

# Grant Report- July 18,2024

## Existing Grant Awards:

### NYSDEC: Water Quality Improvement Project

Amount Awarded: \$153,742.00

Town of Ancram Salt Shed

#### Project Progress:

**(7/1/2024)- The town has not received any updated contract materials to review.**

(3/20/2024) We are currently in the process of finalizing and executing a contract.

#### Project Narrative:

This project includes the design and construction of a 50ft X 80ft Britespan Atlas Series Fabric building with mesh vents and precast foundation to serve as a salt and gravel storage shed for the Town of Ancram. The building will be installed at the current location of the town highway garage at the intersection of Town Road and Maple Lane in Ancramdale, NY

The current salt storage shed, a converted 19th century milk factory barn, has been deemed an inadequate capacity for Town's sand/salt needs. This new structure will be intended to replace the current storage building, which was not constructed to hold sand/salt. Additionally, the new structure will increase the capacity the town will have to store product, reducing the number times it will need to be restocked throughout the season.

Currently, excess sand and salt stockpiles are stored uncovered, adjacent to the milk factory barn. This location is constrained by private properties and is directly surrounded by streams and associated wetlands. The town hopes to reduce the likelihood of impacting the waterbodies with runoff from the uncovered sand and salt piles.

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### NYSERDA: EV Landscaping and Mowing Equipment

Amount Awarded: \$9,766.00

Amended Amount: \$5,600.00

#### Progress:

**(7/1/2024) After correspondence with the highway superintendent, we have decided to adjust the equipment that will be purchased by the grant. To accomplish this, we will need to resubmit the application with the changes to receive NYSERDA approval. The new equipment list includes:**

Leaf Blowers	3
Trimmers/Edgers/Cutters	2
Push Mower	1
Pressure Washers	?

Chainsaw	2
Pole Saws	3

The town is still entitled to \$9,766.00, so we can decide if we want to purchase additional EV equipment, or apply it to another project, such as a networked EV charger with the remaining \$4,166.

(3/21/2024) At this time, the town can continue to spec out and EV lawn equipment prior to 5/30/2024 as part of the planning phase.

*Project Narrative:*

The contract is effective 11/7/2023-11/7/2024. We are approved for reimbursement of the following equipment: (1) GreenWorks Commercial Blower Dual Port (Model # 82BA26-5), (1) RYOBI 80V HP 54 Zero Turn Riding Mower (Model # RYRM8034-2X), (1) Husqvarna 4V pole saw (Model # 120iTK-4P), (1) Greenworks 60V Self Propelled Push Mower (Model# MO60L427).

At the end of the planning phase (5/30/2024), NYSERDA will provide the town \$2,441.50 to begin the purchase of the above referenced equipment. At completion (11/3/2024), NYSERDA will provide the remaining grant funding, \$7,324.50. The town must provide paid invoices and photos of the new equipment to validate the completion.

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**NYSDEC: Invasive Species Education and Outreach**

**Amount Awarded: \$12,646.23**

*Progress:*

**(7/1/2024) The contract was finally executed by all parties. Work will begin this summer and fall at Columbia Land Conservancy properties in Ancram.**

(3/15/2024) We are currently in the process of finalizing and executing a contract. The project term will be 3/15/2024-3/14/2026.

*Project Narrative:*

The project is intended to provide hikers and outdoor enthusiasts with education about terrestrial invasive species found in Columbia Land Conservancy (CLC) properties in Ancram. The goal is to teach people how some invasive plants spread and simple methods to reduce invasive species, such as using boot brush stations before and after hiking within the CLC property. In addition to the boot brush stations, informational pamphlets about priority Capital Region PRISM Tier 1, 2, and 3 species will be available in weather resistant Lucite holders at trailheads.

The total project cost is \$15,827.56 which includes \$3,161.56 in match funds to be shared by the Town of Ancram and Columbia Land Conservancy. The contract development is in progress and awaiting insurance documents from the insurance carrier. As soon as we are supplied with the insurance form, we can move ahead with finalizing the contract terms and time frame.

## Grant Submissions:

### **Hudson River Estuary Program Local Stewardship Grant**

**Minimum Amount Requested: \$10,500**

*Progress:* The grant application will be submitted by July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

*Project Narrative:* The Town of Ancram is interested in completing an Open Space Inventory and Open Space Plan. This funding will help the town secure qualified consultants to assist the CAC with developing the inventory and plan. Additionally, funds may be used to cover printing and presentation expenses associated with public outreach.

