

Deerfield River Enhancement Fund 2022-23

Vermont Community Foundation

Application Guidelines

The Deerfield River Enhancement Fund was established in 1999 by USGen New England, Inc. (USGenNE) for the environmental preservation of the Deerfield River Watershed. The hydroelectric generating system is now owned and operated by Great River Hydro, LLC, who believes it is important to help preserve natural resources in the communities where it operates and established the Deerfield River Enhancement Fund for watershed conservation and improvement.

WHAT WE LOOK FOR:

The Deerfield River Enhancement Fund seeks to support watershed conservation, development of low impact recreational and educational facilities, and planning, design, maintenance and monitoring of such facilities in the Deerfield River Watershed. Projects must provide clear public benefits and contribute to the goals of enhancing low impact recreational, environmental education, or environmental protection opportunities directly related to the Deerfield River Watershed. Funds may be used for outdoor educational programs, including curriculum development and travel for students, interpretive materials, and signs. The review committee encourages applicants to consider projects that support marginalized populations and promote environmental justice.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

Eligible grant recipients include nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and units of local and regional government within Vermont and Massachusetts. Projects must be located within the Deerfield River Basin or in towns with some portion falling within the basin. In the latter case, projects must be directly tied to the basin, e.g. a trail spur originating outside the basin that connects with a trail network within the basin.

Applications must be submitted by January 19, 2023, at 5 p.m. Applicants will be notified of grant decisions in June 2023.

Organization Name*

Name of Organization applying to grant.

Character Limit: 100

Proposal Narrative

Project Name*

Character Limit: 250

Amount Requested*

Enter the dollar amount being request in the space below. The fund will award grants ranging between \$2,000 and \$10,000.

Character Limit: 20

Describe the need for this project*

Character Limit: 800

Project goals and workplan*

Describe the project goals, the work you'll do, and the overall timeline for your project. Projects should be completed within one year unless the nature of the project requires a longer period of time. Under no circumstances should the project take longer than three years.

Character Limit: 2500

Geographic Area*

The *geographic area* within the Deerfield Basin the project will directly affect. If the project has a site-specific location, please upload a map with latitude/longitude points below.

Character Limit: 500

Geographic Area Cont.

If the project has a site-specific location, please upload a map with latitude/longitude points here.

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Methods for measuring project success*

What do you expect to learn through this grant and how will you know that you've achieved your goals? Consider the following in your response:

- Program participation (rates, retention, barriers to success, etc.)
- Participant feedback (surveys, interviews, etc.)
- Measurable outcomes (success and goal attainment by individual participants)
- Reflection and revision – how do you envision the outcomes from this project being incorporated into future work?

Character Limit: 2500

Additional Information

Anything else that might help us understand what you are trying to accomplish and why.

Character Limit: 850

Project Personnel*

List the personnel who will work on the project and their qualifications.

Character Limit: 1200

Project Funding*

Give details of any funding you have already received or requested for your project (how much, from whom, and for what). Explain how funds from the Deerfield River Enhancement Fund will be used.

Character Limit: 1000

Project Budget Narrative*

Please provide a project budget narrative. Detail projected overall expenses for your project and itemize the portion requested from the Deerfield River Enhancement Fund. Please indicate how you will fund your project if you do not receive the full amount of your request.

Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 4 MB

Organization Information

Your Organization's Background*

A brief description of your history, mission, current services, and relation to the Deerfield Basin. (Or, attach a brochure or other material that contain this information and write "see attachment" under this heading.)

Character Limit: 500

Optional Organization Attachment

Allowable file types include: doc,docx,pdf,jpeg,jpg

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Financial Statement*

Attach a financial statement or audit report for your organization's past fiscal year and a copy of its current operating budget showing anticipated revenues by source and expenditures. If no audit has been done, a year-end financial statement, complete with a balance sheet and statement of revenue and expense, must be included.

Character Limit: 2000 | File Size Limit: 3 MB

What status best describes your organization?*

Tax Exempt Status

Choices

Municipal entity (i.e., town, public school, or other municipal department or agency)

Registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit

Place of worship or religious group

Other - Please provide details in your answer to the next question.

If you answered "other," please explain your organization's status (if applicable):

For example, if your organization has a fiscal sponsor -- or if it operates under the umbrella of a larger registered nonprofit -- provide the name of that organization or any other details. If working with a fiscal sponsor, you will need to complete and upload a fiscal sponsor form. [Click here to download the form.](#)

Character Limit: 250

Fiscal Sponsor Form - Upload

If using a fiscal sponsor, please upload the completed form here.

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Save and Submit

Please double check all attachments and text answers before submitting your application.

Applications must be submitted by January 19, 2023, at 5 p.m. Applicants will be notified of grant decisions in June 2023.

By submitting your application to the Vermont Community Foundation, you give us permission to share your application with other potential funders, both individuals and foundations.