

223 Grant Program



- **The 47th Legislature provided to the conservation districts one half of one percent of the coal severance tax monies.**

Funding Overview

\$400,000 Annually

\$380,000--223 Grants

\$10,000—Mini Grant Program

\$10,000—MACD Scholarship Program

\$10,000—Computers for CDs

RESOURCE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RCAC)

- Western Montana
-
- Lauraine Johnson --Plains
-
- South Central Montana
-
- Judi Knapp--Hysham
-
- Eastern Montana
-
- Bob Breipohl--Saco
-
-
- North Central Montana
-
- O. Ramsey Offerdal--Conrad
-
- General Public
-
- Pete Dallaserra--Butte

Timelines for 223 Applications Electronic & Hardcopy Required

Deadline

- **July 30, 2015**
- **October 15, 2015**
- **January 15, 2016**
- **April 28, 2016**

RCA Reviews

- **August 18, 2015**
- **November (Convention)**
- **February**
- **May**



Grant Dollar Limits

- **On the ground conservation Project \$20,000, and it is one-time only funding**
- **All requests above \$20,000 require 50:50 cash match**
- **Irrigation projects require 50:50 cash match**
- **Grant limit for Education Projects is \$10,000**

Requirements

- **Levied the maximum county mills allowed for the current fiscal year**
- **Have or are in the process of developing a special project**
- **Have need for additional funds above the maximum statutory authority.**
- **Submit an annual budget**

Eligible Projects

- **Planning,**
- **Education,**
- **Feasibility studies,**
- **Demonstration projects,**
- **Farm experiments,**
- **Equipment**
- **Construction of projects**

Farm Equipment

One-time-Only Award

Application must include a maintenance plan that addresses:

- Rental Fee—RCAC recommend charging \$12-\$14/Acre**
- Repair**
- Maintenance Costs**
- User Deposits**
- Long-Term Leases (if applicable)**

Irrigation Projects

- **Irrigation construction or design projects, including sprinklers and drip systems must have a 50:50 cash match from the landowner(s) or other beneficiary (such as an irrigation district or ditch company).**

Weed Projects

- **Applications for weed projects must first demonstrate that funding was sought through the Noxious Weed Trust Fund at the Department of Agriculture.**
- **All weed projects must be coordinated with the local weed districts—especially for the purchase and application of chemicals.**

Ineligible Requests

- **Monies which are strictly for private benefit**
- **Food**
- **Common items that can be easily borrowed**
- **Equipment for contractors**
- **Supplies (gloves, plastic bags, shovels)**

Criteria

- **Promotes or results in conservation**
- **Demonstrates a public benefit**
- **Demonstrates cost effective outcome for the district**
- **Fills an immediate need**
- **Fits the district program's needs**

Criteria

- **Produces matching funds or in-kind services**
- **Impacts a large number of people or acres**
- **Produces long-term benefits**
- **Requires funding only for the duration of the project**

Helpful Hints Prior to Submittal

- **Read guidelines**
- **Submit application one cycle before project starts—review and contract processes may require 6-7 weeks**

Helpful Hints After Submittal

- **Compose a succinct 10 minute power point presentation**
- **Attend the RCAC meeting to make your presentation**
- **Listen to the Council rank & review your application—stay until the funding decision has been finalized**

Mine Education Grant Program

Adult Education



Youth Education



Intent of the Program

Assist districts, schools, and other natural-resource organizations with educational projects that focus on conservation and natural resources.

Activities for youth and adults are eligible. Up to \$500 is available. The minimum application request must be \$100.

Timelines for Mini-Education Grant Program—Electronic & Hard Copy

- **July 30, 2015**
- **October 15, 2015**
- **January 15, 2015**
- **April 28, 2015**

Mini Ed Grants Review Process

Applications Reviewed by Conservation District Bureau Staff. Review & Contract Processes Require Two Weeks(estimated).

Submit Application One Cycle Prior to Project's Start Date

Eligible Expenses

Resource Materials (educational kits/ booklets, notebooks, field testing equipment)

Speaker Costs

Transportation Costs for Field Trips

Advertising Fees to Promote Event

Scholarship Stipends to Appropriate Camps

CD Administrator Salary--Up to \$200 can be spent for salary if need can be justified.

Ineligible Expenses

Food

Equipment for Schools (cameras, computers, microscopes, I-Pads)

Gloves, Shovels, Rakes, Hoses

Pencils

Garbage Bags

www.dnrc.mt.gov

(Grants & Loans)

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