000 - \$75,000



Acquisition



- Helps communities and non-profits purchase land and conservation easements for:
 - Critical habitat areas and/or natural areas
 - Park and recreation areas
 - Greenways and open space
- Typical award: \$150,000 - \$500,000
- Property acquired and developed with state or federal funds must be protected from conversion

Trails

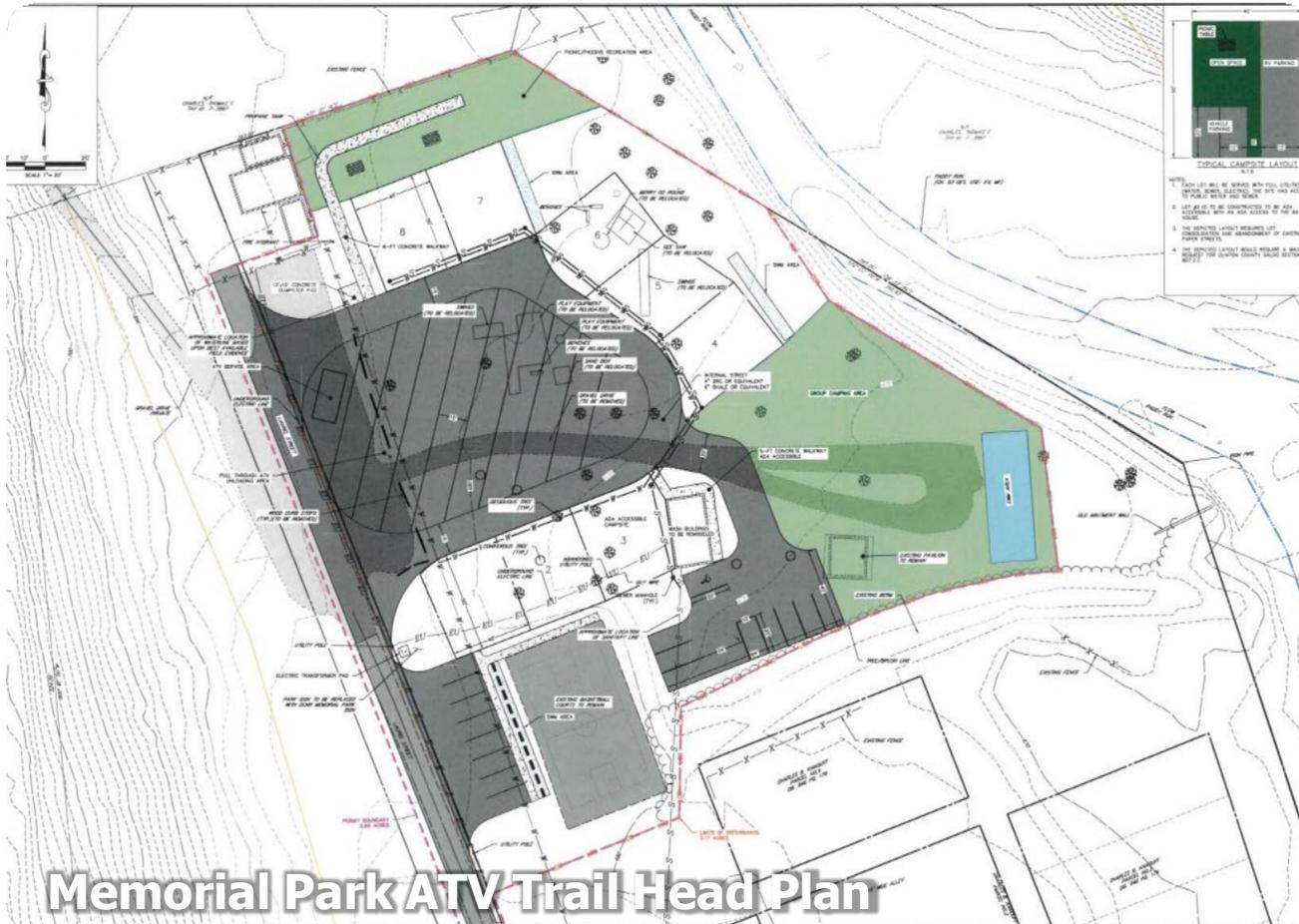


- Funds planning, acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of trails and trail facilities
- Can also support trail education programs and equipment purchases
- Costs should emphasize trails and trail facilities
- Trails can be motorized or non-motorized
- Typical award: capped at \$500,000



