



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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GOVERNOR

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COMMISSIONER

April 22, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Qualified Applicants

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

SUBJECT: Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program and Land & Water Conservation Fund Program
2026-2027 Funding Cycle Dates and Educational Workshop Announcement

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is pleased to announce the funding cycle dates and educational workshops for the 2026-2027 grant cycles for the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) and the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

Below you will find information about both programs, along with the dates and times for the in-person and webinar-based workshops that are offered. These sessions provide valuable opportunities to become familiar with each program and receive guidance on the application process and evaluation criteria.

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 awarded to support the stewardship of state parks; state lands and wildlife management areas; enhance local parks and trails; and 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 3, 2026	Pre-application window opens
October 16, 2026	Pre-application window closes
Spring 2027	Successful Applicants notified
Spring 2027	Second-level Application period opens
May 28, 2027	Second-level Application period closes
Summer 2027	Final Approval of Project Agreements

Land & Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program is a federal program funded by the National Park Service (NPS) of the Department of the Interior and administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. LWCF provides funding for the acquisition, development and renovation of outdoor recreation lands and facilities. Eligible applicants include qualified local governments (as determined by the Department of Community Affairs), constituted recreation authorities and commissions in good standing with LWCF, and state agencies.

LWCF Funding Cycle dates are as follows:

August 3, 2026	Pre-application portal opens
October 2, 2026	Pre-application portal closes
December 2026	Successful Applicants announced
January – April 2027	Formal Application workshop & building
May 2027	Formal Application submitted to NPS
Fall of 2027	NPS award of projects anticipated

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

GOSP and LWCF Workshops

DNR Grants Staff will host one in-person and one webinar-based educational workshop covering GOSP and LWCF grant programs. Both sessions will cover the same material, including program overviews and an introduction to the application process.

These workshops are offered at no cost to the public; however, registration is required. Please register using the links below or by visiting <https://gadnr.org/grants>.

Workshop dates are as follows:

<i>In-person</i> – Wednesday, June 10, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	LWCF and GOSP Grants
Indian Springs State Park, Idlewilde Event Center 678 Lake Clark Rd., Flovilla, GA 30216		

Register for In-Person Workshop: <https://forms.gle/ePbjopiq7hpdvvsbA>

<i>Webinar</i> – Wednesday, June 24, 2026	9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	LWCF and GOSP Grants
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Register for Online Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8333282644699045467>

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

LWCF - Julianne Carroll at 404-463-8393 or julianne.carroll@dnr.ga.gov

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