



## Types of Natural Resource Grants

An overview of funding sources in Montana

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### Future Fisheries Improvement Program

- Projects that enhance or restore habitats for wild fish
- Deadlines May 31, November 30 of each year
- Funding varies, typically \$200k to \$300k
- Match strongly suggested (50%+ if possible)
- Project types: fish habitat related
  - riparian fencing, channel restoration, fish passage, fish screens, instream flow, + more
- Michelle McGree: [mmcgree@mt.gov](mailto:mmcgree@mt.gov) 444-2432



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### Community Pond Program

- Projects that improve angler access or opportunity near MT communities
- Deadline: Feb 1 each year
- Funding varies, typically \$50-75k
- Match 30%+
- Project types: habitat, access, education (fish)
  - Docks/piers, habitat, aeration, trails, signage, pond deepening, pond construction, + more
- Michelle McGree: [mmcgree@mt.gov](mailto:mmcgree@mt.gov) 444-2432



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**Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program**



Funding local government projects to conserve, manage, develop, or preserve Renewable Resources for future generations of Montanans.

<p><b>Project Grants</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> Projects which benefit Renewable Resources. Examples: water and wastewater treatment projects, irrigation rehabilitation, dam repair, soil and water conservation and forest enhancement.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> up to \$125,000 to local governments</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> <b>COVID-19 Change- June 1, 2020</b> Applications are received May 15<sup>th</sup> of even-numbered years.</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Lindsay Volpe 444-9766 lmvolpe@mt.gov</p>	<p><b>Planning Grants</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b> Professional or Technical services needed to complete an RRGL project applications. Other project types: Capital Improvements Plan, Growth Plan, sample conditions, surveys, studies, or other management tool to lead to an RRGL application.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> between \$8,000 to \$15,000</p> <p><b>Deadline:</b> <b>COVID-19 Change- April 10, 2020</b> Application cycles vary</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Lindsay Volpe 444-9766 lmvolpe@mt.gov</p>
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For more information, visit [dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/resource-development](http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/resource-development) or [funding.mt.gov](http://funding.mt.gov)

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**Watershed Management Grants**

*Support the development and implementation of locally led watershed related planning and capacity building activities that conserve, develop, improve or preserve state natural resources.*

**Eligibility**  
 Local government, state government, and tribal government entities  
 Non-profit entities with local government sponsorship  
 Non-government entities with 1:1 match requirement (If sponsored, no match requirement)

**Funding**  
 \$35,000 per applicant per biennium

**Deadlines**  
 Currently no set cycles  
 One more cycle in 2020

**More Information:**  
<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/resource-development/renewable-resource-grant-program/watershed-management-grant-program>

**Contact:**  
 Jorri Dyer  
 406-444-6839  
[Jorri.Dyer2@mt.gov](mailto:Jorri.Dyer2@mt.gov)




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**Irrigation Development Grants**

- Develop or Sustain Irrigation in MT
- Government, Tribal, Private
  - Private require 50% match
- \$300 - \$20,000
- Typically 3 cycles per biennium
- Ann L Kulczyk, Glasgow
  - 406-228-4126
  - akulczyk@mt.gov

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cardd/resource-development/loan-and-grant-programs-for-irrigation-development>




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## Private Grants

**Grants to individuals and groups for water projects**

**Project Eligibility**

- The project promotes the objectives of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program.
- The project provides public benefits.
- The project will be constructed in Montana.
- A septic system repair or replacement project must have a letter from a regulatory agency requiring the repair or replacement.
- New home construction is not eligible for the private grant program.
- The project will be given priority if it provides for more than one purpose for the facility.
- The project will be an efficient use of water without diminishing the quality.
- The project has not or will not use any public funding.

**Examples of projects:**

- Owners of small systems have difficulty in meeting Safe Drinking Water Act regulations, but must meet the same requirements that municipal water systems face. Most of the funds are targeted to assist small, privately owned water or wastewater systems.
- Agriculture projects include inspection on private high-hazard dams and water measuring projects on chronically dewatered streams.




**Funding**

- Estimated grant amount (25% of total cost or \$5,000, whichever is less)
- Funding available throughout the biennium

For information, contact:

Sonja Hoeglund  
 • 406-444-0552  
 • [shoeglund@mt.gov](mailto:shoeglund@mt.gov)

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/resource-development/renewable-resource-grant-program/renewable-resource-grants-to-private-entities>

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## DNRC - Emergency Grant Program

Environmental Contingency Grant program 75-I-1101 MCA  
 \$100,000 Available per year  
 Normally Limited to \$5,000 - \$20,000 Per Project

David C Larson 444-2951  
[dclarson@mt.gov](mailto:dclarson@mt.gov)