Brady Tunnel, Armstrong Trail

ATV and Snowmobile



Memorial Park ATV Trail Head Plan

- Funds planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and equipment purchase for ATV and/or snowmobile trails and facilities
- Can also support ATV/snowmobile educational programs
- Funded through ATV and snowmobile registration fees
- Award amounts vary
- Match not required but encouraged
- Unique: 2 rounds
 - Spring: 2/2 – 3/31
 - Fall: 8/3 – 9/30

Rivers Conservation



- Funds water-based recreation and conservation projects such as:
 - Stream/wetland restoration
 - Small dam removal
 - Boat launches
 - Boardwalks
 - Fishing access
 - River/watershed conservation plans and master site development plans
- Typical award: \$30,000 - \$250,000



Siebert Park Boat Launch

Community and Watershed Forestry



Tree Planting in Berks County

- Riparian forest buffers
- Lawn to habitat projects
- Urban and community forestry
- One application can support multiple planting sites
- One application per project type
- Minimum grant: \$50,000
- Soft cap: \$250,000
- Match: 20% of total project cost

State and Regional Partnerships



- Supports statewide and regional initiatives such as:
 - Convening, education, and training
 - Special purpose planning
 - Implementing a previously completed plan
 - Mini-grant programs
- One application can support multiple items
- Typical award: \$150,000 with \$300,000 cap
- Smaller local capacity-building grants available through Peer and Circuit Rider Programs



