

MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



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MEMO

Date: January 25, 2019
To: Municipalities and Non-Profit Organizations
From: William A. Gomes, AICP, Director
Subject: Marcellus Legacy Fund Open Space and Recreation Fund Application Process

The Mifflin County Commissioners would like you to know that they plan to reopen the Marcellus Legacy Fund Open Space and Recreation Funds Program that was established approximately five years ago. Mifflin County receives an allocation each year from the Commonwealth as part of the Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund (Act 13) that can be used for open space, parks and recreation uses. Mifflin County's annual allocation has varied from \$36,000 to \$40,000 per year.

Past projects assisted by the program have gone to municipalities and legally recognized non-profit organizations that will improve their community, as well as the county as a whole. These funds may be used for the planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repairs of greenways, recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community conservation and beautification projects, community and heritage parks and water resource management. The program is set up to help supplement projects as described above and not for reimbursement of previously funded projects. Also, no applicant can apply for more than \$20,000. In this funding round, the total funds available are approximately \$40,000. A cash match is not required, but will be considered in the scoring process.

In order to facilitate an equitable method to distribute Act 13 funds, Mifflin County developed an application and review process for proposed projects. A copy of the application and scoring system is attached for your review. Applications must be submitted to the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department by **3:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, 2019**. A letter of authorization from the applicant organization needs to be included with the application specifying who can sign the application. Applications can also be accessed on the County's website at <http://www.co.mifflin.pa.us>. The application is in Word and fillable PDF formats. To access the application from the web site, select Planning and Development under Departments, then click funding opportunities, and then Marcellus Legacy Fund. In order to facilitate a better understanding of the application process, a brief overview will be held at the **February 26, 2019** meeting of the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council at 6:00 p.m. at the Regional Business Center, 144 East Market Street, Lewistown, PA. Applicants are encouraged to attend.

Projects will be reviewed by the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department with assistance from the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council. A final decision will be made at a public meeting of the Mifflin County Commissioners by May 2, 2019.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact me at (717) 242-0887 or by e-mail at wgomes@mifflinco.org.