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Community Development Staff provides support to the County's municipalities and water/sewer authorities, as well as nonprofit agencies in preparing, administering, and closing out grant applications for activities designed to enhance the quality of life by improving infrastructure, public facilities, public safety, and recreational facilities. Assistance can be provided for the following grant funding opportunities:

### **Community Development** □ □

#### **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)**

The CDBG Program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and is designed to provide federal grant assistance to local municipalities to successfully complete various projects in defined areas. For a list of eligible activities [click here](#). There are two components to the CDBG Program – entitlement and discretionary (competitive) grants.

- Entitlement – Applications to DCED are submitted in early spring of each year on the County's behalf as well as its 5 entitlement communities.

- Discretionary (Competitive) – Applications to DCED can be submitted at any time of the year.

Other DCED Funded Programs - Several other grant programs are available for community development projects. Please visit [DCED's website](#) to learn more about these programs.

### **Recreation**

[Community Conservation Partnerships Program \(CGPP\)](#) – Applications to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources are due in early spring of each year. Eligible activities include planning, acquiring, and developing recreation, park and conservation facilities; rivers, corridors and resources; greenways and trails; heritage areas and facilities; and critical habitat, natural areas and open space.

Other Recreational Program Grants - Several other grant programs are available for recreational projects. Please visit the following sites to learn more about these programs.

<https://www.grants.dcnr.state.pa.us/GrantPrograms.aspx>

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/elibrary/resourcesta/index.htm>

### Public Safety

[Federal Emergency Management Agency Grants \(FEMA\)](#) – Applications to FEMA are usually due in early January. Eligible activities include purchasing firefighter protective gear, breathing apparatus, fire hoses, boots, nozzles, radios, flashlights, fire equipment, fire trucks, etc.

[Office of State Fire Commissioner Grants \(OSFC\)](#) – Applications to OSFC are usually due in the fall of each year. Eligible activities include the acquisition, rehabilitation or improvement of apparatus, facilities and equipment.

[PA Department of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant](#) – Applications to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources are usually due in the fall of the year. Eligible activities include the purchase of wildfire suppression equipment, wildfire or structural protective gear, mobile or portable radios, installation of dry hydrants, wildfire prevention and mitigation, or wildfire training. Funds may also be used for certain projects involving the conversion and maintenance of federal excess vehicles received from the Bureau of Forestry and used for fire suppression.

Technical Assistance is also provided to the following organizations:

- [Freeport Leechburg Apollo Group, Inc. \(FLAG\)](#)
- [Redevelopment Authority of the County of Armstrong \(RACA\)](#)

