

Delaware County Trail Assistance Program

Eligible Applicants

- Cities, villages, townships, park districts, and non-profit organizations

Eligible Projects and Expenses

- Construction of multi-use trails within Delaware County, Ohio
- Acquisition of property and easements for a multi-use trail
- Trail facilities (benches, drinking fountains, signage, accessibility improvements, counters, etc.)
- Maintenance of existing trails (crack sealing, striping, resurfacing, etc.)
- Matching funds for other trail grant programs

Ineligible Uses

- Project administrative costs and general operating expenses
- Planning and engineering for multi-use trails
- Purchase of maintenance equipment
- Individual park loop trails

Applicant Requirements and Responsibilities

Application must be complete upon submission. All requirements shall be addressed within the application. Additional requirements and responsibilities of the applicant include:

- Compliance with Federal, State, and Local laws regarding non-discrimination, prevailing wage legislation, public bidding requirements, building and health regulations, conflict of interest rules, and other similar matters assured before obligating funds;
- Ensuring that the facilities remain open and accessible to the public.

Program Information

- Up to \$100,000 is available for the Trail Assistance Program for 2026.
- Funds requested shall not equal more than the applicant's own contribution or more than 50% of the total project cost. Projects will only be partially funded.
- Projects are not guaranteed funding. However, if the request is denied one year, the application may be resubmitted for another year in the future.
- All expenses and payments are subject to state audits.
- No alterations shall be made to the project for which funding was awarded, unless approved in writing by Delaware County.
- Trail Assistance funds as allocated by Delaware County are final; any additional costs are the responsibility of the applicant.
- Failure to comply with the criteria outlined in the application and agreement with the County will be taken into consideration for any future requests and could jeopardize an award.
- The applicant is responsible for paying the contractor/supplier for services and/or materials provided.
- Grantee will be reimbursed by Delaware County after proof of payment is submitted.

Factors for Consideration

- Compliance with Central Ohio Greenways trail guidelines, including 10' minimum trail width, pavement, and ADA guidelines. If all or part of the trail must vary from the standards, the applicant shall include justification and receive prior written approval by the Delaware County Trail Committee.
- Project should be part of a long-range plan by the jurisdiction within which the project falls (city, village, township, county, regional or statewide plan)
- Projects included on the Delaware County Trail System Master Plan and/or projects with greater impact on residents shall be considered a priority.
- Refer to the full application for other criteria used to evaluate and select projects.

Timeline

- **One (1) hard copy and a PDF of the completed application must be received by Delaware County at 1610 State Route 521, P.O. Box 8006, Delaware, Ohio by no later than 4:00 p.m. on October 1, 2026.**
- Notification of approved requests will be issued around November 16, 2026.
- Projects should be completed within two years of the Agreement execution date.