

## Purpose

**Clean and clear water in Lancaster County!**

## About the Lancaster Clean Water Fund

The Lancaster Clean Water Fund serves as a catalyst for increased collaboration with partners to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of current and future clean water projects. Across Lancaster County, clean water is a priority. With over half of Lancaster County streams and much of our groundwater unhealthy, our community is PA's priority area for reducing specific pollutants (nutrient and sediment) by 2025 in accordance with Lancaster's Countywide Action Plan (CAP).

The Lancaster Clean Water Partners is committed to reaching clean and clear water by 2040. The Lancaster Clean Water Fund provides a unique opportunity to work with landowners, leaders, and communities across the county on education, restoration, and protection projects to improve water quality. The fund supports projects that address clean water priorities as well as the pollution reduction goals in Lancaster's CAP.



Grants range from

**\$1,000 - \$500,000**



## Partners

**This grant is created and managed with the Lancaster Clean Water Partners to achieve clean and clear local waterways by 2040.**

We work with countless trusted experts in the field to make this grant possible, including:

- Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- Economic Development Company of Lancaster County
- Lancaster Conservancy
- Lancaster County Conservation District
- Lancaster Farmland Trust
- Local municipalities
- Penn State's Agriculture and Environment Center

# Grant Opportunities

## Community Conservation Grant

Grants of \$1,000 - \$15,000

The **Community Conservation Grant** supports education, outreach, and regional engagement projects that improve Lancaster's water quality through collaboration and creativity. Projects can range from educational campaigns to art installations to water quality monitoring equipment.

## Grant Portal

Available at  
[LancFound.org/grants](http://LancFound.org/grants)

## Application Process

- 1 Contact Emily Smedley to get the access code to the application. Be prepared to share project basics.
- 2 Use the code to access the application on the Community Foundation portal, found at [www.LancFound.org/grants](http://www.LancFound.org/grants).
- 3 Applications due **July 26** at 11:59 p.m. Applicants are encouraged to submit a draft application by **June 23**.



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## Grant Specifics

- Projects can range from educational campaigns to art installations to water quality monitoring equipment.
- Match is not required.
- Use the [Collaborative Watershed Mapping Tool](#) when applicable to assist with answering application questions.
- Awarded funds will be released to grantees after signing a Grantee Partner Agreement. Grantees will be responsible for submitting one report at the end of the grant period which includes a financial report. One walk-through with a Lancaster Clean Water Partners staff member will be required to verify project completion.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Projects should align with Lancaster's Countywide Action Plan, demonstrate a collective effort for clean water, and show sustainability of the project through economic and climate changes.
- Applicants are encouraged to describe how their project will prioritize collaboration with new Lancaster County partners in an effort to collectively protect water, create habitats, and encourage outdoor exploration.

# Grant Opportunities

## Clean Water Implementation Small Grant

Grants of \$5,000 - \$25,000

The **Clean Water Implementation Small Grant** supports implementation of collaborative, watershed-scale restoration projects that encourages diverse audiences to improve Lancaster's water quality at a rapid pace.

## Grant Portal

Available at  
[LancFound.org/grants](https://LancFound.org/grants)

## Application Process

- 1 Contact Emily Smedley to get the access code to the application.
- 2 Use the code to access the application on the Community Foundation portal, found at [www.LancFound.org/grants](https://www.LancFound.org/grants).
- 3 Applications due **July 26** at 11:59 p.m. Applicants are encouraged to submit a draft application by **June 23**.



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## Grant Specifics

- Projects can range from implementation of agricultural conservation and stormwater practices to riparian buffer plantings to removal of impervious surfaces.
- Match is not required.
- If a buffer will be planted as part of the project, a maintenance plan is required.
- Funds can be used to reimburse design and engineering if project implementation funding is already received.
- Use the [Collaborative Watershed Mapping Tool](#) when applicable to assist with answering application questions.
- After grantees sign the Grantee Partner Agreement, 50% of awarded funds will be released. One walk-through with a Lancaster County Conservation District staff member will be required to verify project completion. When verified, the grantee is responsible for submitting one report which includes a financial report. When the final report is approved, the remaining project funds will be released.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Projects should align with Lancaster's Countywide Action Plan, demonstrate a collective effort for clean water, and show sustainability of the project through economic and climate changes.

# Grant Opportunities

## Clean Water Implementation Large Grant

Grants of \$200,000 to \$500,000

The **Clean Water Implementation Large Grant** supports installation of high-impact projects in priority locations to achieve nutrient and sediment reductions for Lancaster's Countywide Action Plan (CAP).

## Grant Portal

Available at  
[LancFound.org/grants](http://LancFound.org/grants)

## Application Process

- 1 Use the Partners' Collaborative Mapping Tool to get your project location's restoration opportunity score before applying.
- 2 Contact Laurel Etter Longenecker to get the access code to the application.
- 3 Use the code to access the application on the Community Foundation portal, found at [www.LancFound.org/grants](http://www.LancFound.org/grants).
- 4 Applications are accepted on a rolling deadline until all funds are awarded. Applicants can expect to hear back regarding approval or denial of the application within 45 days starting on **April 1, 2021**.

## Grant Specifics

- Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis until funds are all allocated. All grant contracts will span from the day of project approval to the end of March 1, 2023.
- Match is not required.
- Approximately \$2 million is available to be awarded to projects. Specifically, \$1 million will be allocated to agricultural projects and \$1 million will be allocated to stormwater projects.
- This funding is intended for implementation projects but design and/or engineering may be eligible for up to 25% of construction costs
- Specific ranking criteria will be used to evaluate all submitted projects. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the ranking criteria before applying. Applications that score above a certain level will be funded.

## Evaluation Criteria

- Projects should align with Lancaster's CAP, demonstrate a collective effort for clean water, and show sustainability of the project through economic and climate changes.
- Refer to the ranking criteria for more information on how projects will be evaluated.



Managed by Laurel Etter Longenecker

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