



MARK WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER

May 28, 2019

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Eligible Applicants

FROM: Georgia DNR Grants Unit

SUBJECT: Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) 2019-2020 Funding Cycle Announcement

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is pleased to announce the 2019-2020 Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program (GOSP) and Georgia Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding cycles.

All eligible applicants must complete a pre-application online at <https://gadnr.org/grants>. Following the competitive pre-application phase, successful pre-applicants will be invited to complete a second-level application. Applicants may submit pre-applications for both the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program and Recreational Trails Program, but applications must be for separate projects. Below you will find information on both programs, application timelines, and educational workshops conducted by Georgia DNR Grants Unit Staff.

**Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program**

The Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program is a grant and loan program administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and authorized by The Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Act. Program funds will be 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.

**Anticipated Grant Cycle Timeline:**

- September 1, 2019 – Pre-application window opens
- October 31, 2019 – Pre-application window closes
- February 3, 2020 – Successful pre-applicants notified
- February 10, 2020 – Second-level application window opens
- May 31, 2020 – Second-level application period closes
- Summer 2020 – Final Approval of Projects

## **Recreational Trails Program**

The Recreational Trails Program is a federal grant program funded by the Federal Highway Administration and administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. RTP provides funding for trail construction, trail maintenance, and trail education. Eligible applicants include qualified local governments (as determined by the Department of Community Affairs), authorized commissions, and state and federal agencies. Nongovernmental entities with IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt status may apply for education funds only.

Anticipated Grant Cycle Timeline:

- September 1, 2019 – Pre-application window opens
- November 17, 2019 – Pre-application window closes
- April 2020 – Successful pre-applicants notified
- April 2020 – Second-level application window opens
- May 31, 2020 – Second-level application period closes
- Fall 2020 – Final Approval of Projects

RTP Funding for the 2019-2020 cycle:

- Estimated total funds available: \$3,000,000
- There is no minimum grant amount.
- For single use and diverse use trail grant applications, the maximum funding assistance is \$200,000.
- For motorized use trail grant applications, there is no maximum funding assistance limit.

**For more information about the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program or Recreational Trails Program, please visit <https://gadnr.org/grants>.**

**GOSP and RTP Workshops**

DNR Grants Staff will conduct four co-sponsored two-day workshops throughout Georgia, covering the highlights of each program and offering training on the application process. These workshops will be free to the public, but we do ask that you register at <https://gadnr.org/grantworkshops>.

Workshop dates and locations are as follows:

Dates	Location
July 16 – 17, 2019	<b>Amicalola State Park, Oak Hall</b> 418 Amicalola Falls State Park Rd., Dawsonville, GA 30534
July 23 – 24, 2019	<b>Indian Springs State Park, Idlewood Room</b> 78 Lake Clark Rd., Flovilla, GA 30216
July 30 – 31, 2019	<b>Ft. McAllister State Park, Group Shelter</b> 3894 Fort McAllister Rd., Richmond Hill, GA 31324
August 1 – 2, 2019	<b>Little Ocmulgee State Park, Irons and Woods Room</b> 80 Live Oak Trail, Helena, GA 31037

**To RSVP or for more information on the two-day workshops, including schedules and lodging, please visit <https://gadnr.org/grantworkshops>.**

If you have any questions concerning the upcoming workshops, please contact:

GOSP - Rob Stokes at (404) 463-8570 or [robert.stokes@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:robert.stokes@dnr.ga.gov)

RTP - Liz Shue at (404) 463-1030 or [mary.shue@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:mary.shue@dnr.ga.gov)

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

Sincerely,

Taylor Brown  
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cc: Members of the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Board of Trustees  
Recreation Trails Advisory Committee  
Members of Board of Natural Resources  
Commissioner Mark Williams