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### **FY25 General Community Project from the Office of Marc Molinaro**

**Amount Requested: \$80,000**

*Progress :*

**(7/1/2024)- No additional progress or correspondence has been received on this grant.**

(3/20/2024)- The application was submitted on February 27, 2024.

The office of Congressman Marc Molinaro is seeking local community project requests for fiscal year 2025. Although community project requests for 2024 are still not finalized, and deadlines for fiscal year 2025 are not yet released, Ancram will be submitting a request for consideration for the Blass Pavilion Project. Funding for FY25 will not begin consideration until Spring 2024 but filling out this form will ensure the project gets due consideration for potential inclusion in Congressman Molinaro's project requests.

*Project Narrative:*

The Town of Ancram is a small community in the southeastern region of Columbia County. In the center of the Ancram hamlet, the town is fortunate to have a baseball diamond, basketball court, and pool. This recreational facility, Blass Memorial Field was created in the 1950's to provide a safe place for the children and adults of the community to swim and have fun. Most recently, a children's camp has used the ball field, pool, and basketball court to provide either low cost or free summer camp for approximately 50 campers each year.

The town does not have a permanent structure to house the camp at the Blass Memorial Field. Each year, a 20' X 40' tent, tables and chairs (rented by the town), provide shelter for the campers. We are proposing to construct a 30' X 60' pavilion with a concrete floor to offer a permanent structure. A portion of the pavilion may be enclosed for storage of summer camp supplies, tables, and chairs when they are not in use. Tables and chairs may be purchased by the town for the use at the pavilion.

In 2022, C.T. Male Associates provided a conceptual plan and report, reviewing both the Blass Field site and the alternative Town Hall site. This project would be highly visible to the community and provide a gathering place in a centralized location in the Ancram hamlet. The Town Hall site was considered too removed from the center of town and environmentally less desirable due to nearby wetlands.

Estimated project cost: \$180,000-\$270,000 (this cost may be high)

This funding will not be available until September 2024 at the earliest, therefore the pavilion project would need to be completed in either fall 2024 or spring 2025.

## **Grant Opportunities**

### **NY SWIMS Lifeguard Grant Program**

**Amount Requested/Available: \$25,000 (Columbia County)**

**Application Due Date: 7/26/2024**

*Project Narrative:* The NY SWIMS Lifeguard Grant Program is intended to address a critical shortage of staff lifeguards (including lifeguards contracted through third parties, or contracted lifeguards), available at public locations, including pools and beaches in New York State municipalities. As part of the application process, an eligible list of counties and cities has been established (see below). The counties listed will work with their municipalities to, and the cities listed will, identify public swimming locations and outline how funding will increase the number of staff and/or contracted lifeguards, and/or expand operating hours.

SWIMS Lifeguard Grant funding may be used to cover project costs related to safe swimming opportunities at public swimming locations including:

- Advertising for lifeguard positions;
  - Lifeguard retention and referral bonuses;
  - Supplementing hourly lifeguard wages; and,
  - Lifeguard salary increases.
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### **Hudson River Valley Greenway Community Planning**

**Amount Requested: up to \$10,000**

**Application Due Date: 9/6/2024 or 11/1/2024**

*Project/Grant Narrative:* The Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Program provides matching grants to Greenway Communities and Compact Communities. Greenway Communities are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 to develop plans or projects consistent with the five Greenway criteria: natural and cultural resource protection, economic development, public access, regional planning, and heritage and environmental education. Higher amounts are awarded for intermunicipal projects.

Greenway Communities Grant Program provides grant funding to help communities develop and implement a vision for their future that balances Greenway criteria of economic development considerations with resource protection and promotion objectives.

Typical grants under the Greenway Communities Grant Program range from \$5,000 - \$10,000, with greater financial assistance available for projects involving two or more municipalities. Greenway Compact communities are eligible to receive more than \$10,000 for projects that develop, approve, and implement a compact strategy consistent with the Greenway criteria and the Greenway Act. Typical grant amounts range between \$5,000 and \$25,000.

This grant may be an additional source of funding to help the Town of Ancram develop an Open Space Inventory and Plan.

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### **Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program (US Department of Transportation)**

**Amount Requested: TBD**

**Application Due Date: 8/29/2024**

*Project/Grant Narrative:* Funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 SS4A grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructural, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators.

The Town of Ancram may apply for planning grant funding to develop its own comprehensive safety action plan and/or offset the costs of a detailed engineering study of the Route 82/Route 7 intersection in the Ancram hamlet.