











Common Grant and Loan Sources for Land Conservation in New Hampshire


Funding Program	Who & What is Eligible	Priorities	Terms	Application Timeframes	Contacts
<p>NRCS Agricultural Conservation Easement Program</p> <p>ACEP-ALE</p> 	<p>Eligible entities (units of local/state govt & NGOs). Acquisition of agricultural easements on privately owned land.</p>	<p>Acquisition of agricultural easements on privately owned land.</p>	<p>50% min non-federal match See Minimum Deed Terms. Generally, allows permitted agricultural uses and limits non- agricultural uses. Requires US Right of Enforcement.</p>	<p>Federal FY 2025 applications due: TBD (late fall 2024) Contact NRCS staff during spring/summer of 2024 for pre-application project screening/discussion and site visit.</p>	<p>Tracey Boisvert Tracey.Boisvert@usda.gov (603) 223-6033</p>
<p>New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services</p> <p>Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund ARM</p> 	<p>Municipalities or other subdivisions of the State or 501c organizations Wetland and stream restoration and/or enhancement, acquisition, cons easements.</p>	<p>Restoration, enhancement, establishment, and in certain circumstances, preservation of aquatic resources. 2024 ARM Grant Flyer (nh.gov)</p>	<p>Encourage 30% match Conservation restrictions with right to enforce. Five years of post-construction monitoring.</p>	<p>Round opens 2/29/2024 for 5 of 9 watersheds. Pre-app due 5/31/2024 Final-app due 9/15/2024 Site Visit Sept-Oct</p>	<p>Emily Nichols des.arm@des.nh.gov (603) 271-4059</p>
<p>USDA Forest Service</p> <p>Community Forest & Open Space Conservation Program</p> <p>CFP</p> 	<p>Municipalities, 501c organizations. Full fee acquisitions.</p>	<p>Private forest land threatened by conversion to non-forest use, Not held in trust by the United States; provides defined community benefits, is at least five acres in size, is suitable to sustain natural vegetation, and is at least 75% forested.</p>	<p>≤ \$600,000 grant award 50% match Must allow for public recreational access</p>	<p>App due 2/9/2024, submit to NH Div Forest and Lands, who sends applications to USFS 2 weeks later.</p>	<p>Mark Faulkenberry Mark.S.Faulkenberry@dnc.r.nh.gov</p>
<p>Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund</p> <p>Source Water Protection Program</p> <p>DWGTF SWP¹</p> 	<p>Public Water Suppliers; Non-transient, Non-community water suppliers; Municipalities; Non-profits whose purpose is land conservation. Acquisition of land or easements.</p>	<p>NHDES high-priority water supply lands Wellhead Protection Areas; Hydrologic Areas of Concern; and/or High-Yield Stratified Drift Aquifers (GA2)</p>	<p>≤ \$500,000 grant award 1:1 match of total eligible project costs Conservation restrictions for drinking water protection with right to enforce.</p>	<p>Round opens March 2024 Pre-app due May 30, 2024 Funding-app due Aug 8, 2024 Site Visit Sept-October</p>	<p>Laura Weit-Marcum WSLP@des.nh.gov (603) 271-2862</p>

¹ The [NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant Program](#) can fund transaction costs associated with land conservation protecting drinking water with a maximum award of \$25,000.

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NH Forest Legacy Program 	Private landowners, 501c organizations, municipalities. Acquisition of easements, occasionally full fee acquisitions.	Environmentally important forest areas threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. Working forest, exceptional wildlife habitat, water quality protection, recreation, scenic, cultural resources. ≤ 75% forested.	≤ \$20M-grant award determined by USDA FS 25% match of total project cost non-federal.	Round opens 5/2024 Pre-app due Early July 2024 submitted to NH Division Forest & Lands Final-app due Sept. 2024 to USFS Site Visit Jul-Oct	Mark Faulkenberry Mark.S.Faulkenberry@dncr.nh.gov
NH Forest Legacy Program Inflation Reduction Act Funded FLP 	Private landowners, 501c organizations, municipalities. Acquisition of easements, occasionally full fee acquisitions. There are 3 different classes of projects.	Environmentally important forest areas threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. Working forest, exceptional wildlife habitat, water quality protection, recreation, scenic, cultural resources. ≤ 75% forested.	Grants ranked and scored by USDA FS nationally to determine which projects are funded. ≥ 25% match of total project cost non-federal.	Proposals due to NH Forest and Lands by March 31. Proposals submitted by NH Forest and Lands to USDA FS June 2024. Oct-Dec 2024 USDA FS funding recommendations made. Jan-Feb 2025 funding made available.	Mark Faulkenberry Mark.S.Faulkenberry@dncr.nh.gov
Land and Community Investment Heritage Program LCHIP 	Municipalities or other subdivisions of the State or 501c organizations. Acquisition of land or easements, some studies.	Agriculture, Working Forest, Ecological (wildlife habitat, wetlands), Recreation/Education, Historical/Cultural, Scenic/Aesthetic	\$10,000-\$500,000 grant award 1:1 match. ≤ 50% of the LCHIP award must be cash. Affirmative right of access to the public. Conservation restrictions with right to enforce to LCHIP. Easements require an executory interest be granted to the State.	Round opens 3/15/2024 Pre-app (LOI) due 5/22/2024 Final-app due 6/19/2024 Site visit July-Sept	Ben Engel BEngel@LCHIP.org (603) 224-4113
Land and Water Conservation Fund and Local Assistance Program LWCF 	Counties, Municipalities, School Districts, or other units of local government. Acquisition and/or development of public outdoor recreation lands or easements. Grants from the National Park Service via NHDNCR.	NH Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2024-2028. 1. Recreation Experience 2. Recreation and the Environment 3. Recreation for All 4. Health and Wellness 5. Economic Vitality	\$50,000-\$500,000 grant award. Min 1:1 cost/value share. Reimbursement based. Property may not be converted to uses other than public outdoor recreation forever per 54 U.S.C. § 200305(f)(3) .	Intents due 6/7/2024, Site visits thru 8/2024, State apps due 11/2024 (to NHDNCR), Fed apps due 4/2025 (to NPS via NHDNCR), Fed approval 10/2025, G&C approval 11/2025. 3-year grant period.	Bill Gegas lwcf@dncr.nh.gov (603) 271-3035

Common Grant and Loan Sources for Public Water Systems (PWS) in New Hampshire

<p>State Conservation Commission Conservation Grant Program “Moose Plate”</p> 	<p>County Cons. Districts; & Cooperative Ext. Natural Resource Programs; Municipalities; Qualified NPOs engaged in conservation programs</p>	<p>Prime/local/statewide important soils; historical/archaeological resources; grazing uses; Agriculture, Working Forest, Ecological</p>	<p>\$30,000 grant award Match is encouraged. Complete within 2 years – Project completed and final invoice/close-out by 4/30/2025</p>	<p>Round opens 7/1/2023 Final-app due 9/15/2023</p>	<p>Dea Brickner-Wood NH-Conservation-Committee@nh.gov (603) 868-6112</p>
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