Kittatinny Ridge Conservation Landscape



Application Tips

Do's



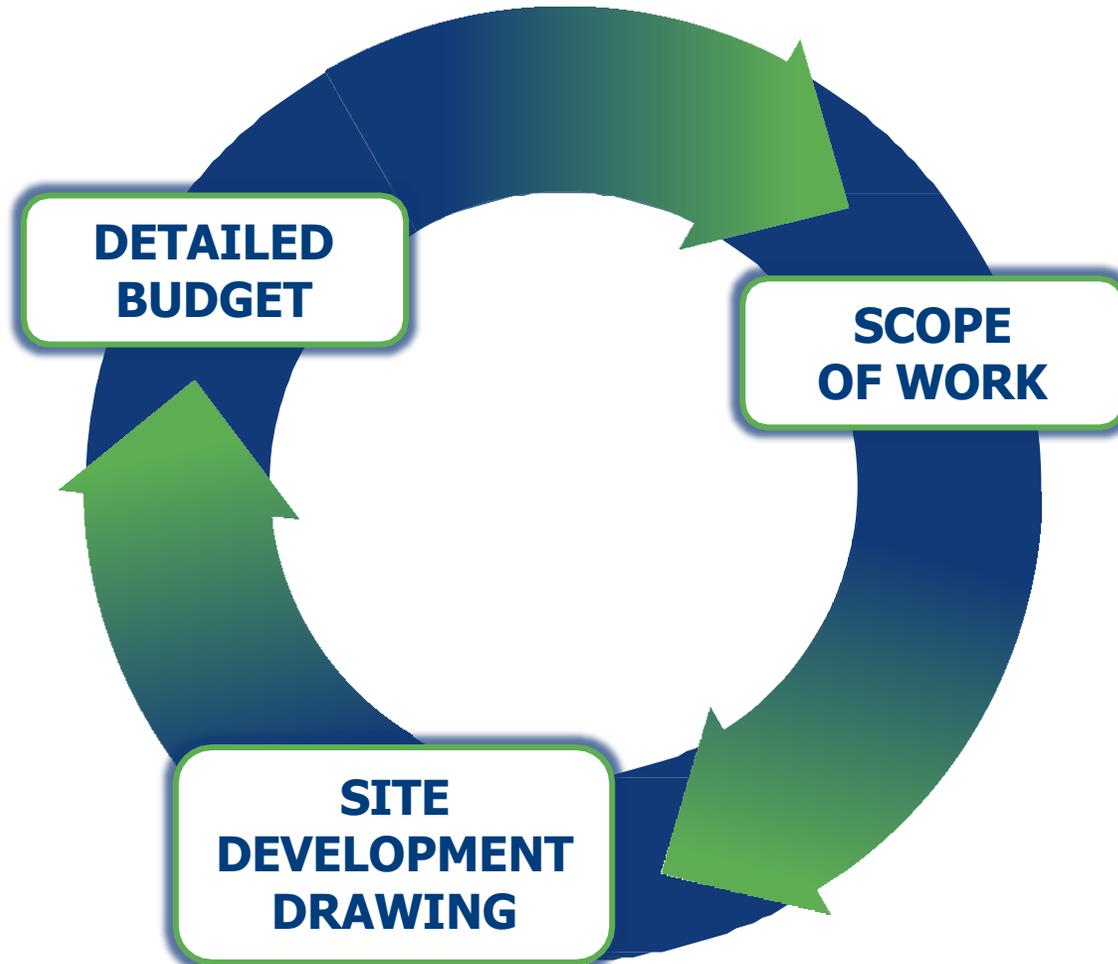
- Call or set up a site visit with your regional advisor (never too soon!)
- Examine the whole application early
- Plan for and allow sufficient time to get all required documents by the application deadline (April 30, 2026)
 - Example docs: resolution, appraisal, site development drawing
- Use the blue question marks to get more info
- Work with a professional to design your project and develop accurate cost estimates
- Write with the reviewer in mind
- Answer the questions based on your specific scope of work

