Mineland Reclamation

Mineland Reclamation grants provide funding to assist with highly visible development and restoration of mining impacted land.

Contact: Jim Plummer, 218-274-7006, 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 encouraged.

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: Mineland Reclamation is funded at $350,000 for FY2021. 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 six months of the grant award.

Evaluation Criteria (100 points) — Must be addressed in project narrative.

1. **Job creation.** (5 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 impacts a large amount of people and/or a large visible area.
   - Leverage.
   - Potential for new development.

3. **Project readiness and timeliness.** (30 points)
   - Project must begin within six months from grant award.
   - Capability to execute proposed project.
   - Operation, maintenance and risk management plan is in place.
   - Financing and authorization from land owner is in place.

4. **Community benefit and partnerships.** (30 points)
   - Identify project partners and community and regional support.
   - If the project aligns with the community’s comprehensive plan that portion of the plan should be highlighted and uploaded.
   - The project involves mining impacted 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)**
   - Population experiencing inequities and/or disparities.
   - Diverse populations that include:
     - Racial and ethnic communities, including American Indians.
     - LGBTQI communities.
     - Disability status.
     - Veterans.
     - Geographic.

### Application Process and Review

Applications are accepted July 1 through July 31, 2020. 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, 2020 through the end of the agency’s fiscal year (June 30, 2021) 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.

- **Cost estimates:**

  **Non-Governmental Entity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract or Cost of Material or Service</th>
<th>Quotes/Cost estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $10,000</td>
<td>Not required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - $24,999</td>
<td>Two - upload with application or provide verbal quote detail in project narrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $99,999</td>
<td>Three – upload with application or provide verbal quote detail in project narrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 or more</td>
<td>Must undergo formal notice and bidding process</td>
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</table>
Municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract or Cost of Material or Service</th>
<th>Quotes/Cost estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $25,000</td>
<td>Two – may be upon quotation or open market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - $175,000</td>
<td>Two – may use competitive bidding process or direct negotiation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $175,000</td>
<td>Sealed bids shall be solicited by public notice in the manner and subject to the requirements of the law governing contracts by the particular municipality or class thereof</td>
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</tbody>
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*Per Minnesota Statute 471.345

☐ For non-government, IRS Form W-9 – Request for Taxpayer ID Number and Certification – to be completed by applicant.

☐ For nonprofits, most recently filed IRS 990 form - For organizations that have an annual income of over $750,000 a most recent certified financial audit must also be uploaded.

☐ List of funding sources and letters of commitment and/or support.

☐ Pre-project photographs.

☐ 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 the 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 and job creation/retention.
- Architectural and engineering fees in excess of 15% of the total site development costs are ineligible for reimbursement.
- Spending within the agency’s service area is encouraged.