



IDNR accepting applications for Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) and Land and Water Conservation Fund grant programs

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SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will be accepting applications for grants through the Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) programs beginning August 1, 2018.

The OSLAD program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public outdoor recreation areas. OSLAD is a matching program that provides an advance payment (for development projects only) that is 50 percent of the grant award amount shortly after the grant agreement is executed. The local agency must demonstrate and possess the ability to finance the remaining costs of an approved project prior to receipt of remaining grant funds. This program is funded through a percentage of the state's Real Estate Transfer Tax

The LWCF is a program that utilizes federal dollars to acquire land to be used for outdoor recreation. This program provides up to 50 percent of the certified market value of property acquired to be developed into outdoor recreation areas. No advance payment is allowed on acquisition projects. LWCF is funded nationally by revenue from offshore oil and gas leases.

Both programs are managed in Illinois by the Department of Natural Resources with concurrent application due dates, equal grant maximums and similar general rules.

The application period opens August 1 and applications must be submitted to the IDNR by 5:00 p.m. on October 1, 2018. The Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found beginning August 1 at <https://www.illinois.gov/sites/gata/Pages/default.aspx>.

Consult the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov for more information, or call the IDNR Grants main line at (217) 782-7481.