- Grant assistance limited to **serious emergencies (ie., unexpected or system failures) that pose an immediate threat to management of a renewable resource.**
- Available to towns, cities, counties, conservation/irrigation/water & sewer districts. WUA's can apply through a county or conservation district as their sponsor.
- Typical Emergency Projects Have Been:
  - Canal and Dike Failures (i.e., river diversions, inlet gates, flood erosion/ice damage)
  - Emergency Dam Repairs (i.e., embankment, outlet gates, spillway)
  - Emergency Repairs to municipal drinking and wastewater systems (i.e., frozen/cracked pipes, pump/lift station repair, equipment failure)
- To Apply: Contact Grant Manager. Sponsor will receive a letter acknowledging the request for funds and requesting information to initiate the process.
  - Description of the problem and proposed, or already completed, repair with estimate or cost
  - Provide schedule for proposed repair
  - Potential sources of funding - Sponsor financial report
- **Not All Grants Are Approved.** DNRC Director's Office will decide within days.

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/resource-development/renewable-resource-grant-program/renewable-resource-emergency-grants-and-loans>

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## Reclamation and Development Grants Program

Grants to local and state government entities for natural resources.

**Project Categories**

**Mineral Development Projects:** Projects that **repair, reclaim or mitigate environmental damage** to natural resources from **mining, oil and gas** development, and **hazardous waste**

**Crucial state need projects** develop, promote, or protect Montana's total environment and the general health, safety, welfare, and public resources of Montana's citizens and communities. **Projects must have regional or statewide importance to natural resources.**

**Contact:**  
 Heidi Anderson Folnagy  
[handersonfolnagy@mt.gov](mailto:handersonfolnagy@mt.gov)  
 (406) 444-6691

**Grants Available**

**Planning Grants**

- \$50,000 for planning activities
- Applications due throughout the biennium

**Project Grants**

- \$500,000 for project implementation
- Applications due May 15\* of even numbered years (\*June 1, 2020)




[For more information: http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/resource-development/reclamation-and-development-grants-program/reclamation-and-development-project-grants](http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/resource-development/reclamation-and-development-grants-program/reclamation-and-development-project-grants)

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## AIS Grant Program

**AIS GRANT PURPOSE AND PROJECT ELIGIBILITY**  
 AIS grants are intended to increase local capacity and involvement to address AIS issues. Projects that address the following AIS management components are eligible and include: Prevention, Early detection, Education and outreach, Research, Treatment

**GRANT LIMITS AND TYPES**  
**\$50,000** per project. Projects can be up to 18 months with a one-year extension

**On-the-ground projects:** Projects or programs that address AIS priorities and other eligible projects. Typically, these are monitoring and control projects.


**Education and outreach projects:** Expand capacity and distribution of AIS E&O to improve AIS awareness and reinforce the Clean Drain Dry message.

**AIS research projects:** Applied research investigating techniques and strategies to improve AIS prevention, early detection, education or control. Projects must be applied research that addresses existing AIS priorities, gaps, questions.

**DEADLINE:** Typically January

**CONTACT:** Stephanie Criswell, [scriswell@mt.gov](mailto:scriswell@mt.gov), 406-444-0547

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** <https://invasivespecies.mt.gov/montana-invasive-species/aquatic-invasive-species-grant-program>




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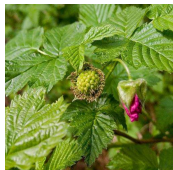
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## Conservation District Grant Program

*Eligibility: Conservation Districts*



GRANTS	HB223	District Development	Mini-Education	Pollinator
Purpose	Any project sponsored by a Montana conservation district under its authority.	This program will provide funds to increase conservation district employee's hours to assist in planning, securing funding, and implementing programs.	Student and Adult Education projects that focus on water, weeds, or other natural resources.	Projects that will improve pollinator habitat in Montana.
Funding Levels	Up to \$20,000	Up to \$10,000	Up to \$500	Up to \$500-\$15,000
Deadlines	Quarterly	Quarterly	Quarterly	Open

