



CHI-CAL RIVERS FUND

2016 Funding Opportunity Guidance for Applicants



THE CHICAGO
COMMUNITY TRUST
AND AFFILIATES



GAYLORD & DOROTHY
DONNELLEY FOUNDATION



TheJoyceFoundation



NFWF



PURPOSE

Restore the health, vitality, and accessibility of the waterways in the Chicago and Calumet region.

Goals:

- Reduce stormwater runoff with green stormwater infrastructure
- Enhance fish and wildlife habitat
- Improve public-use opportunities



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- ArcelorMittal
- The Chicago Community Trust
- Crown Family Philanthropies
- Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- The Joyce Foundation
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

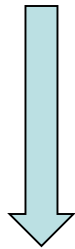


TheJoyceFoundation



ACCOMPLISHMENTS: 2013–2015

15 grants: \$3.5 million
Grantee match: \$8.2 million
Total investment: \$11.7 million



- 4.3 million gallons stormwater storage
- 1,258 acres of habitat restoration
- 9,280 feet of fish habitat improvement
- 23 acres of green space improvement

Locations of projects funded 2013–2015



2016 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- Request For Proposals at:
www.nfwf.org/chi-cal
- Available funding: **up to \$1.7 million**
- Grant size: **\$100,000–\$300,000**
- Grant duration: typically **24 months**
- Application due date: **July 27 by 11pm**





APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible applicants
 - ✓ Non-profit organizations
 - ✓ State, tribal, and local governments
 - ✓ Educational institutions
- Ineligible applicants
 - ✓ Individuals
 - ✓ Federal agencies
 - ✓ Private for-profit firms
- *A single organization may submit multiple applications*
- *Unlikely for an organization to receive more than one award per cycle*

GEOGRAPHIC ELIGIBILITY

Priority to projects that benefit:

- Chicago River and IL tributaries
- North Shore Channel
- Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal
- Bubbly Creek
- Calumet Sag Channel
- Calumet River
- Grand Calumet River
- Little Calumet River
- Burns Ditch



- Some of the available funding must be directed to projects in NW Indiana

FUNDING CATEGORIES

1. Green Stormwater Infrastructure
2. Habitat Enhancement
3. Public-Use Improvement



GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

- This category will direct funding to green infrastructure projects that increase on-site stormwater capture and storage
- Competitive projects will:
 - ✓ Occur in close proximity or demonstrate benefits to the major waterways of the system
 - ✓ Be of sufficient size and scope to significantly reduce runoff into sewer systems and contaminant discharge to local waterways
 - ✓ Connect to a larger green infrastructure plan



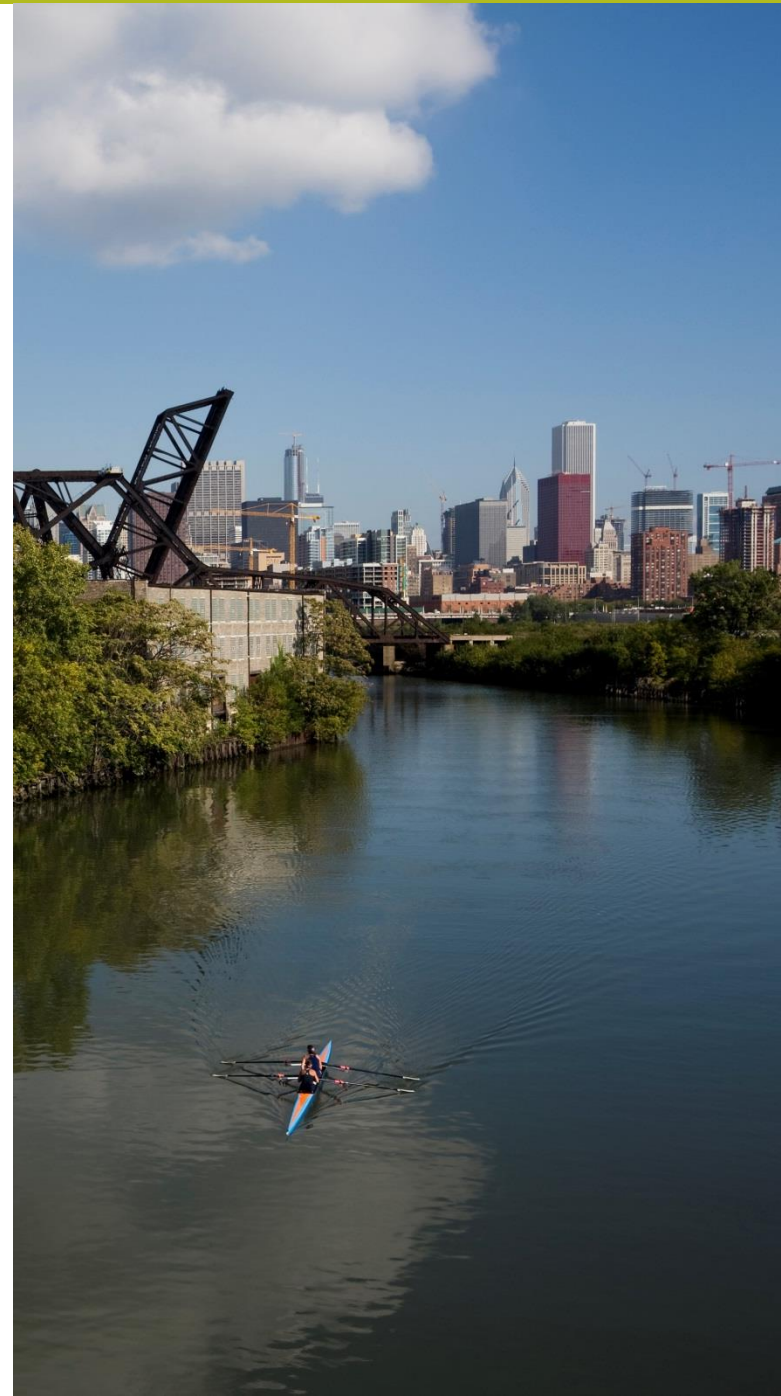
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

