

Patapsco Heritage Area Mini-Grant Program Guidelines

Purpose: The Patapsco Heritage Area's Mini-Grant Program is designed to assist heritage-related sites, organizations and municipalities to develop new and innovative programs, partnerships, exhibits, tours, events, and other initiatives consistent with the regional goals and objectives stated within the state and county approved Management Plan.

The program, administered by the Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG), encourages mini-grant proposals that include collaborative partnerships, enhance preservation, encourage stewardship of natural resources, and promote heritage tourism.

Examples of eligible non-capital projects include new heritage tours, maps, interpretive displays, brochures, exhibits or events. Educational seminars, workshops or conferences that encourage or enhance preservation, revitalization and interpretation of the area's natural, cultural and historic resources are also eligible. **Mini-grants shall not be used for administrative purposes or capital projects.** PHG encourages proposals that are consistent with upcoming regional thematic heritage-tourism related initiatives and/or commemorations and those that include new technology, foster environmentally-friendly and sustainable practices at heritage sites, and/or create new heritage-related programming in the arts. Other types of projects not specifically stated here may be eligible and should be discussed with heritage area staff.

Eligibility: Non-profit organizations and local jurisdictions located within the Patapsco Heritage Area, or who are creating projects or programs within or benefitting the Area, are eligible to apply. The **maximum grant award is \$2500 and must be fully matched with non-state funds.** Potential applicants are encouraged to contact PHG's Executive Director, to discuss potential grant proposals no later than two weeks before the due date and prior to completion of the application.

Mini-grant **proposal evaluations** depend on the degree to which the proposal meets required criteria, including:

- Proposal is consistent with goals and objectives within the Management Plan
- Utilizes collaborative partnerships
- Enhances the visitors experience
- Demonstrated ability to initiate, administer and complete project within proposed timeframe and budget
- Leverage of other non-state funding to provide the 1:1 cash match

Application deadlines are posted at Patapsco.org/Mini-Grants. Evaluation and award selection are based on how well the completed application meets the stated criteria. Mini-grant awards will be **announced within two weeks of the posted deadline.**

Terms:

1. **The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority AND Patapsco Heritage Greenway** must be acknowledged on any materials or publicity produced for the project. **Both designated logos** must appear on printed materials as well as an acknowledgment

- line. Standard text will be provided. Draft of any printed materials shall be submitted for approval before completion/printing/publication. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and Patapsco Heritage Greenway reserves the rights to use images & other materials connected with grant project/program/product supported by the mini-grant program.
2. **Mini-grants are reimbursable:** this means that grantee pays for all expenses and is reimbursed by remittal of mini-grant award check after completion of project. To receive the grant award check, grantee must submit final project report in the format provided by PHG. (Remittal will be issued to grantee within 30 days of receipt of completed report and invoice, with accompanying materials as described and approved by PHG.)
 3. **The project shall be completed and funds obligated by June 1 of the fiscal year in which the grant is awarded.**
 4. Upon completion of the project a final report shall be submitted to Patapsco Heritage Greenway and no later than **June 15 of the fiscal year in which the grant is awarded** and will include documentation of products and activities resulting from the grant project. The final report shall include:
 - A brief narrative about the project including its impact
 - A statement of expenditures including the award and matching funds
 - Copies of invoices and receipts
 - **Data is required** as part of the mini-grant final report. Measurable data collected for mini-grant projects should include, but are not limited to, number of visitors or participants, type of audience, number and distribution information for project materials, digital photographs and website statistics, if applicable. 10 copies of any printed products such as program, schedules or maps, shall be included. **If the final report is not submitted, the applicant will lose eligibility for future grants available through PHG.**
 5. Applicants are asked to match the grant request dollar for dollar in non-state funds.
 6. Applicant must certify that the match is cash on-hand at the time of request or have demonstrated approval by funder.

Send applications and direct questions to:

Executive Director
Patapsco Heritage Greenway
3748 Old Columbia Pike
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Director@patapsco.org