



# Upper Delaware Council

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May 26, 2009

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Upper Delaware Towns and Townships and County Governments  
FROM: William E. Douglass, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: ***AVAILABILITY OF 2009 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE JULY 31, 2009***

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) is pleased to announce that it will make planning or study funds available to member towns and townships and county governments for projects related to the implementation of the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River for the twenty-first consecutive year. To date, the UDC has awarded \$639,692 in grants under this program. The pool of grant money has been budgeted at \$20,000 for this fiscal year.

The River Management Plan provides authorization for the Upper Delaware Council to provide technical, planning, and financial assistance to participating governments for projects related to implementation of the Plan. Funding in general is limited to the following:

1. Planning funds to prepare or upgrade a zoning ordinance or other relevant law, plan, or ordinance (i.e. floodplain, wetland, comprehensive plan, subdivision).
2. Funding to publish such an ordinance.
3. Funding to address a problem identified in the Plan for resolution.
4. The preparation of educational materials and guides that assist in implementation of the Plan.

As you know, over the years we have funded a wide variety of projects. Many of the grants awarded have been for more traditional, land use planning-type projects, providing assistance to local governments for such activities as updating and revising comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision laws. Projects funded in 2008 included: zoning standards for alternative energy; compilation of a town's final comprehensive master plan; a town local law for site plan review; a regional comprehensive plan and open space, greenways, and recreation plan; printing copies of township subdivision and zoning ordinances and comprehensive plan for township board members; an update of a zoning law to coincide with a new comprehensive plan; and managing natural gas development impacts - strategies to protect town infrastructure and land use.

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### ***Working together to conserve the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River***

Town of Hancock • Town of Fremont • Town of Delaware • Town of Cochection • Town of Tusten • Town of Highland • Town of Lumberland  
Town of Deerpark • Berlin Township • Damascus Township • Lackawaxen Township • Shohola Township • Westfall Township  
State of New York • Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Delaware River Basin Commission • In partnership with the National Park Service

You may want to consider reviewing your zoning and/or other regulations to encourage open space protection using clustering designs, if you have not already done so. There may still be a need to better address ridge-line and river-front development and clear-cutting within the Upper Delaware River corridor. Natural gas drilling is also going to be a big issue for years to come.

There are certain limitations on the use of these funds:

1. Funding is limited to town/townships participating in the Upper Delaware Council and their respective county governments.
2. Funding is for planning projects, and not for such activities as land acquisition, construction, or other "bricks and mortar" capital improvement projects.
3. Funding is for projects related to the implementation of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan.
4. The town or township or county government body must approve the contract for the grant.
5. The term of the grant is for one year. Quarterly reports are required. Upon evaluation of work progress, a maximum of two 6-month extensions may be allowed.
6. Be aware that payments of grant funds will be disbursed only after the completion of the work as specified in each individual grant contract.

Please review the UDC "*Contract and Grant Criteria*" guidelines, available on the UDC website at <http://upperdelawarecouncil.org/tag/tag.php>, for a detailed explanation of the qualifications and restrictions, purposes, and procedures.

A "TAG 2009 APPLICATION FORM" is also available on the UDC website at <http://upperdelawarecouncil.org/tag/tag.php>,

A list of Past TAG Projects by municipality is posted on the UDC's website at <http://upperdelawarecouncil.org/tag/pasttagprojects.php>.

The UDC's Project Review Committee will review all applications at a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2009. **We require that applicants send a representative to this meeting to answer any questions pertaining to their grant application. We will need to know in advance who will be attending the special Project Review Committee meeting on your behalf to schedule appointments.**

The Council intends to make final decisions regarding these applications at its meeting on September 3, 2009. Please call our office at (845) 252-3022 with any questions.