

2025-2027 Lawn Conversion and Riparian Buffer Mini-Grant Program for Conservation Districts

E&O GUIDELINES

Application Deadline: June 30, 2027

PACD is offering conservation districts up to \$1,000 to implement educational and outreach activities that support and extend the work of the Lawn Conversion and Riparian Forest Buffer grant program. Projects should target landowners who would be eligible for lawn conversion and riparian forest buffer installation.

Timeline

- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until funds are expended

Target Audience

The mini-grant projects must focus on eligible landowners who may potentially apply for the mini-grant funding. This includes private and public lands.

Project Examples

- Maintenance walk-about/field days/one-on-one visits – District staff walk through installed practices with the landowner to help identify maintenance needs such as invasive species removal, replanting, tree shelter inspection/replacement, etc. This measure to provide maintenance support will ensure that projects are functioning properly. Field days can include inviting interested landowners to a project site and providing information about lawn conversion and/or buffers.
- Targeted landowner meetings and educational workshops – Group workshops for eligible landowners providing information about the benefits and proper installation and maintenance of lawn conversion and riparian buffers. The workshops may be in a classroom setting or at a project site. The group workshops should provide information about the mini-grant program, benefits of sustainable landscaping practices, and the installation and proper maintenance techniques to ensure the projects are successful. Common problems (such as weed/invasive species control) and how to remedy those problems should also be discussed.
- Targeted landowner mailings – Send program information to eligible landowners who may be interested in lawn conversion or buffers.

Eligible Expenses

Eligible expenses include but are not limited to staff time for targeted landowner outreach, contracted professional services, advertisement of E&O events, room rentals, printing & mailing, and mileage. Grants pay for eligible expenses on a reimbursement basis. Please submit your reimbursement request with your final report.

The following items are NOT considered reimbursable expenses: novelty items including T-shirts, magnets, pens, food, etc.

Materials Review

All project related materials, including brochures, signs, presentations, etc. must be reviewed by PACD's Program Manager prior to publication/presentation.

Funding Statement

The following funding statement should be included with all materials, advertisements, etc. related to the E&O project.

"Financial and other support for this project is provided by the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. through the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, Environmental Stewardship fund, under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation."

Evaluation & Reporting

Evaluations are required for mini-grant workshops, field days and walk-about. Grantees are also required to submit a mid-term and final report to PACD.

Contact

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