



# Funding Opportunities



Department of  
**Environment &  
Conservation**

# Funding Opportunities

**T**his brochure is intended as a guide and is not an exhaustive list of funding opportunities available to TN communities. Program availability and application deadlines are subject to change. Match requirements vary depending on the program. Check with funding agencies directly for more information. Information current as of October 2019.

Funding Opportunity	Administered by	Funding Type(s)	Matching & Eligible Amounts	Term/Typical Deadline
<a href="#"><u>Transportation Alternatives Program</u></a>	Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)	Grant	Minimum 20% local match; contact TDOT for eligible amounts	Offered annually; cycle from July 1 to October 3
<a href="#"><u>Tire Environmental Act Program (TEAP)</u></a>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Office of Policy & Sustainable Practices (TDEC-OPSP)	Grant	50% matching; minimum request of \$10,000	Available on a rolling basis; competitive
<a href="#"><u>Community Connect Grants</u></a>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Grant	15% non-federal match; amounts from \$100,000 to \$3,000,000	Offered annually/ April
<a href="#"><u>Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee</u></a>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan, Loan Guarantee	Loan terms are limited to the expected composite economic life of financed assets plus 3 years.	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<a href="#"><u>Rural Business Development Grants in Tennessee</u></a>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Grant	No matching required; smaller grant requests are given higher priority.	Check with USDA-RD for availability



Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Alternative transportation infrastructure	This program provides funding to local governments for community improvements including sidewalks, bike/pedestrian trails, historic site renovations, etc.	Local Government
Beneficial reuse of tires	TEAP provides state matching funds to directly support the beneficial reuse of tires such as public trails, tree surrounds, and porous pavement.	Local Government and Non-government
Broadband internet infrastructure	The grant program offers financial assistance to eligible service providers that will construct, improve, or expand broadband networks in rural areas. Rural areas that lack any existing broadband speed, as defined by USDA-RD, are eligible.	State and Local Governments, Nonprofits, Federally Recognized Tribes, For-profits, and LLCs.
Broadband internet infrastructure	This program provides loans and loan guarantees for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide service at broadband speed in eligible rural areas.	Non-profits, State and Local Governments, For-profits
Business development	This program is designed to provide technical assistance and training for small rural businesses (fewer than 50 new workers and less than \$1 million in gross revenue).	Non-profits, State and Local Governments, For-profits

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<b><u>Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)</u></b>	TN Economic and Community Development (TNECD)	Grant	Matching varies based on calculation of community's ability to pay; maximum amount is dependent on project type	Offered annually/ February
<b><u>Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Recreation Education Services (TDEC-RES)	Grant	50% match	Offered annually/ Check with TDEC-RES for availability
<b><u>Community Facilities Direct Loan &amp; Grant</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan, Grant	Loan terms a maximum of 40 years or useful life of facility.	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Delta Regional Authority Grants</u></b>	Delta Regional Authority	Grant	No matching required; amounts up to \$200,000	Offered annually/ Summer
<b><u>Appalachian Regional Commission</u></b>	TN Economic and Community Development (TNECD)	Grant	Match varies on community ability to pay; Up to \$500,000 for construction projects, \$250,000 for non-construction projects	Offered annually/ December
<b><u>Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program</u></b>	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)	Grant	As little as 25% match from non-federal sources; disadvantaged communities are eligible for 90% federal cost share	Check with TEMA or State Hazard Mitigation Officer for availability

Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Community livability projects	TNECD distributes regular CDBG funding for water and sewer line extensions, water and sewer system improvements, housing rehabilitation and community livability.	Local Government
Conservation of water and land for recreation	LWCF is a federal matching grant supporting acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.	State and Local Governments
Develop essential community facilities in rural areas	This program provides funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. This does not include private, commercial or business undertakings.	Non-profits, Local Government
Economic development	These grants are a state-federal partnership and provide funding for economic development, infrastructure, and workforce development.	Local Governments in 21 counties in west TN
Economic development	These grants are a state-federal partnership and provide funding for economic development, water and wastewater infrastructure, and other designated opportunities.	Local Governments in 52 counties of middle and east TN.
Emergency preparedness and planning	Grants are available to support pre-disaster mitigation planning and activities.	State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments



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<a href="#"><u>Emergency Management Performance Grant Program</u></a>	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)	Grant	50% match from non-federal sources; for eligible amounts contact regional TEMA office	Check with TEMA or State Hazard Mitigation Officer for availability
<a href="#"><u>Hazard Mitigation Grant Program</u></a>	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)	Grant	TEMA provides up to 75 percent of the funds for mitigation projects. The remaining 25 percent can come from a variety of sources. Check with TEMA for eligible amount.	Check with TEMA or State Hazard Mitigation Officer for availability
<a href="#"><u>Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program</u></a>	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)	Grant	Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. Higher percentages of federal share are available for repetitively sustained losses. Check with TEMA for eligible amount.	Check with TEMA or State Hazard Mitigation Officer for availability
<a href="#"><u>Homeland Security Grant Program</u></a>	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)	Grant	For match amount and eligible amount contact regional TEMA office.	Check with TEMA or State Hazard Mitigation Officer for availability
<a href="#"><u>Tennessee Weatherization Program</u></a>	TN Housing Development Authority (TDHA)	Grant	No matching required; provides weatherization services	Offered annually/ Contact local agency administrator for availability
<a href="#"><u>Low Income Energy Assistance Program</u></a>	TN Housing Development Authority (TDHA)	Grant	No matching required; assists income eligible households in meeting their immediate home energy needs	Offered annually/ Deadline typical October

Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Emergency preparedness and planning	This grant supports a full-time emergency manager or additional staff. The grant is an excellent means of improving the local program since it requires the jurisdiction to establish a goal and set objectives to reach it.	State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments
Emergency preparedness and planning	This grant helps communities implement hazard mitigation measures following a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration in the areas of the state, tribe, or territory requested by the Governor or Tribal Executive.	State, territorial, and local governments, certain nonprofits; individuals may apply through a community sponsor
Emergency preparedness and planning	FMA provides funding to states, territories, federally-recognized tribes and local communities for projects and planning that reduces or eliminates long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the NFIP.	State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments
Emergency preparedness and planning	Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) provides funding to states, territories, urban areas, and local and tribal governments to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist attacks and other hazards.	State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments
Energy efficiency for low-income Tennesseans	This program provides weatherization services and educations to low-income households. Prioritization for homes with young children, disabled, or elderly.	Low-Income Households in TN
Energy needs for low-income Tennesseans	The program aims to assist low income households, primarily those who pay a high proportion of household income on home energy, in meeting their immediate energy needs.	Income eligible households are those at or below 150% of the U.S. Poverty Guidelines.

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<b><u>Recreational Trails Program (RTP)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Recreation Education Services (TDEC-RES)	Grant	20% matching; amounts from \$20,000 to \$200,000	Offered annually/ April
<b><u>Community Facilities Guaranteed Loan Program</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan Guarantee	Loan guarantee maximum of 90% of eligible loan	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Multimodal Access Grant</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)	Grant	5% local match; amounts up to \$1,000,000	Offered annually/ October
<b><u>TN Wars Commission Grant Fund</u></b>	TN Historical Commission	Grant	Matching not required, but if applicants provide matching, it is taken into account	Offered annually/ November
<b><u>Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Recreation Education Services (TDEC-RES)	Grant	50% matching; amounts from \$25,000 to \$500,000	Offered annually/ April
<b><u>Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems &amp; Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans &amp; Grants</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan, Grant	Renewable energy grants up to \$500,000; Energy Efficiency Grants up to \$250,000; Loans up to \$25 million. 75% match for grants and 25% match for loans.	Check with USDA-RD for availability



Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Enhancement and development of public trails and trail facilities	RTP is a federal matching grant program for publicly owned trail expansion, improvement, development, and non-routine maintenance.	State and Local Governments and Non-profits
Improvement and development of essential community facilities	This program provides loan guarantees to eligible private lenders to help build essential community facilities in rural areas, such as health care facilities, community centers, public safety services, educational services, and food banks.	Public bodies, Community-based Non-profits
Multimodal transportation infrastructure	This state-funded grant supports transportation needs of transit users, pedestrians, and bicyclists through infrastructure projects that address existing gaps along state routes.	Local Government
Protect, promote, and interpret sites related to TN's military heritage	This grant provides funds for the planning, preservation, protection, promotion, and interpretation of structures, sites, and battlefields of TN's military heritage.	Local Government, Educational Institution, Museum, Individuals, Private Organizations
Purchase of parks land, natural areas, trail development, greenways	LPRF provides matching grants to local governments for purchase of land for parks, natural areas, greenways and recreational facilities and capital projects for recreation in those areas.	Local Government
Renewable energy or energy efficiency	Provides loan financing or grant funding to purchase or install renewable energy systems or energy efficiency improvements	Agricultural producers and Rural small businesses

# Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity	Administered by	Funding Type(s)	Matching & Eligible Amounts	Term/Typical Deadline
<b><u>Tennessee Volkswagen Diesel Settlement Grants</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Office of Energy Programs (TDEC-OEP)	Grant	As low as 25% matching for government applicants	Available until funds expended/ November
<b><u>Household Water Well System Grant Program</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan	1 % fixed rate; 20-yr term; \$11,000 maximum loan per household	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Grant	Matching funds encouraged. Maximum \$150,000 for water line infrastructure; up \$500,000 for construction of water source, intake, or treatment facility	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program (TRIP)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Recreation Education Services (TDEC-RES)	Grant	50% matching; amounts up to \$50,000	Offered annually/ Check with TDEC-RES for availability
<b><u>Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Grant	Match not required but preference given to projects that provide match; amounts up to \$150,000	Offered annually/ Summer
<b><u>Circuit Rider Program: Technical Assistance for Rural Water Systems</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Technical assistance	n/a	Check with USDA-RD for availability

Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Repower or replace eligible buses and trucks with lower emissions vehicles	The Volkswagen Diesel Settlement grant provides funding for repower or replacement of eligible shuttle or transit buses, freight and port drayage vehicles, and light duty zero emission vehicle equipment.	Local Government and Non-government
Safe, reliable drinking water	This program helps qualified nonprofits create a revolving loan fund to increase access to clean, reliable water for households in eligible areas	Qualified non-profits
Safe, reliable drinking water	This program helps eligible communities prepare, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe drinking water	State and local governments, non-profit organizations
Support development of local parks and recreation departments	TRIP provides funding to local governments without a formal parks and recreation department for the first 2 years of development up to \$50,000.	Local Government
Technical assistance and/or training related to community facilities	This grant assists communities in identifying and planning for community facility needs, including identifying resources, preparing reports and applications for financial assistance, and improving management of facilities.	Non-profits, Local Government
Technical assistance to rural water systems	Provides technical assistance to rural water systems that experience operational, financial, or managerial issues	Assistance may be requested by officials of rural water systems

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<b><u>Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans &amp; Loan Guarantees</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan Guarantee, Loan, Grant	Loan Guarantees of up to 80%; Hardship loans: fixed interest rate for up to 20 years with special qualifications	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Materials Management Grants</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Division of Solid Waste Management (TDEC-DSWM)	Grant	Varies, depending on grant offering	Offered annually/See TDEC Materials Management Grants Webpage for More Information
<b><u>Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - State Revolving Fund (TDEC-SRF)	Fixed-rate Loan (Principal forgiveness available for qualifying entities)	Maximum loan term is 30 years.	Offered annually/ solicitation in February
<b><u>Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation</u></b>	US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)	Loan	Low, fixed interest rates and flexible terms. Minimum \$5 million project size for small communities. WIFIA will finance a maximum of 49% of eligible project costs. May not be combined with SRF funding.	Offered annually/July
<b><u>Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Household Communities (SEARCH)</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Feasibility studies, design, and technical assistance	n/a	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Water &amp; Waste Disposal Loan &amp; Grant Program</u></b>	United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Loan, Grant	Hardship loans: fixed, low interest rates and repayment up to 40 years. Grants may be available.	Check with USDA-RD for availability
<b><u>Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF)</u></b>	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - State Revolving Fund (TDEC-SRF)	Fixed-rate Loan (Principal forgiveness available for qualifying entities)	Maximum loan term is 35 years.	Offered annually/ solicitation in February and Summer

Funding Purpose	Brief Description	Eligible Entities
Telecommunication infrastructure	This program provides loans and loan guarantees for construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas.	Non-profits, State and Local Governments, For-profits
Waste reduction, waste management, and recycling	Grants available to support recycling activities and infrastructure, management of used oil, household hazardous waste, and organics, and education.	Local Government and Non-profits
Wastewater infrastructure projects	CWSRF funds water quality and wastewater treatment projects as well as storm water projects, including "green" projects. Prioritization of principal forgiveness for small/disadvantaged/rural communities.	Cities, counties, utility districts, and water authorities
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Water and wastewater treatment projects including enhanced efficiency projects; acquisition of property if integral to project or if purchase mitigates environmental impact of project.	State and Local Governments; Corporations and Trusts; Partnerships and Joint Ventures
Water and wastewater infrastructure	Feasibility studies, design and technical assistance on proposed water and waste disposal projects	State and local government entities, non-profits
Water and wastewater infrastructure	This program supports developing water and waste disposal systems in rural areas with populations less than 10,000. This program is available only at the discretion of USDA Rural Utilities.	Non-profits, State and Local Governments
Water infrastructure projects	DWSRF funds drinking water and water supply projects, including "green" projects. Prioritization of principal forgiveness for small/disadvantaged/ rural communities for planning, design, and construction.	Cities, counties, utility districts, and water authorities





Department of  
**Environment &  
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**Address**

312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue  
Tennessee Tower - 2nd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

**Questions about Tennessee's Environment?**

Phone : 1-888-891-TDEC (8332)

Email: [tn.gov/content/tn/environment/ask-tdec-form.html](http://tn.gov/content/tn/environment/ask-tdec-form.html)

Web: [tn.gov/environment](http://tn.gov/environment)

**Questions about Tennessee State Parks?**

Phone : 1-888-TN-PARKS

**David S. Salyers, Commissioner**

[David.Salyers@tn.gov](mailto:David.Salyers@tn.gov)

**Gregory T. Young, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Environment**

[Greg.Young@tn.gov](mailto:Greg.Young@tn.gov)

(615) 532-7751

**Jim Bryson, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Parks & Conservation**

[Jim.Bryson@tn.gov](mailto:Jim.Bryson@tn.gov)

(615) 532-0696

**Brooke Barrett, Director, Office of External Affairs**

[Brooke.Barrett@tn.gov](mailto:Brooke.Barrett@tn.gov)

(615) 741-8962



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