



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

For Immediate Release

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Fish & Boat Commission Seeks Applicants for Boating Facilities Grant Program

Harrisburg, PA - The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) is encouraging local governments and nonprofit groups which are interested in providing or improving public boating facilities to apply for funding through the agency's Boating Facilities Grant Program.

"The program is designed to help local governments and eligible nonprofit groups, including land trusts, conservancies and watershed associations, to provide or improve public recreational boat access facilities in their communities," said Dr. Douglas Austen, PFBC executive director. "Private businesses are not eligible for direct funding but are encouraged to partner with their local government for funding."

The deadline for submitting applications is Dec. 18, 2009.

Eligible activities include the rehabilitation, expansion or construction of new boat ramps, bulkheads, courtesy floats, access roads, parking areas, restrooms, signs and localized landscaping. Activities must benefit and directly support public recreational boating. Eligible projects must occur on public lands owned by the project sponsor, or where the sponsor has a long-term lease or agreement on the site.

The grant program will reimburse recipients for up to 75 percent of the costs for land acquisition, project design and engineering, development, expansion, and major rehabilitation. Funds are to be used only for major site improvements and not for routine maintenance or operation activities. Successful applicants must agree to provide a 25 percent grant match and be willing to enter into a long-term agreement to keep the facility open to free public use for its useful life. The PFBC will give priority-funding consideration to applicants that provide more than the required 25 percent match, thereby reducing the total amount of grant funds required to complete the project.

The program is a reimbursable grant program. Grant funds will be disbursed to the recipient only after the project is completed and agency staff has verified that the work has been completed. Grant funds are derived from boat registration fees, state fuel taxes collected on fuel used in motorboats, and taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat fuel from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program. General state funds are not used for the program.

For more information about the Boating Facilities Grant Program and an application, visit the [Boating Facilities Grant Program](#) section of the PFBC's web site.

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