- This category will support on-the-ground riparian and in-stream habitat improvements along or near the major waterways of the system
- Competitive projects will:
 - ✓ Improve habitat connectivity
 - ✓ Reduce erosion
 - ✓ Improve water quality
 - ✓ Add habitat complexity
 - ✓ Generate healthier fish and wildlife populations



PUBLIC-USE IMPROVEMENT

- This category will support improvements in public access, trails, and community green space in close proximity to the major waterways of the system
- Competitive projects will:
 - ✓ Improve opportunities for public uses such as fishing, boating, walking and hiking
 - ✓ Generate economic benefits associated with the above uses
 - ✓ Improve the natural aesthetics of underserved neighborhoods



COMPETITIVE PROJECTS

- Applicant organizations must demonstrate capacity & experience commensurate with the scale and funding request of the project
- Occur near or otherwise benefit the major system waterways
- Align with & demonstrate how projects will complement and connect to other ongoing efforts/work in the Chicago and Calumet region
- Shovel-ready (project can begin shortly after grant is awarded)
- Apply most ($\geq 70\%$) grant funding to on-the ground improvements
- Include long-lasting benefits, as demonstrated by provisions for long-term maintenance and management

APPLICATION PROCESS

- All applications must be submitted online through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Easygrants system: www.nfwf.org/easygrants
- Hard copy applications will not be considered for funding
- Tip sheet and other application resources available at www.nfwf.org/chi-cal



PROJECT NARRATIVE



Full Proposal Project Narrative

Instructions: Save this document on your computer and complete the narrative in the format provided. The final narrative should not exceed six (6) pages; font should be 12-point Times New Roman. Do not delete the text provided below. Once complete, upload this document into the on-line application as instructed.

- Funding Category:** Indicate the one primary Funding Category that best describes the proposed project: 1) Green Storm Water Infrastructure; 2) Habitat Enhancement; 3) Public-use Improvement. If the project is expected to yield benefits in multiple categories, indicate any relevant secondary categories. (e.g., “Primary category = Habitat Enhancement; secondary category = Public-use Improvement”)
Context: Briefly describe the project context in terms of current conditions, existing challenges, and opportunities for improvement. Explain how the proposed work would complement and connect to previous and ongoing efforts and plans to restore the health, vitality and accessibility of the waterways of the region. Indicate any expected benefits to underserved communities.
- Outcomes:** Elaborate on project outcomes with reference to the outcome metrics selected previously in the application; discuss what makes the outcomes achievable and important.
- Activities:** Elaborate on project activities with reference to the activity metrics selected previously in the application. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcomes indicated above. Describe how these activities relate to established plans and priority needs in the specific project location.
- Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
- Long-term Operation and Maintenance:** Indicate how project benefits will be sustained through time. Refer to any relevant existing long-term operation and maintenance plan(s) or describe anticipated efforts to develop a long-term plan.
- Project Team and Partnerships:** List the individuals who would lead project implementation and describe their relevant education and experience. Describe additional project partners and their role in the proposed project.
- Other (Optional):** Provide any additional information important for the review of this proposal.

BUDGET

- Detailed budget instructions

www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Documents/detailed-budget-instructions.pdf

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| ✓ Personnel | ✓ Travel |
| ✓ Equipment | ✓ Indirect Costs |
| ✓ Contractual Services | ✓ Other Direct Costs |
| ✓ Materials & Supplies | |

- Ineligible grant expenses

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✗ Research | ✗ Fundraising |
| ✗ Political advocacy,
lobbying, litigation | ✗ Legally mandated
mitigation projects |

- See NFWF Indirect Cost Policy for more details:

www.nfwf.org/whatwedo/grants/applicants/Pages/indirect-policy.aspx

Matching Contributions

- Projects with minimum 1:1 match ratio more competitive
- May be Federal or Non-federal
- Match eligibility
 - ✓ Verifiable from the grantee's records
 - ✓ Not included as contributions for any other award
 - ✓ Necessary & reasonable for accomplishment of project or program objectives
 - ✓ Not paid by the Federal government under another Federal award except when authorized by Federal statute (applicable to Federal match only)
 - ✓ Are allowable under OMB Cost Principles (applicable to Federal match only)
 - ✓ Committed directly to the project and must be used within the period of performance

ACCEPTED MATCH SOURCES

- Cash
- In-kind contributions of staff
- Materials and services donated
- Volunteer time
- Cost of land acquisition/easement
- Allowable indirect costs not covered by grant funding
- Other tangible contributions to project goals



PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

- Start date should be no earlier than December 5, 2016
- Duration typically 2 years (or two full field seasons)
- Match must be spent between project start and end dates

TIMELINE

- Full proposals due
 - **July 27** (11pm)
- Applications reviewed
 - **July 28 – Dec. 4**
- Grant awards announced
 - **Dec. 5 – Dec. 9**
- Grant agreements developed
 - **December - January**



CONTACT INFORMATION

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