

COUNTY CONSERVATION AIDS

Authorization: s. 23.09 (12), Wis. Stats., ch. NR 50, Wis. Admin. Code

Budget: 2012-2013 Fiscal Year = \$ 297,000

Objective: Provides financial assistance to enhance county fish and wildlife programs.

Eligible Applicant: County and tribal governing bodies participating in the county fish and wildlife programs.

Level of Assistance: The state may pay a maximum of 50% of the eligible actual project cost.

Priorities: The revenue to operate the program comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and state sales tax on hunting and fishing equipment. The program allocates funds to each county in proportion to the ratio of the size of each county to the total area of the state. Funds are allocated annually to eligible applicants by resolution. After annual allocation, unused funds revert to 5 regions available to county and tribal government within region boundaries. Unused region funds revert to a statewide fund on May 1 of each year to be used on additional projects statewide. Contact your DNR Regional Grant Specialist listed below after May 1st for additional funds if available.

Eligible Projects:

Wildlife Management:

- Access Roads
- Browse improvement cutting
- Construction of wood duck houses
- Creating cover brush piles
- Creation of impoundments, construction, nature trails
- Diking and ditching
- Fence construction
- Fencing and boundary posting for hunting areas
- Firebreak construction
- Flowage and pothole construction
- Food patches and plantings
- Food seeding
- Habitat creation or improvement
- Habitat improvement, including: brush piles, controlled burns, planting, and nesting structures
- Hunter walking trail construction, including: seeding, mowing, and signing
- Land acquisition for habitat preservation
- Shooting range facilities which include a hunter safety program component

- Trail seeding, mowing and spraying
- Other types of projects that improve the wildlife resource and management
- Parking areas construction
- Recreation facilities useful solely for management purposes
- Specialized equipment useful solely for wildlife management purposes

Fish Management:

- Aquatic habitat development
- Aquatic vegetation management
- Boat launch development
- Brush shelter in lakes
- Chemical rehabilitation of waters
- Construction of fish shelters
- Construction of parking areas
- Fencing construction and boundary posting for fishing areas
- Fish stocking
- Fishing access sites
- Fishing pier or bank fishing construction
- Habitat creation or improvement
- Impoundments for fishing
- Lake, stream and spring pond rehabilitation and improvement
- Land acquisition for fish habitat preservation
- Other types of project that improve the fish resource and management
- Pond or lake dredging for habitat improvement
- Recreation facilities useful solely for fish management purposes
- Rough fish control
- Spawning area development
- Specialized equipment useful solely for fish management purposes
- Stream bank fencing
- Stream side fencing
- Spawning area development
- Stream improvement devices including bank repair and vegetation control

Applications:

Contact your DNR Regional Grant Specialist for determination of a reasonable application deadline. The application material is provided in the appendix of the web site listed at the bottom of this document.

The applicant (county or tribal government) submits the application form and a current county or tribal board resolution delegating authority to a county or tribal committee to apply for funding or “Letter of Intent” to apply for funding to the appropriate DNR Regional Grant Specialist.

DNR Regional Grant Specialist Contacts:

Contact the applicable DNR Regional Grant Specialist for your county location listed below if you have questions regarding application and the grant program.

Southeast Region: (Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha) , Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, 2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212-3128. Thomas E. Blotz, phone: (414) 263-8610, email: Tom.Blotz@Wisconsin.Gov or James Ritchie, phone (414) 263-8670, e-mail: James.Ritchie@Wisconsin.gov.

South Central Region: (Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock, Sauk,) , Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711. Patrick R. Sheahan, phone: (608) 273-5947, email: Patrick.Sheahan@Wisconsin.gov

Northern Region: (Ashland, Bayfield, Barron, Burnett, Douglas, Forest, Florence, Iron, Lincoln, Langlade, Oneida, Price, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, Washburn), Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501-3349. Kirstie A. Larsen, phone: (715) 365-8983, email: Kirstie.Larsen@Wisconsin.Gov.

Northeast Region: (Brown, Calumet, Door, Green Lake, Fond Du Lac, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago), Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, 2984 Shawano Avenue, PO Box 10448, Green Bay, WI 54313. Christine M. Halbur, phone: (920) 662-5121, email: Christine.Halbur@Wisconsin.Gov.

West Central Region: (Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Crawford, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Juneau, LaCrosse, Monroe, Marathon, Pierce, Pepin, Portage, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Wood), Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, 1300 W. Clairemont Avenue, PO Box 4001, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4001. Bruce J. Neeb, phone: (715) 839-3713, email: Bruce.Neeb@Wisconsin.Gov or Lavane Hessler, phone (715) 839-3751, e-mail: Lavane.Hessler@Wisconsin.Gov

Program Manager:

Jeff Soellner – CF/2

Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

101 S. Webster St., PO Box 7921

Madison WI 53707-7921

Phone: (608) 267-7152, E-mail: Jeffrey.Soellner@wisconsin.gov

History: This Fish and Wildlife Management Grant Program was created to assist Wisconsin Counties in the improvement of the fish and wildlife resources. The Fund was established by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1965 as an alternative to highly questionable bounty payments on coyote, foxes and bobcats. Every year since the bounty program was cancelled, a state allocation equal to the average annual bounty payment has been earmarked as matching money for a growing list of county sponsored fish and wildlife habitat projects.

Website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cfa/Grants/coconserv.html>