

The Susquehanna Greenway is a corridor of connected trails, parks, river access points, and communities, linking people to the natural and cultural treasures of the Susquehanna River and its West Branch. Over 500 miles in length, the Greenway is one of our state's greatest resources, conserving the environment for all living things, and creating recreational opportunities for healthy communities.

Susquehanna Greenway River Town MINI-GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) is pleased to announce its first Mini-Grant program. A total of \$60,000 will be awarded by the program whose theme is: Connecting Susquehanna Greenway River Towns. This is a competitive grants program focused on projects that improve trail connections with the river, riverfront parks, river access, Susquehanna Greenway signs, or green infrastructure projects that help to protect the water quality of the Susquehanna River. Individual grant awards will be limited to a maximum of \$5,000 for Planning Grants, and \$10,000 for Implementation Grants.

Projects must be located within a river community along the Susquehanna in these Pennsylvania counties: Susquehanna, Bradford, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Cambria, Indiana, Clearfield, Centre, Clinton, Lycoming, Union, Snyder, Juniata, Perry, Dauphin, and Cumberland. Funding for this program is provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). A 50/50 match requirement applies to all projects, and the match cannot be from other DCNR funds. Eligible applicants

must be a municipality, municipal agency, or 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that is registered with the PA Department of State Bureau of Charitable Organization.

"Through our River Towns Program the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership has been working with many partners over the last five years to provide technical assistance to communities who value the River as an asset for sustainable economic development," said Trish Carothers, SGP Executive Director. "We appreciate the opportunity to work collaboratively with DCNR to bring financial assistance for projects to improve our river towns. The Susquehanna not only provides drinking water for six million people, it is also designated as a National Recreation Trail. Investing in riverfront parks, trails, river access points and other green infrastructure projects helps to revitalize communities, attract private investment and jobs."

The deadline for proposals is August 20, 2012. Grant guidelines and application forms are available: <http://www.susquehannagreenway.org/mini-grant-program>.

Photo contest to feature Susquehanna scenes

Do you have a favorite Susquehanna overlook, trail, secret fishing spot, or scenic river town that keeps drawing you back to visit and explore? The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) invites you to enter your digital images in the 3rd Annual Treasured Towns & Landscapes of the Susquehanna photo contest. Entries will be accepted until February 1, 2013 at www.susquehannagreenway.org/photo-contest.

"When you hear 'Susquehanna' we all imagine something different and unique," says Erin Pierce, Program Coordinator with SGP. "We want to see photos that tell your special stories of the Susquehanna and that celebrate the river and her towns as places to enjoy and treasure. This contest is a great excuse to grab your camera and head outside to explore and capture what you see and experience."

Contest categories include Treasured Towns, Treasured Landscapes, People & the River, and a Youth Category sponsored by Hershey's Track and Field Games for photographers under 18. "Kids definitely see the world in a very special way, and

one category is just for them," says Pierce. "We've teamed up with Hershey's to inspire kids to get outside, get active, and explore the river. One of last year's winners, Sabrina Barner, 10, of Muncy, impressed the judges with her image of the Williamsport RiverWalk and her description of this favorite place for a long walk."

Cash prizes from \$50 to \$150 will be awarded for first through third place in each category. Participants are welcome to submit multiple entries. Photos from the following Susquehanna Greenway counties are eligible: Bradford, Cambria, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Indiana, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Union, Wyoming and York.

Looking for a little inspiration? The winning photographs from last year's contest can be viewed online at:

www.susquehannagreenway.org/2nd-annual-photo-contest-winners.