

Upper Delaware Council

For Release: Oct. 4, 2012 PM

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Upper Delaware Council Awards 2013 Technical Assistance Grants

NARROWSBURG – The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) has awarded \$32,905 in Technical Assistance Grants for nine projects that will further goals and address needs identified in the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

The latest grant round brings the cumulative amount to \$720,397 that the UDC has provided to its member municipalities since 1988. In all, 210 projects have been funded through the Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) program.

Member municipalities submitted applications by an Aug. 31 deadline. Combined requests totaled \$44,485. A special meeting of the Project Review Committee to deliberate over the applications took place on Sept. 11. The full Council approved the recommended slate at its October 4 monthly meeting.

Technical Assistance Grants are available for research, planning, and studies conducted by the UDC's eight member New York towns (Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cochecton, Tusten, Lumberland, Highland, and Deerpark), five Pennsylvania townships (Damascus, Berlin, Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall), and the encompassing river corridor counties.

Buckingham and Manchester Townships would also be eligible to receive this member benefit if they joined the UDC.

TAG awards can provide seed money for a municipality to embark on a project without having to dip into local tax dollars.

The approved recipients are:

■ Town of Cochecton, NY - \$7,000 to codify the Town of Cochecton's existing Local Laws to provide easier access to current, accurate information.

- Sullivan County, NY \$6,205 to improve preservation and interpretation at Sullivan County's Minisink Battleground Park to increase heritage tourism, appreciation of the unique significance of this site as the only Revolutionary War battle fought in the Upper Delaware, and enjoyment of the area's natural resources.
- Town of Lumberland, NY \$5,000 to update the Town of Lumberland's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to identify and analyze potential hazards, plan for impacts, and address risk reduction.
- Town of Tusten, NY \$5,000 to complete the Town of Tusten's Zoning Law re-write and have the book printed into binders and placed on compact disks.
- Town of Deerpark, NY \$3,600 to update the existing 2005 Town of Deerpark Subdivision Ordinance as a tool to promote safe, orderly growth.
- Town of Fremont, NY \$2,100 to purchase a "Town Clerk Plus" software program with training provided to help the town operate in a more efficient manner.
- Damascus Township, PA \$2,000 to index the Damascus Township Zoning Ordinance
 with page numbers and electronic links to make the document more user-friendly.
- Town of Delaware, NY \$1,500 to render tax maps depicting topography and soil types to more fairly assess and value land within the town; and to develop a website dedicated to the Town of Delaware's cultural history.
- Pike County, PA \$500 to reprint the "Greetings from Pike County" brochure that informs residents and visitors of the present activities related to natural gas exploration in Pike County.

Mid-term progress reports are due to the UDC by Feb. 28, 2013. The deadline for project completions is July 26, 2013.

To access a directory of the UDC's Technical Assistance Grants from 1988-2012, review program guidelines, and download forms, please visit www.upperdelawarecouncil.org. Contact UDC Resource Specialist Travis O'Dell at (845) 252-3022 or travis@upperdelawarecouncil.org with any questions.