Don'ts

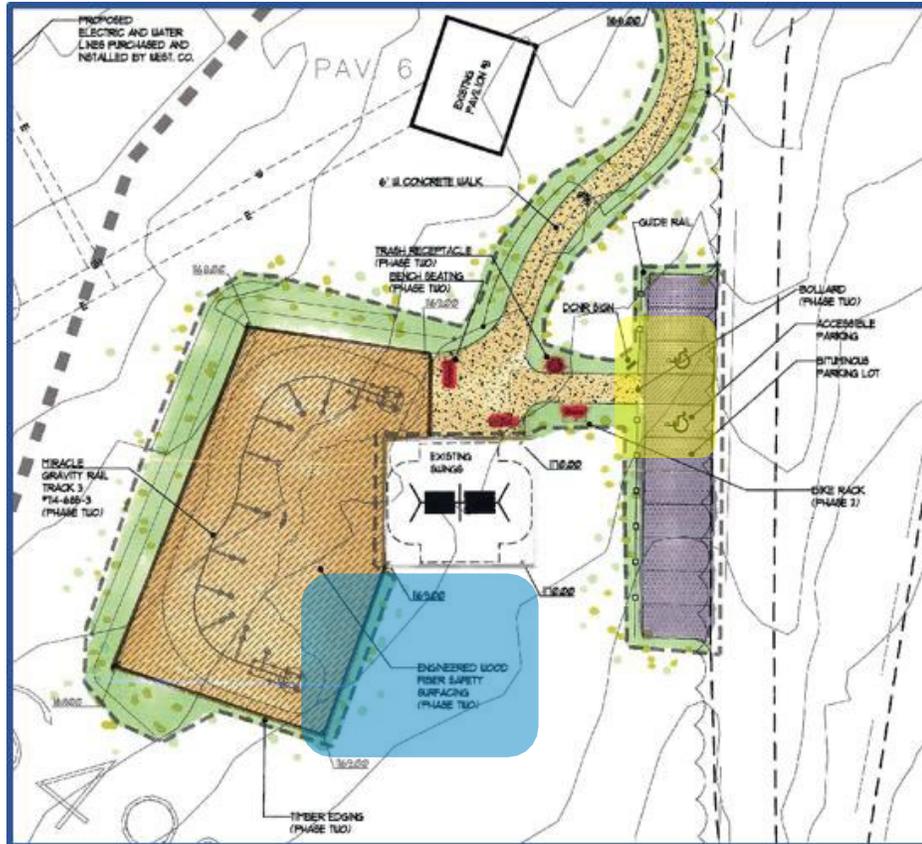


- Don't start an application at the last minute (it takes time to build a strong application)
- Don't reuse answers from other/previous applications (be specific to this project's scope)
- Don't assume we know details about you or your project (your regional advisor may or may not be one of your scorers)

Tell the Same Story



Tell the Same Story - Example



Work Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Total
1 Site Clearing	1	i.s.	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
2 6' Wide ADA Concrete Sidewalk	4,570	s.f.	\$ 13	\$ 59,410
3 Access Path Cut/Fill	350	c.y.	\$ 13	\$ 4,550
4 Rip-Rap	1	i.s.	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
5 Fine Grading/Lawn Seeding	4,750	s.f.	\$ 1	\$ 4,750
6 Rain Gardens	1,500	s.f.	\$ 1	\$ 1,500
7 Rain Garden Soil Mix	80	c.y.	\$ 25	\$ 2,000
8 Bituminous Parking Lot with 2 ADA Spaces	127	s.y.	\$ 45	\$ 5,715
9 6" Perf. Underdrain	270	l.f.	\$ 10	\$ 2,700
10 Type 'M' Inlet	1	ea.	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
11 12" CPP	100	l.f.	\$ 35	\$ 3,500
12 Parking Lot Cut/Fill	75	c.y.	\$ 13	\$ 975
13 Topsoil Stripped	250	c.y.	\$ 13	\$ 3,250
14 Topsoil Spread	250	c.y.	\$ 13	\$ 3,250
15 On-Site Septic System	1	ea.	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000
16 Prefabricated ADA Flush Restroom	1	ea.	\$ 113,000	\$ 113,000
17 Prefab Restroom Installation	1	ea.	\$ 31,257	\$ 31,257
18 Restroom Concrete Pad	250	s.f.	\$ 13	\$ 3,250
19 Permeable Drip Edge at Restroom Pad Edge	120	s.f.	\$ 8	\$ 960
20 1" Water Line	75	l.f.	\$ 35	\$ 2,625
21 Electrical Service	95	l.f.	\$ 25	\$ 2,375
22 Low Profile Fence	90	l.f.	\$ 15	\$ 1,350
23 Parking Lot Striping including Handicapped Symbol and Hatching	1	ea.	\$ 500	\$ 500
24 Handicap Parking Signs	2	ea.	\$ 250	\$ 500
25 DCNR Acknowledgement Sign	1	ea.	\$ 230	\$ 230
26 Playground Excavation	150	c.y.	\$ 13	\$ 1,950
27 4" Perf. Underdrain	125	l.f.	\$ 15	\$ 1,875
28 Pavilion 6 Gravity Rail	1	ea.	\$ 16,934	\$ 16,934
29 Pavilion 6 Gravity Rail Installation	1	ea.	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
30 Two-Bay Arch Swing	1	ea.	\$ 6,800	\$ 6,800
31 Engineered Wood Fiber Safety Surfacing	150	c.y.	\$ 19	\$ 2,850
32 Timber Edging	274	l.f.	\$ 15	\$ 4,110
33 Upper Lake Playground - Play Equipment Replacement	1	ea.	\$ 47,324	\$ 47,324
34 Upper Lake Playground - Poured-In-Place Surfacing	1	ea.	\$ 27,676	\$ 27,676
35 Trash Receptacles (w/Conc. Pad)	2	ea.	\$ 750	\$ 1,500
36 Bench	3	ea.	\$ 1,050	\$ 3,150
37 Removable Bollards	1	ea.	\$ 650	\$ 650
38 Bike Rack (w/Conc. Pad)	1	ea.	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
39 Project Permitting	1	ea.	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
SUBTOTAL:				\$ 415,766
Design Fees				\$ 16,234
GRAND TOTAL PAVILION #6:				\$ 432,000

