

## Mineland Reclamation

The Mineland Reclamation grant program provides funding to assist with highly visible development and restoration of post mining land.

**Contact:** Jim Plummer, 218-274-7006, [Jim.Plummer@state.mn.us](mailto:Jim.Plummer@state.mn.us)

**Eligible Applicants:** Cities, townships, counties, tribal units of government, joint powers boards and nonprofits within the agency's service area. Multi-organization collaboration is welcome.

**Eligible Projects:** Projects that reclaim or repurpose former mining impacted lands not otherwise provided by state law or that sustain current and future mining. Examples include recreational development, stockpile reclamation and vegetative enhancements, mine pit development and improvements and master planning.

**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 Mineland Reclamation grant program is funded at \$350,000 for FY2020. The agency requires a 1:1 match per project. In-kind materials and/or labor are not eligible towards the project match. Projects must begin within 12 months of the grant award.

### Evaluation Criteria (100 points)

#### 1. Job creation. (10 points)

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

#### 2. Impact. (30 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.

#### 3. Project readiness and timeliness. (25 points)

- Project must begin within 12 months from grant award.
- Capability to execute, operate and maintain proposed project.
- An operation, maintenance and risk management plan is in place.
- Financing is in place.
- Date of anticipated construction.

#### 4. Community benefit and partnerships. (30 points)

- Multi-organization collaboration – identify project partners and community and regional support.
- If the project aligns with the community's master plan that portion of the plan should be highlighted and uploaded.

- Provides for post-mining use of the land aimed at future community, recreational, tourism, historical, residential or commercial use or an aesthetic enhancement to the environment.

**5. Project serves an underserved community/population. (5 points)**

- Minority.
- Geography.
- Economic status.

## **Application Process and Review**

Applications are accepted July 1 through July 31, 2019. All eligible applications received during this time period are reviewed and scored according to the evaluation criteria. Grants are awarded to the most competitive applications. Applications submitted after July 31, 2019 through the end of the agency's fiscal year (June 30, 2020) may 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 a team and evaluated and scored on an individual basis. Grant program administrators do not score applications for their respective program.

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

Notify grant program administrator of any changes to application after final submittal.

## **Application Checklist**

- Project Narrative:**
  - Narrative must address evaluation criteria.
  - 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.**
- IRS Form W-9 – Request for Taxpayer ID Number and Certification – to be completed by applicant.**
- Letters of support from the community and from the organization that will be responsible for maintenance of the project site.**
- Pre-project photographs.**

□ For nonprofit organizations, copies of financial document(s) as indicated below:

Grant Amount Requested	Annual Income of Organization	Document to Upload with Application
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

□ Other documentation to support the application.

### Additional Information

- The agency reserves the right to require signage/logo acknowledging financial assistance from the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation. Details are 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.
- Upon receiving a grant award, if the grant award is over \$175,000, it must be publicly bid. The contractor is required to be licensed and insured.
- 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.