



The 2004 Connecticut River Valley Partnership Program ◆ ◆ ◆

The Connecticut River Joint Commissions of New Hampshire and Vermont are pleased to offer partnership awards to local communities and organizations in the Connecticut River watershed. The goal of the Partnership Program is to encourage projects that will demonstrate practical approaches to addressing economic and conservation challenges in the Valley in ways that are compatible with its historic, cultural, scenic and natural resources. In 2004, we will again place emphasis on activities that can help implement the goals of the *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan* and the *Connecticut River Scenic Byway Corridor Plan*.

Project activities should be designed to address one or more of the issue categories identified in the two plans. For the *Corridor Management Plan*, these categories are: water quality; fisheries and wildlife habitat; recreation; agriculture and forestry; future land use; and, education. Please refer to specific recommendations in the Plan when describing how your project will address needs it identifies. The *Corridor Management Plan* is available in the town hall and library of riverfront towns, from your regional planning commission, or on our web site, www.crjc.org.

For the *Scenic Byway Corridor Plan*, the categories are promotion of the Scenic Byway Corridor and preservation of its scenic and historic attributes. The *Scenic Byway Corridor Plan* is available from your regional planning commission. Executive summaries of this Plan are also available at your town hall.

Over the last ten years, the Partnership Program has funded 348 projects valley-wide. Recognizing the success of this locally-inspired conservation program, our Congressional delegation has introduced the Upper Connecticut River Partnership Act in Congress to give permanent authorization to the Partnership. Meanwhile, Senator Judd Gregg, as a member of the Appropriations Committee, and supported by Senator Patrick Leahy, has secured an appropriation to allow the Connecticut River Joint Commissions to offer Partnership awards in 2004.

This year, as in years past, the Connecticut River Valley Partnership Program will provide project support of \$500 to \$5,000. In rare instances, we may fund projects over \$5,000 if the results and public benefit are outstanding and clearly demonstrate a need for additional funding. We encourage applicants to collaborate with other public and private organizations, and hope Partnership Program support will leverage other project funds or commitments of technical assistance, materials, or long-term management responsibility.

Best of luck! Please note that applications must be received by **April 7, 2004**.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

You are eligible to apply for project support if your organization is located in the Connecticut River Watershed and is one of the following:

Municipal Board, Committee or Commission

Regional Organization

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt Organization

School (public or private)

Informal citizen groups, state and federal agencies, and private businesses may also apply, but must do so through one of the listed organizations. Ineligible applicants include members and staff of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions and their immediate households.

CRITERIA

2004 Partnership Program support will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applications will be reviewed according to the criteria listed below. Please address the following:

- How the project addresses implementation of the Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan or the Connecticut River Scenic Byway Corridor Plan. (Refer to the first page of this document for information on how to access Plan documents.) While the Plans focus upon communities along the Connecticut River main stem, projects elsewhere in the watershed will be fully considered.
- The tangible results and lasting benefits to the community and/or the watershed.
- Demonstration of cooperation within the community, establishment of partnerships with public, private, and community resources, or encouragement of cross-river efforts between NH & VT.
- Ability to leverage additional funds, obtain commitments of technical assistance, materials, or support from other sources.
- Likelihood of success given the project scope, requested support, and organizational commitment.
- A plan for publicity and community outreach about the project and its benefits. Publicity should mention project support from the Connecticut River Joint Commissions.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Applicants intending to work on private property must include written permission from the landowner, and demonstrate a general benefit to the community. Projects on public property must include a supporting letter from the managing agency.
- Applicants are responsible for obtaining any necessary permissions or permits (e.g. wetlands).
- Up to 35% of an award may be used for long-term maintenance of Partnership-funded improvements. Indicate how other funds are to be raised for endowment purposes, if applicable.
- Awards for projects with potential impact on historic or archaeological resources will be reviewed by the state historic preservation office.
- Partnership Program funding may not be used as a local match to other federal funds.
- The Selection Committee reserves the right to offer awards at a lower level than requested.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 7, 2004

Applicants will be notified of award decisions by May 21, 2004. Awards will be presented at a ceremony (TBA).

AWARD CONDITIONS:

Grants will be distributed to awardees as follows: 75% with the initial award and 25% upon project completion and submission of final report. Awards are subject to audit and review. A 1-2 page progress report is due November 30, 2004, and must include a financial statement, press clippings, photographs, and other appropriate materials. We understand that not all projects will be completed by that date; however, progress must be reported at that time. **All projects supported in this grant round must be completed no later than March 1, 2005**, when a final report on the results of the project and how grant funds were expended will be due.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: If you have questions about the program application or eligibility, call Barbara Harris at the Connecticut River Joint Commissions: (603) 826-4800.

Application ♦ ♦ ♦

The 2004
**Connecticut River Valley
Partnership Program**

Project Number (office use only)

(please use this sheet or an exact facsimile as the cover page for your application)

Project Title: _____

Project Location [town(s), state(s)]: _____

Applicant:

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____ Email: _____

Please describe the essence of your project in no more than two sentences:

Support Requested: \$ _____

Check the Partnership Program project category appropriate to your project:

(if more than one, check all that apply and note that which best applies)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries and Wildlife Habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Future Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic Byway Promotion or Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation |

Applicants are encouraged to adhere to the format and content outlined below when describing a proposed project. In addition to the cover sheet, you may use a **maximum of three pages** to address items 1-3.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Project Summary

Please provide a description of the project that includes the need, long-range goals, and measurable objectives expected for the project. Refer to the “criteria” section of the Partnership Program description on page 2, and please be specific in describing how the project will address the *Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan* or the *Connecticut River Scenic Byway Plan*.

2. Applicant Organization

Please give a brief description of the history and purpose of your organization, including any recent projects you have undertaken. Indicate who will be the project officer.

3. Partnerships

Please describe any partner organizations involved, and the relationship between the applicant and these partners.

4. Budget

Please provide a description of the full project budget including:

- Requested Partnership Program support (define and itemize)
- Other funding sources to be applied (explain funds on hand; funds to be received and when; funds to be applied for, from whom)
- Value of in-kind contributions (describe method of establishing value)
- TOTAL PROJECT VALUE

5. Letters of Support

A maximum of three (3) letters of support may be included from community and civic groups, supporting organizations, or public officials knowledgeable about the project and your organization’s capacity to complete the project. Letters may not be from members of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions or local river subcommittees.

6. Statement of Tax-Exempt Status

Non-profit organizations should attach a copy of their 501(c)(3) tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, or an explanation of the current tax-exempt status.

***APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED by April 7, 2004.
FAXED SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.***

Send eleven (11) copies of proposal, including any supporting materials, to the address below.
A confirmation letter will be sent upon receipt of your application.

Connecticut River Valley Partnership Program
Connecticut River Joint Commissions
P.O. Box 1182
Charlestown, NH 03603