Rehabilitation and further development of Twin Lakes County Park, Unity Township, Westmoreland County. Work to include construction of new parking area; comfort station; on-lot septic system; rain gardens; installation of playground equipment with required safety surfacing; ADA access; landscaping, project acknowledgement sign and related site improvements.

Ready-to-Go Checklist



pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES		COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA www.dcnr.pa.gov	
DCNR-2021-C2P2-13			
<p>This Checklist is to be used by the applicant to ensure the Development Project is "Ready-To-Go". The items below need to be addressed, included and/or uploaded in the application. It will be used by DCNR in the grant application evaluation process. Only projects that are Ready-To-Go will be given consideration for grant awards. If you have questions regarding this Checklist, please contact the DCNR Regional Advisor assigned to the region in which your project is located.</p>			
<p>* Ready-to-Go Status is worth 15 points. It is essential to provide high quality, well-defined and/or detailed information for these items.</p>			
Yes	Item		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contacted Regional Advisor		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eligible Applicant		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appropriate Applicant		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eligible Project		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant owns the project site or controls through a lease (minimum 25 years)		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Project site is open to the public		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Property has no known environmental hazards		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Match secured		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Letters of match commitment from entities other than applicant uploaded		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Detailed list of eligible cash match and non-cash match included		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Site Development Drawing(s) completed by a licensed design professional and consistent with the DCNR Park Site Development Drawing (SDD) Checklist uploaded		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Realistic, accurate, and detailed cost estimate/budget, including any land donation value, uploaded		
*	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear, concise, and detailed scope of work included		
	<input type="checkbox"/> PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Receipt uploaded		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Accurate project site location map(s) uploaded		
	<input type="checkbox"/> County/Municipal notification letter(s) uploaded		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed the Sample Development Project Timeline and agree that the project can be completed within 4 years from date of grant award.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of lease or easement uploaded (if applicable)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> If Land Donation is part of the match: Upload a Full Appraisal Report by a state certified General Real Estate Appraiser for the land defined in the project scope and any donated parcels. Appraisal to be ordered by and prepared for the applicant. Review the DCNR Requirements for Property Appraisals for more information.		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Properly completed Resolution Page uploaded		

- All documents are due by the closing date of the grant round
- Plan ahead – some documents take a while to pull together!
- You can contact your regional advisor for a doublecheck that you have submitted all required documents

2026 Priorities



Community Parks and Recreation

- Rehabilitating existing parks and recreation facilities and improving equity in access

Land Conservation and Stewardship

- Conserving and protecting critical habitat, climate resilient lands, forested watersheds, wetlands, and riparian corridors and/or creating critical connections between public or conservation lands

