

Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program

Non-Point Source Pollution Stakeholder Meeting

September 19, 2019

Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Steve Stake, Program Coordinator
NPS Management Program

ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE



The Nature
Conservancy



What is the Unpaved Roads Program

- Created by Act 898 of the 90th General Assembly to create a better unpaved county road system with a reduced negative environmental impact on priority water resources in Arkansas
- Focuses on best management practices (BMPs) that reduce the impact of sediment and road runoff to streams, rivers, and drinking water supplies while reducing long term unpaved county road maintenance costs

Who is Eligible for Funding

- The Program is designed to fund work on public unbound (no asphalt, concrete, etc.) roads
- Counties are the primary applicants for funding
- The entity that owns and maintains the road is the entity eligible to apply for Program funding

What Types of Projects are Eligible

- Only **projects** that provide some form of environmental benefit, typically by **reducing sediment and concentrated drainage to waterways**, will be considered for funding.



What types of Projects are Ineligible

- Roadways that have bound surfaces including oil, asphalt, concrete, or any mixture of sealed aggregate.
- Roadways that are not negatively impacting a priority body of water.
- Public roads that are open to the public for less than eight (8) consecutive weeks.
- Any and all private roads.

*** Applicants are not eligible for an Unpaved Roads Grant if the county has an Unpaved Roads Grant currently open. Once the grant has been closed out, applicants are eligible to apply.**

Priority Water Bodies In Order of Program Priority

- A water body containing an **aquatic species listed as threatened, endangered or a candidate species** by the federal Government and a priority for ANRC or has been determined to be **impaired as a result of turbidity or sediment**
- A water body used as a drinking source for people
- A water body used as an interstate waterway
- A water body the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission had determined contains a species of greatest conservation need
- A water body important to agricultural or pasture land use
- A water body important to forestry land use

Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance

- An Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance (ESM) **certified person** must be **in charge** of work plan development and **project implementation** for the applying county
- Training to become ESM certified is provided through a **one day course which is no cost** to potential grant applicants
- Recommended for all persons representing the county such as county judges, road crew, and administrative personnel
- ESM training **certification is good for 5 years**
- ESM practices are discussed in detail during the workshop

Project Expenses

- Applicant may apply for the full or partial cost of equipment, material or labor
- Material expenses include but not limited to pipe, stone, fill, aggregate fabric, etc.
- **Capped at \$75,000**
- All funded project must provide at least a **50% match** (in-kind, cash, etc.) to include but not limited to labor, equipment, materials and services
- Project can be more or less than \$75,000 but if more, there should be proof that the project will be funded



Pre-Application Site Visit

- Applicants are encouraged to **conduct pre-application site visit with staff before submitting application** on any project over \$25,000
- This ensures that the plan is in best interest for both parties
- Allows program staff to provide input early before much time has been invested in developing workplan
- Allows early discussions on potential issues such as permitting, landowner issues and funding availability

Grant Application

- Approved grant application must include cost breakdown for grant funds and matching funds
- Application must include workplan with a drawing (either hand drawn or digitally draw) of proposed project site
- The workplan is a plan view of the road with all planned features such as pipes, aggregate, underdrain, surface features, etc.
- A map identifying where the project is located with a clear delineation of the named water body that will be impacted by the project must included
- Applications deemed complete and acceptable will be submitted to the review committee for prioritization
- The Committee will review and prioritize applications based on established written criteria and make funding recommendations

Final Inspection

- Upon project completion, a final inspection with grant recipient must be conducted to ensure all aspects of the project has been completed



Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Application

County
Road Name/Location
Nearest Town/Community
Affected Stream/Tributary

Grant Requested Amount
Provided by County
Total Project Cost

Contact Information

Please provide the information below with persons who are knowledgeable about the application.

County Judge	
Mailing Address	
City	Zip
Phone Number	E-mail

ESM Certified Person	
Title	Certification Date
Mailing Address	
City	Zip
Phone Number	E-mail

Contact Person (application prepared by)	
Title	Phone

Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Application

Continued from Page 1...

Mailing Address

City

Zip

E-Mail

State Senator

District #

State Representative

District #

Should this application be selected for funding, please provide the following:

Local Newspaper

Phone Number:

E-mail:

Project Description

**What is the project for which
you are applying?
(briefly describe)**

**What is the covered water
body that this project will
benefit?
(attach a map)**

**Who was involved in the
development of this
proposal?**

What funding and other resources will be used to maintain and operate the project in the future?

