



May 2018

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Pre-App Due August 4, 2018

Many communities in rural Nebraska are facing the same problem: aging housing stock and lack of new construction. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (OOR) program aims to promote housing preservation by improving the quality of Nebraska's existing affordable housing. This is one of the four objectives as identified within the State's Consolidated Plan as identified within the Housing Priority Need. The State's Housing Priority Need includes the need to respond to regional needs for affordable, decent, safe, and appropriate housing as part of balanced economic development in Nebraska.

To be an eligible applicant your community must be a Nebraska incorporated municipality. Applicants can apply for up to \$250,000 for OOR activities. The following activities are eligible within the OOR Program. If any activity is not noted within the list below, please consult a Regional Program Representative in order to determine if any other proposed activities are eligible for the program.

- Rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of residential owner-occupied homes.
- Special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers, which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons.
- Payment of reasonable administrative costs related to implementing the program.

If your community is interested in submitting an OOR pre-application, contact WCNDD as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with your village board or city council to discuss applying. The pre-application deadline is August 4, 2018 and the full application deadline is October 6, 2018.



Scrap Tire Sunset Date Extended to 2024

West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) would like to thank Senator Dan Hughes, District 44, for his collaborative efforts with our office to prevent the expiration of the state's scrap program. With the Governor's approval of LB 1008 on April 11, 2018, the new sunset date of the scrap tire program is June 30, 2024.

Annually, grants of up to \$1,500,000.00 will be available for new scrap tire projects. WCNDD has written over a dozen scrap tire applications in previous years. This has been a very successful program, specifically in regard to scrap tire collection. It has not only provided a cost effective tire recycling process, but has also added a tremendous aesthetic value to participating communities and counties.

Qualified projects include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) Reimbursement for the purchase of crumb rubber generated and used in Nebraska, with disbursements not to exceed fifty percent of the cost of the crumb rubber;
- (d) Participation in the capital costs of building, equipment, or other startup costs needed to establish collection sites or to collect and transport scrap tires, with disbursements not to exceed fifty percent of such costs;
- (h) Disbursement to a political subdivision up to one hundred percent of the costs incurred in cleaning up scrap tire collection and disposal sites;

If your community or county has any interest in applying for funding in 2019, contact WCNDD today.

For more details on LB 1008, <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/105/PDF/Slip/LB1008.pdf>

2018 Game & Parks Trail Grants Available

LINCOLN, Neb. – The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is accepting Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant applications for fiscal year 2018 funding.

The RTP is a grant program through the Federal Highway Administration that reimburses political subdivisions, such as communities, counties and natural resources districts, up to 80 percent of project costs for trail acquisition, development, renovation and support facilities. Applicants must have the financial means to undertake and maintain the project and all funding should be on hand.



The RTP funds are divided among three categories: motorized trails (30 percent), non-motorized trails (30 percent) and diversified or shared-use trails (40 percent).

The application materials can be downloaded at <http://outdoornebraska.gov/grants/>, or contact Kirk Nelson at 402-471-5513 or kirk.nelson@nebraska.gov for an application packet. Applications must be submitted to Game and Parks and postmarked by Aug. 31, 2018.



#whatshappeningWCNDD

What are you doing this year? Send us your pictures to mburke@west-central-nebraska.com with the hashtag #whatshappeningWCNDD and we might feature them in our newsletter. Meanwhile, see if you can guess where this is ...

USDA Funding Available - Opioid Misuse in Rural Communities

On April 4, 2018, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett announced that USDA is giving funding priority in two key grant programs to address opioid misuse in rural communities. In addition to the resources shown here, our outreach webinar held on April 23, 2018 provides an overview of how Rural Development is prioritizing investments.

Community Facilities Program Grants: USDA reserved \$5 million in grants for innovative projects that address the opioid crisis in rural America. Rural communities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes can apply for up to \$150,000 in grants for innovative projects, such as mobile treatment clinics. The grants can be used to fund up to 75 percent of a project's cost. Application Deadline: June 4, 2018

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants: USDA will give priority to applications for projects to provide opioid misuse prevention, treatment, or recovery services. Congress has set aside \$20 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants specifically for opioid prevention, treatment and recovery projects. Eligible proposals can receive 10 priority points. Application Deadline: June 4, 2018

Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program (RHSE): These grants are for projects that develop or implement individual and family health education programs to help rural communities address significant health issues. Education programs specializing in prevention and reduction of opioid abuse in rural communities are given priority for funding. For information on how to apply, visit the RHSE 2018 Grant Applicant Webinar presentation (PDF, 1.4 MB). Application Deadline: May 24, 2018

For more information visit the following website, <https://www.usda.gov/topics/opioids> or contact Sara Pierce at 308-221-3689 or sara.pierce@ne.usda.gov

Important Deadlines:

WCNDD Annual Meeting	June 20, 2018
CDBG Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Pre-application	August 4, 2018
CDBG Planning Application Cycle 1	August 30, 2018
Recreation Trail Program (RTP) Grant Application Deadline	August 31, 2018
Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Application Deadline	September 7, 2018
CDBG Downtown Revitalization Application	September 30, 2018
CDBG Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Application	October 6, 2018
CDBG Water & Waste Water	Open Cycle