



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

BRIAN KEMP
GOVERNOR

WALTER RABON
COMMISSIONER

April 29, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Qualified Applicants

FROM: Trevor Santos *TJS*
Deputy Commissioner, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program and Land and Water Conservation Fund
2024-2025 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 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding cycle dates and Educational Workshops for the 2024-2025 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, 2024	Pre-application window opens
October 15, 2024	Pre-application window closes
Spring 2025	Successful Pre-applicants notified
Spring 2025	Second-level Application period opens
May 30, 2025	Second-level Application period closes
Summer 2025	Final Approval of Project Agreements

Land and Water Conservation Fund

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

LWCF Funding Cycle Dates are as Follows:

September 1, 2024	Funding cycle opens
October 31, 2024	Funding cycle closes, pre-applications due
February 2025	Selected applications announced
May 2025	Second level applications due
Fall 2025 (<i>anticipated</i>)	Projects approved by NPS

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

GOSP and LWCF Workshops

DNR Grants Staff will conduct two educational workshops about GOSP and LWCF Grants. The two sessions will cover the same material and will highlight each program and introduce the application process. 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:

In-person - Thursday, June 6, 2024 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. GOSP and LWCF
Indian Springs State Park, Idlewilde Center
678 Lake Clark Rd., Flovilla, GA 30216

Register for In-Person Workshop:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSU4PTrtmDvN8YhCYbSBFTz88TyIJHOoCCUtgJUhgAEKBg9g/viewform?usp=sf_link

Webinar - Wednesday, June 12, 2024 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. GOSP and LWCF

Register for Online Webinar:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3905842872927751264>

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

GOSP – Bethany Carnes at 404-463-0288 or bethany.carnes@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.

cc:

Members of the GOSA Board of Trustees, Members of the Board of Natural Resources, Commissioner Walter Rabon