

**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION  
FUND PROGRAM  
FY 2011 Funding Cycle**

**STATE ADMINISTERING AGENCY**

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and Community Affairs**

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**LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION  
FUND PROGRAM**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Program was created in 1965 "...to assist in preserving, developing and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of America of present and future generations ...such quality and quantity of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation..." The LWCF Program provides matching grants to States, and through the States to local governments, for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Amount Available (Est):	\$585,000
Max. Grant Amount:	\$50,000
Federal Matching Percentage	50 Percent
Beginning of Funding Cycle	08/01/2011
Pre-applications Due:	08/31/2011
Completion Date:	TBD
Selection Method:	Competitive

**FUNDING CYCLE**

All eligible project sponsors will be notified of the timing and application procedures, in writing, at the beginning of the funding cycle. Pre-applications for FY2011 funding will be accepted from August 1, 2011, through August 31, 2011.

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

All political subdivisions of the state are eligible to participate in the LWCF program. As such, municipalities, counties, state agencies, and state authorities created by the legislature may apply for LWCF assistance. However, state or local educational institutions are prohibited from participating.

**ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES**

LWCF assistance can be used to acquire land and water interests for park purposes, develop new outdoor recreation facilities, and, in certain instances, renovate existing recreational facilities. Virtually all public outdoor recreation activities are eligible for assistance under the program including playgrounds, ball fields (including lights [concrete poles only]), court sports, picnic areas, camping areas, tracks, trails, swimming facilities, etc. In addition, support facilities such as concession stands, comfort stations, park access roads, parking areas, utilities, and site preparation necessary to make a recreation activity area usable may qualify for assistance. The project sponsor must either own or have a perpetual interest in land that is developed with LWCF assistance.

**MATCHING SHARES**

The LWCF program provides 50% matching assistance to project sponsors. The project sponsor may provide the remaining 50% of the project cost in the form of cash or in-kind/donated services. Grant funds are distributed to project sponsors on a cost-reimbursable basis.

## GRANT LIMIT

The maximum grant size is determined by the amount of the state's apportionment. A maximum grant amount of \$50,000 is anticipated during this funding cycle. However, ADECA may award a lesser amount for a part or all of the items contained in the project scope.

## PROGRAM CRITERIA

The following program criteria apply to all applicants seeking LWCF assistance:

- a. Existing outdoor recreation facilities must be owned and managed by an eligible project sponsor; be well maintained; and the need for LWCF assistance documented in Alabama's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).
- b. The project sponsor must agree to manage and operate its LWCF assisted site for outdoor recreation purposes **in perpetuity**.
- c. The project sponsor must agree to comply with all other laws, rules and regulations associated with the LWCF program.

## FUNDING CRITERIA

The following examples represent the type of criteria that are used to assess the relative merits of project applications submitted for LWCF assistance:

- a. For FY2011, up to 30% of Alabama's LWCF Apportionment may be prioritized for applications to repair or reconstruct LWCF facilities damaged or destroyed by the Tornado Outbreak of April 27, 2011.
- b. Relative need for the proposed activity in the project service area.
- c. Project feasibility.
- d. Recreation delivery system.

- e. Operation and maintenance of existing recreation facilities.
- f. Site location and accessibility.
- g. Amount of new acreage being added to the public outdoor recreation trust.
- h. Amount of local match over and above the minimum requirement.
- i. Degree to which local citizen groups are involved in the development of the project.
- j. Degree to which the project furthers the goals outlined in the SCORP.

Please note, applications for elaborate facilities, tournament-only facilities, or professional sports facilities are not eligible.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program or require technical assistance in determining project scope or with the application process, please contact Rob Grant at the number listed above. E-mail communication is preferred.