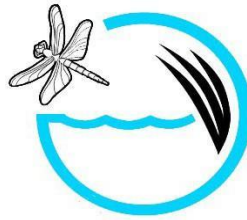


## WILD & SCENIC RIVERS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

### GRANT PROPOSAL PROCESS AND APPLICATION

#### “Wild & Scenic Community Grants”

October 2023



**WOOD - PAWCATUCK**  
*Wild and Scenic Rivers*

### **Background**

The Dingell Act, signed into US law in March of 2019, designated the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed as part of the prestigious National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This designation represents national recognition that the seven major rivers, as well as countless lakes, wetlands, and smaller streams within the watershed, have outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values and should be protected and preserved for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The Wild & Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council (Stewardship Council) is made up of 2 Representatives from each of the 12 Rhode Island and Connecticut watershed towns, plus allied governmental and non-profit organizations. The Stewardship Council implements its Stewardship Plan for the Watershed through voluntary action, public education, and offering technical and financial support to communities, nonprofits, tribal nations, and states. Funding for this Grant Program is provided by the U.S. National Park Service and administered by the Stewardship Council.

### **Wild and Scenic Community Grants**

The Stewardship Council is seeking grant applications to address watershed needs as outlined in [Chapter 6 of the Stewardship Plan \(Action Strategies for the Future\)](#)

### **Application and grant details**

- Applications will be accepted from October 16, 2023 through December 29, 2023.
- Grants up to \$12,000 are available.
- Applications should be submitted via email to Casey Merkle, interim Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinator ([wpwildrivers@wpwa.org](mailto:wpwildrivers@wpwa.org))
- After execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the grantee and the Stewardship Council’s fiscal agent (Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association), the grantee will receive 50% of the requested grant amount with the final 50% of the award disbursed upon completion of the final report (see below). If more than 50% of the award is needed initially, the applicant must provide a detailed justification.

### **Resources to Assist with the Grant Application**

- If you need assistance filling out the application, please email Casey Merkle, interim Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinator ([WPWildRivers@wpwa.org](mailto:WPWildRivers@wpwa.org)), to connect with the appropriate Town Representative(s) for help.
- [WP Wild Rivers Stewardship Council Website](#)
- [Stewardship Plan - Chapter 6](#)
- [Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Flood Resiliency Management Plan, Appendix F: Town Summary Sheets](#)

## **Eligible Applicants**

Non-profit organizations, municipalities, state agencies, tribal nations, individual educators, schools and other educational institutions may submit proposals.

Grant proposals must involve activities located in a least one town within the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed:

RI: Charlestown, Exeter, Hopkinton, North Kingstown, Richmond, South Kingstown, Westerly, West Greenwich.

CT: North Stonington, Sterling, Stonington, Voluntown.

## **Grant Process**

Upon receipt all applications will be acknowledged to the applicant via email within 2-5 business days of submission.

All applicants will be notified of grant decisions via email by February 29, 2024.

## **Submittal of a proposal does not guarantee funding**

## **Restrictions and Other Details**

- Grant proposals will not be accepted for review if any of the conditions below apply:
  - Proposed activities are not located within at least one of the 12 towns of the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed;
  - Required permits have not been obtained prior to submission of the grant proposal;
  - Application is not complete;
  - Grant request is for more than the maximum grant amount (currently \$12,000);
  - The application is received after December 29, 2023.
- Wild & Scenic Community Grant funds are not eligible as a match for other federal grant programs.
- Funding may not be used for federally-mandated activities or to address violation enforcement requirements or mitigation. Funding may also not be used for entertainment, lobbying, illegal activities or any other restrictions associated with federal fund use.
- Proposed deliverables that are mandated as part of a regulatory requirement are not eligible. This may include mitigation for enforcement actions and/or permit requirements.
- If the grant proposal is one where human health or safety is a concern, the applicant may be required to provide proof of insurance.
- To combat the spread of invasive species, all equipment used in projects must be free of plant material and soil before entering the work area. Similarly, all material used (i.e., straw mulch, gravel) and any materials disposed of (i.e., soil) must also be clean.

## **Reporting Requirements**

The final report must contain:

- a brief description of the funded activities (including title, purpose);
- a description of the budgeted funds and how they were spent with appended receipts;
- copies of any products (photos, maps, reports, digital and metadata, etc.);
- other requirements as agreed to in the individual MOAs.

**WILD & SCENIC STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL – GRANT APPLICATION**

1. Project Title:

2. Name(s):

3. Primary Contact

Name:

Email:

Phone: Affiliation:

Additional Contributors to the Proposal

Name:

Email:

Phone: Affiliation:

4. Project Location(s). List towns and cities.

5. Provide a brief (one page) MS Word formatted narrative describing the project. If the project has multiple project leads or organizations/agencies, identify responsibilities of each.

6. Attach any supporting documents, blue prints, plans and/or photos. Use a MS Word format.

7. List all of the watershed values (below) the project addresses:

Scenic and Recreational; Exceptional Ecosystems; Geology and Hydrology; Cultural; free flowing condition; excellent water quality; land acquisition or protection.

8. List the Action Strategies ([Chapter 6 Stewardship Plan](#)) which are applicable to your grant application. Just list the Stewardship Plan page number, Action Plan title, alpha-numeric designation and title, e.g.,

Pg 142, Hydrology Plan, A9, Improve water quality;

Pg 148, Ecosystem Action Plan, E6, Pursue education opportunities.

9. What is the expected project duration? (start date, anticipated end date, number of months, 1 year, 2 years, etc.).

10. Are there any time-sensitive project conditions (start dates, seasonality concerns, etc.)?

11. If permits are needed for the project, provide proof of necessary permits.

12. Does the project require municipal permission/approvals (e.g., from town council/selectmen, town commissions, fire, police, DPW)? If so, are they pending or have they been obtained?

13. How will you measure project success?
14. Are results of the proposed project sustainable after completion of the grant? (This question may not be applicable to all grant applications).
15. Are there any potential challenges to the project?
16. If total grant funds are not available, is funding some portion of the project an option?
17. Include a budget breakdown that identifies spending categories (e.g. equipment over \$5,000, supplies under \$5,000, hired experts, printing, fees, construction, insurance, etc.). In-kind support is not required but would be given favorable consideration. Show any in-kind support in the budget. Letters of commitment from any organizations or businesses providing in-kind support may accompany the application.

**Sample Budget Table**

Budget Items by Object Class Categories	Grant Fund \$	Match \$	Source of Match
<b>a. Personnel</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			
<b>b. Fringe Benefits</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			
<b>d. Equipment</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			
<b>e. Supplies</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			
<b>f. Contractual</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			
<b>g. Construction</b>			
<i>[Specific Budget Item]</i>			

<b>h. Other</b>			
<b>i. Total Direct Charges (sum of a-h)</b>			
<b>j. Indirect Charges</b>			
<b>k. Totals (i + j)</b>			