

March 30, 2026

RE: Endless Mountains Heritage Region Partnership/Mini-Grant Application

Dear Partnership/Mini-Grants Applicants,

Welcome to the EMHR's 2026 Mini Grant application submission process!

The Endless Mountains Heritage Region, Inc. (EMHR) is once again offering its annual Partnership/Mini-Grants Program to our four-county region! Applications will be accepted beginning **Monday, March 30, 2026**. Complete the application that has been included along with any other relevant documents needed and return it to the EMHR office by **Monday, May 4, 2026 at 4 p.m.**

1. The organization must be a 501(c)3 non-profit (registered with the Bureau of Charitable Organizations), county, municipality or public education institution within our four-county region (Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, and Wyoming).
2. The organization must be a paying member of the EMHR.
3. Projects can begin **June 8, 2026**, if the grant agreement/contract has been signed by both EMHR and the RECIPIENT. Projects must be completed by **September 3, 2027**. Extensions are available to grantees, if necessary.
4. Grant requests must range between **\$500** and **\$10,000** (All grants require a 20-percent monetary or in-kind match of the **total project cost** from the applicant. *For example, a \$10,000 grant request would require a match of \$2,500 for a total project cost of \$12,500.*).
5. The organization and proposed project must be located within the counties of Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, or Wyoming.
6. The project must pertain to EMHR's mission and goals, including heritage preservation, outdoor recreation development/preservation, historical or environmental educational programming, environmental conservation, as well as certain special purpose studies and building rehabilitation projects.
7. The project must further the mission and goals of the EMHR and its Management Action Plan (available for review at <https://emheritage.org/about/>).

Mission:

→ "To celebrate, preserve and enhance the rural character and culture of the Endless Mountains Heritage Region."

Goals:

→ Attract visitors to the Region's communities, heritage sites, outdoor recreation opportunities, and downtowns to strengthen the local economy.

→ Engage residents and visitors with the Region's culture and heritage through educational programming, events, and tourism promotion.

→ Protect and enhance our heritage assets, cultural landscapes, and natural features where the Heritage Region's stories can be told.

→ Offer a wide range of heritage and outdoor recreation destinations and activities for all ages and abilities.

→ Preserve and promote agricultural growth and deliver authentic experiences of “Living with the Land” in the Endless Mountains.

8. Mini grants are not permitted to be used to fulfill match requirements for other DCNR funded projects.

Next step: Once all applications have been received, the EMHR’s Grant Review Committee will evaluate and rank each application accordingly. At that time, projects will be selected for funding and each organization will be notified by phone and email or letter no later than **June 5, 2026** (tentative).

9. Acknowledgement Sign: Any wayfinding or interpretive signage erected by the RECIPIENT as part of the funded project shall denote (through wordage or the use of agency logos) that the project was done with financial assistance from the Endless Mountains Heritage Region, Inc. and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. Projects not involving wayfinding or interpretive signage shall indicate the financial assistance from EMHR and DCNR through the erection of a small sign or plaque at the project site (or on the facility, as appropriate).

This 2026 Partnerships/Mini-Grants program was financed in part with a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, the Environmental Stewardship Fund, and the Heritage Areas Program Fund under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. As such, all DCNR grant terms and conditions also apply to this contract.

Contract #BRC-SR-31-43

Please feel free to contact the EMHR at (570) 265-1528 with any questions or send an email to:

Vanessa Billings-Seiler, Grants Program Coordinator - vbillings-seiler@emheritage.org

AND

Marci Dake, Administrative Assistant – mdake@emheritage.org

Best of luck to all of our applicants!

Sincerely,

Cain Chamberlin
Executive Director
Endless Mountains Heritage Region