Trails

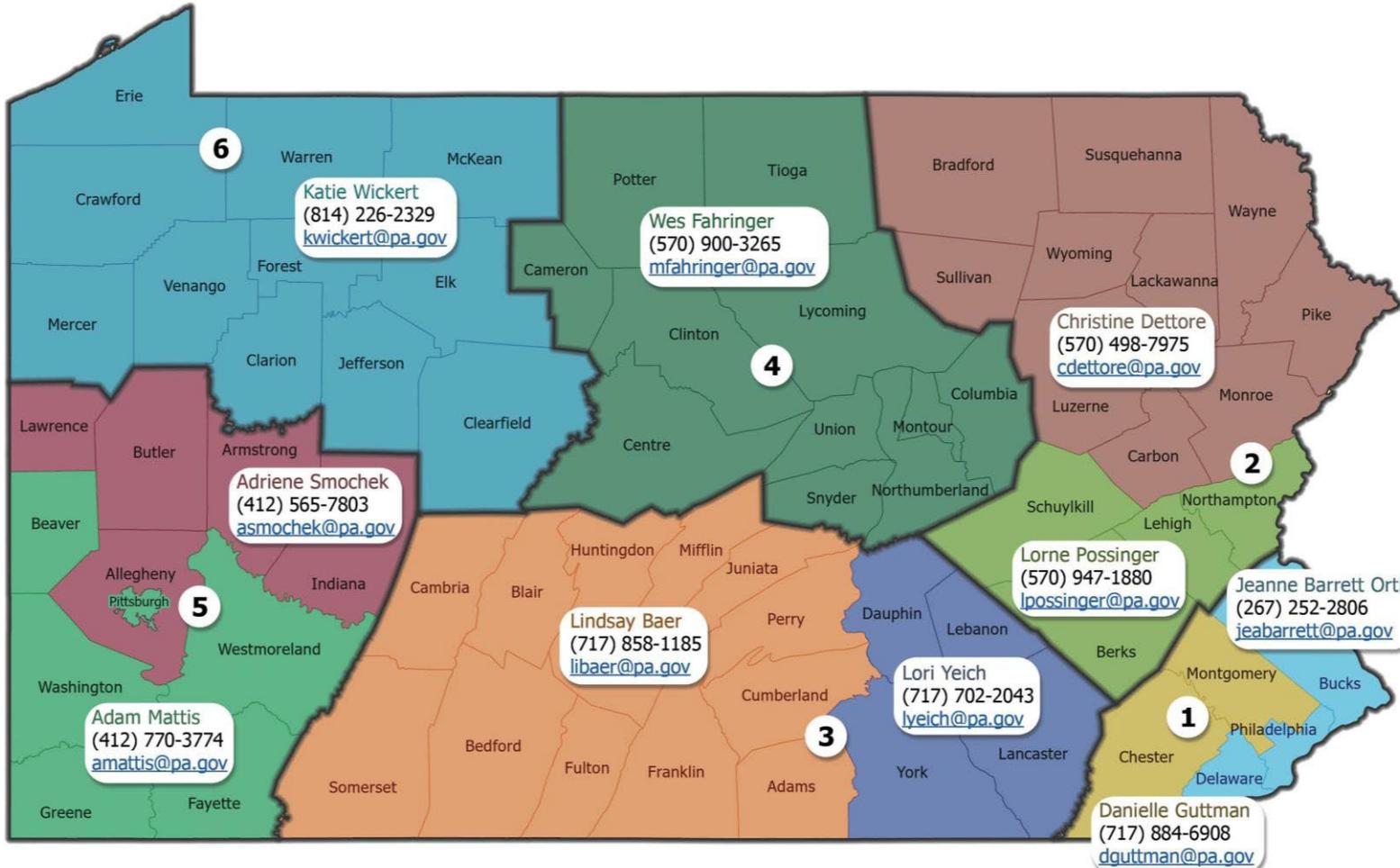
- Closing identified Priority Trail Gaps
- Implementing the Pennsylvania Land and Water Trail Network Strategic Plan (2025-2029)

Rivers and Watershed Forestry

- Enhancing public access to waterways and/or improving waterways and watersheds through community tree planting and riparian forest buffers



Review



2026 GRANT ROUND OPENS ON

JANUARY 12, 2026

apps.dcnr.pa.gov/grants

APPLICATION DEADLINE

APRIL 30, 2026 @ 4:00PM

- Contact your regional advisor early!
- This presentation is available on DCNR's YouTube channel: youtube.com/pennsylvaniadcnr
- Grants Portal issues? Customer service number is **1-800-326-7734**