*Projects must demonstrate a public and conservation benefit.*

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## DNRC Forestry Assistance

- **Stewardship**

Name	Purpose	Eligibility	Amount	Deadline
<b>Wildfire Disturbance Assessment Grant</b>	Assess the risk of wildfire to public lands and prioritize areas for treatment or management. The grant provides funding for assessment and planning activities. The grant also provides funding for assessment and planning activities.	Eligible applicants include: counties, cities, towns, village and fire districts, landowners, and other private landowners. Applicants must be a landowner or have a management plan for their land.	\$25,000	Applications received in early April and open until the end of the grant cycle. Contact: Dianna McWhorter, (406) 542-4307, <a href="mailto:dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov">dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov</a>
<b>Heritage Parks and Recreation Grant</b>	To reduce the risk of wildfire to public lands and prioritize areas for treatment or management. The grant provides funding for assessment and planning activities. The grant also provides funding for assessment and planning activities.	Eligible applicants include: counties, cities, towns, village and fire districts, landowners, and other private landowners. Applicants must be a landowner or have a management plan for their land.	\$25,000	Proposals accepted on an on-going basis and reviewed quarterly. Contact: Dianna McWhorter, (406) 542-4307, <a href="mailto:dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov">dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov</a>
<b>Landmark Site Stewardship Grant</b>	Provide the implementation of watershed level, forest-based projects and activities which address the threat of wildfire to public lands and prioritize areas for treatment or management. The grant provides funding for assessment and planning activities. The grant also provides funding for assessment and planning activities.	Eligible applicants include: counties, cities, towns, village and fire districts, landowners, and other private landowners. Applicants must be a landowner or have a management plan for their land.	\$25,000	The proposed application deadline is May 1st. Contact: Dianna McWhorter, (406) 542-4307, <a href="mailto:dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov">dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov</a>
<b>Conservation Education Grant</b>	Develop to provide project assistance and outreach efforts to children 6th through 12th grade and their educators at both classroom and informal settings.	Eligible applicants include: counties, cities, towns, village and fire districts, landowners, and other private landowners. Applicants must be a landowner or have a management plan for their land.	\$5,000	Continual. Program Contact: Dianna McWhorter, (406) 542-4307, <a href="mailto:dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov">dmcwhort@dnrc.mt.gov</a>

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**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS of MONTANA**

### Funding Opportunities

**Education & Outreach Water Quality Mini-Grants**

- Focus:** New or pilot education and outreach programs focusing on addressing Non-Point Source Pollution.
- Sponsor Eligibility:** Local Government & Non-profits
- Funding:** Up to \$3,000 / applicant
  - Requires 40% Non-Federal Match
- Call Period:** Annually, Feb. – March
- More Info:** <https://swcdm.org/programs/mini-grants/>

**Ranching for Rivers**

- Focus:** Cost-share for ranching conservation infrastructure (i.e. fencing & water development projects), Grazing Management Plan Development, and Technical Assistance.
- Sponsor Eligibility:** Conservation Districts & Watershed Groups (priority for areas with a Watershed Restoration Plan)
- Funding:** ~ \$70,000 currently available
- Call Period:** Rolling Applications through 2020
- More Info:** <https://swcdm.org/programs/r4r/>

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**SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS of MONTANA**

### Funding Opportunities

**Watershed Stewardship Funding**

- Focus:** Watershed management planning and stakeholder collaboration efforts.
- Sponsor Eligibility:** Conservation Districts
- Funding:** Up to \$17,500 available
- Call Period:** April 1<sup>st</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (one-time funding)
- More Info:** <https://swcdm.org/programs/watershed-stewardship-funding/>

**Additional Information Sources**

- Conservation Menu: <https://mtconservationmenu.org/>
- The Montana Conservationist: <https://swcdm.org/category/the-montana-conservationist/>
- SWCDM Contact: [stephanie@macdnet.org](mailto:stephanie@macdnet.org)

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**MONTANA WATERSHED COORDINATION COUNCIL**

**WATERSHED FUND**

- Purpose:** Increase capacity of local communities to advance locally driven conservation efforts using the Watershed Approach
- Eligibility:** MWCC Watershed Partners
- Funding levels vary**
  - Up to \$10,000 for Capacity
  - Up to \$20,000 for Projects
  - Smaller amounts for professional development
- Deadlines**
  - Winter: Big Sky Watershed Corps Capacity Support
  - Spring: General Capacity and BSWC Projects
  - Fall: General Conservation Projects
- Contact:** Terri Nichols: [terri@mtwatersheds.org](mailto:terri@mtwatersheds.org)
- More info:** [mtwatersheds.org](http://mtwatersheds.org) → Resources & Tools

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

DNRC Grants and Loans [dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans](http://dnrc.mt.gov/grants-and-loans)  
DNRC [Gov Delivery Subscription](#) (RDG)  
Webgrants [funding.mt.gov](http://funding.mt.gov)  
WASACT Financial Assistance  
(RRGL) [dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/wasact/financial-assistance](http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/cadd/wasact/financial-assistance)  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING  
DATABASE [mainstreetmontanaproject.com/resources/](http://mainstreetmontanaproject.com/resources/)  
Department of Commerce Community Development  
Division [comdev.mt.gov/](http://comdev.mt.gov/)  
Department of Agriculture Grants and Loans [agr.mt.gov/I-Want-To/Apply-For/Grants-Loans](http://agr.mt.gov/I-Want-To/Apply-For/Grants-Loans)  
MWCC Website and Newsletters [mtwatersheds.org](http://mtwatersheds.org)  
SWCDM [swcdm.org](http://swcdm.org)  
DES [readyandsafe.mt.gov/Emergency/Grants](http://readyandsafe.mt.gov/Emergency/Grants)

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