

Laurentian Vision Partnership Minescapes

The Laurentian Vision Partnership Minescapes (LVP) Grant Program assists cities, townships, non-profits or joint powers boards with projects to preserve lands that sustain current and future mining, promote landscape options for post mining uses and identify and discuss new development opportunities.

Contact: Jim Plummer, 218-274-7006, Jim.Plummer@state.mn.us

Eligible Applicants: Cities, townships, non-profits or joint powers boards within the agency's service area. Multi-organization collaboration is welcome.

Eligible Projects: Projects that preserve lands that sustain current and future mining and/or promotion of landscape options for post mining uses.

Ineligible Projects: No funding will be provided for projects that must be undertaken to comply with federal, state or local laws, rules or ordinances.

Funding: The Laurentian Vision Partnership Minescapes Grant Program is funded at \$200,000 for FY2019. The agency requires a 1:1 match per project. Projects must begin within 12 months of the grant award.

Evaluation Criteria (100 points)

1. Job Creation (25 points)

- Describe job creation or retention, if any, that will result from this project (See MN Statute 298.22 subd. 13)

2. Project Purpose (20 points)

- Provides for a post-mining use of the land aimed at future community, recreational, tourism, historical, residential or commercial use or an aesthetic enhancement to the environment
- Preserves and supports future mining
- Research and development that produces data in support of mining, reclamation landscape opportunities and land use development opportunities

3. Impact (20 points)

- Project can be replicated in other parts of the region
- Project impacts a large amount of people and/or a large visible area
- Leverage

4. Project planning and management (20 points)

- Project must begin within 12 months from grant award
- Capability to execute, operate and maintain proposed project

5. Community benefit and partnerships (15 points)

- Community support and commitment
- Multi-organization collaboration

Application Process and Review:

Pre-applications will be accepted beginning July 2 through July 31, 2018. Full applications will be provided for eligible projects. All eligible applications received during this time period will be reviewed and scored according to the evaluation criteria. Grants will be awarded to the most competitive applications. Applications submitted after July 31, 2018 through the end of the agency’s fiscal year (June 30, 2019) will be awarded on a rolling basis subject to meeting minimum scoring criteria and subject to the availability of remaining program funds.

Applications are reviewed by the Laurentian Vision Partnership Minescapes Coordinating Committee and evaluated and scored on an individual basis.

Project funding is subject to the Commissioner’s final approval. Project must meet objectives, priorities and policies established by the Commissioner.

Application Checklist:

- Project Narrative:**
 - Narrative must address evaluation criteria
 - List the owner(s) of the land and include a letter of support from each
 - Describe how the project exceeds State of Minnesota Mineland Reclamation Statutes 93.44-93.51, and Rules 6130
- Resolution authorizing applicant to apply for and accept funds**
- Statement of concept project approval from the appropriate regulatory agency if project involves active mine area or other lands covered by a permit (attach if applicable). If minerals are controlled by a fee holder or by an entity that is not a partner in the project, a letter of support should accompany the application.**
- Pre-project photographs**
- For non-profit organizations, copies of financial document(s) as indicated below:**

<u>Grant Amount Requested</u>	<u>Annual Income of Organization</u>	<u>Document to Upload with Application</u>
Under \$25,000	Any	Most recently filed IRS Form 990
\$25,000 and up	Under \$750,000	Most recently filed IRS Form 990 <i>and</i> recent Board Reviewed Financial Statements
\$25,000 and up	Over \$750,000	Most recently filed IRS Form 990 <i>and</i> most recent Financial Statements audited by a Certified Public Accountant

- Any other documentation to support the application**

Post Grant Award Requirements

- **The agency reserves the right to require signage/logo acknowledging financial assistance from the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Details will be outlined in the grant agreement.**
- **Awarded projects must meet Minnesota Prevailing Wage Statutes and the agency's board policy as stated in the grant agreement.**
- **Project information is subject to the Minnesota Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statute Chapter 13.**
- A progress report is required if grant period exceeds 12 months.
- A site visit may be conducted by an authorized representative of the agency.
- A final report is required before final payment including photographs of site, job creation/retention and matching funds.
- Architectural and engineering fees in excess of 15% of the total site development costs are ineligible for reimbursement.