

Waterways Grant In Aid Program Requirements

Grant Project Requirements:

- Signs identifying the use of waterways funds for the development of the facilities are required. Signs are the responsibility of the Grantee to purchase. Information for these signs is part of the DNR standard guidelines.
- The Grantee shall use all funds granted by the DNR in the grant agreement solely for the conduct and completion of the project work within three (3) years from the date of the grant agreement.
- The grant agreement (including grant funding) shall not be effective until the Michigan Legislature appropriates the State funds for the facilities and the State Administrative Board approves their release.
- Communities have six months from the date the grant agreement was received by the Grantee to sign the grant agreement, pass the resolution, and return to DNR.
- There shall be no deviation from the approved project documents.
- DNR to review and approve change orders prior to the work element in question being initiated.
- All facilities shall comply with the barrier free design requirements.
- All contracts shall have the DNR listed as co-owner.
- Plans and specifications developed for the facilities to be prepared by a consulting firm duly licensed to perform professional services within the State of Michigan.
- DNR to review and approve professional services agreement.
- A signed professional services agreement is needed before bidding and award of a project.
- DNR to review and approve preliminary engineering studies/reports before Grantee seeks reimbursement. Allow a minimum of two months for the DNR to review.
- DNR to review and approve project contracts (including proposed construction contract), bidding documents, specifications, and final engineering drawing plans before the project is bid out. Allow a minimum of two months for the DNR to review.
- Copies of permits are required.
- The DNR shall co-administer all contracts and project management with the Grantee.
- The Grantee shall comply with all State statutes applicable to the facilities, including prevailing wage rates.
- Project management fee will be assessed from the grant.
- All State funds released as reimbursement after review and approval of reimbursement request documentation.
- Work done prior to agreement execution is not reimbursable.
- The Grantee shall retain all accounts, documents, and records for the facilities for not less than three (3) years following completion of construction.
- Failure to follow requirements may jeopardize grant funding and any future DNR grant funding.

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Facility Operation Requirements:

- The facility shall be reserved by the grantee exclusively for the use or rental, on a daily basis, of recreational watercraft, unless otherwise approved in writing by the DNR.
- Revenues from Waterways sponsored facilities are to be expended only for those operations, maintenance, and improvements of such facilities. Communities may not utilize those funds for other purposes (road improvements, public safety buildings, etc.) even if there are peripheral connections to the boating facilities. Enterprise funds may be used by the Grantee as long as historic revenues can be identified back to the facility for future capital improvements.
- Annual financial reports will be requested by the DNR.
- Traffic logs are the responsibility of the Grantee and may be requested at any time.
- Commercial use is defined as meaning any activity that involves, directly or indirectly, the buying or selling of goods or services, or the exchange or attempt or offer to exchange goods or services for money, barter, or for anything of value. This would include, but not necessarily only involve charter fishing, non-profit lighthouse tours, bareboat charters, launching/retrieving services, salvage services. The Grantee has the right to refuse commercial use and any commercial use must be approved by the Grantee and the DNR.
- No discrimination is allowed. Equal and reasonable is defined as granting access (for a fee or otherwise) without preference given to factors such as residency, age, and public recreational use. Fees associated where a benefit is given based on any of these factors are not considered equal. New agreements will supersede any prior fee schedules not considered equal and reasonable.
- For harbor facilities, exclusive participation in the State harbor reservation system is required in perpetuity.
- Any sale or lease of property or operations of the facility must be approved by the DNR.
- Any issue of non-compliance may require the DNR to take action with regards to requirements of the agreement.
- Facility improvements are held in perpetuity. Perpetuity is defined as life of facilities. Life of facilities is defined as a minimum of 20 years from latest grant award. Grantee may request release from grant obligations after 20 years from date of last grant agreement.
- DNR shall provide for the routine inspection of the facilities, including all equipment and buildings.
- The DNR approves all transient mooring, seasonal mooring, and launching fees. The Grantee can request a variance from DNR approved fees.
- The Grantee owns or has administration (authority to build, operate, and maintain) over the lands where the project is proposed.
- Grants are for 100% transient boating facilities. All seasonal or partial seasonal slip use must be approved by the DNR and are subject to periodic review.
- Provide, upon the Department's request, one seasonal boat slip at no cost for Department-owned vessels.
- Facilities shall be open to the public at all times on equal and reasonable terms.
- Failure to follow requirements may jeopardize grant funding and any future DNR grant funding.