Identify the proposed work elements.
(check all that apply)

Ditches Improved
Ditch Outlets Added
Off Right-of-Way Improvements
Road Banks Improved
Road Base Improved
Road Surface Stabilized
Stream Crossing Improved
Storm Water Improvements
Vegetative Management
Other

Additional Documentation

- 1. Complete Attachment A "Project Work Plan" including a sketch of proposed project. Attach a location map with the project highlighted.**
- 2. Complete Attachment B1 and B2 "Project Cost Estimate" summarizing all costs.**

With my signature below, I do hereby certify that I have read, understand and support the above application for grant funds through the Arkansas Unpaved Grant Program. I further certify that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the rules and regulations governing the grant program.

Judge Printed Name

Judge Signature

|

ARKANSAS UNPAVED ROADS PROGRAM
PROJECT WORK PLAN

Applicant	Road Name	Date
© Rectangular Snip		

Instructions:

Draw a sketch of the proposed project that includes:

- All proposed work (i.e. cross pipes, stream crossings, other ESM practices)
- Project road length in feet or miles
- Nearest intersection and/or reference landmarks
- Known utilities
- North arrow
- Attach a copy of a location map with the project highlighted
- Attach additional project details as necessary

Project Length =
_____ feet / miles

North Arrow

**ARKANSAS UNPAVED ROADS PROGRAM
 DETAILED ESTIMATED PROJECT EXPENDITURES
 GRANT REQUESTED FUNDS**

Materials			
Type	Unit Cost	Qty	Cost \$
Total <u>Materials</u> - \$			

Equipment			
Type	Hours	Rate	Cost \$
Total <u>Equipment</u> - \$			

Labor			
Type	Rate/Hr	Hours	Cost \$
Total <u>Labor</u> - \$			

Total Grant Requested: \$ _____

_____ Applicant

_____ County

_____ Road Name

_____ Date

**ARKANSAS UNPAVED ROADS PROGRAM
 DETAILED ESTIMATED PROJECT EXPENDITURES
 IN KIND FUNDS**

Materials			
Type	Unit Cost	Qty	Cost \$
Total <u>Materials</u> \$			

Equipment			
Type	Hours	Rate	Cost \$
Total <u>Equipment</u> \$			

Labor			
Type	Rate/Hr	Hours	Cost \$
Total <u>Labor</u> \$			

Total Grant Requested: \$ _____

_____ Applicant

_____ County

_____ Road Name

_____ Date

Certification Letter

Date _____

Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program
c/o Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
101 East Capitol, Suite 350
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Members of the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission:

On behalf of the county of _____, I am writing to request your assistance in securing a state matching grant under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Program. Proceeds from the \$ _____ grant, if awarded, will be used for the following project, as outlined in the enclosed application:

_____.

The citizens of _____ have furnished proof that they have raised \$ _____ through local cash and/or in-kind donations as their matching share on the project and the Quorum Court of _____ agrees to provide the remainder funds necessary to complete the state matching requirements. ~~Further, we~~ have read the application fully and have determined that the county of _____ is eligible to apply for and receive funds under this program.

I designate myself, County Judge of _____ as the person ultimately responsible for the administration of the state grant, if awarded. Project funds from all sources will be expended through a fund established on the books of the county of _____, and all project expenditures with invoices and cancelled checks attached, in addition to copies of all application materials, will remain on file in the County Judge's office for three years or until audited (whichever is later), to assure that funds were used for the purposes for which they were made available.

If additional information is needed concerning this project, please feel free to contact me or the project's primary contact person (name) _____ at (phone number) _____.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

County Judge _____

County _____

Phone Number _____

RESOLUTION PASSED BY QUORUM COURT

RESOLUTION # _____

Be it ~~resolved~~ by the Quorum Court of _____, State of Arkansas a resolution entitled: _____ A Resolution authorizing the County Judge of _____ County to apply for a grant of behalf of the county.

Whereas, the _____ Quorum ~~Court~~ has determined that the county meets eligibility requirements necessary to apply for a grant under the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Grant Programs; and

Whereas, the _____ County has presented plans to (description of project) _____; and whereas, the Quorum Court of _____ recognizes the need for the project, concurs its importance, and supports the _____ County in its efforts to proceed with the same; and

~~Whereas,~~ the _____ County has furnished proof that they have raised \$ _____ through community cash and/or in-kind donations to be applied to the project as a local match (if applicable);

~~Therefore, be~~ it resolved that the Quorum Court of _____ hereby appropriates the sum of \$ _____ to complete the local match money requirement for the project described herein (if applicable);

Be it further resolved, that the County Judge of _____ is hereby authorized to submit an application of formal request to the Arkansas Rural Department Commission for purpose of securing state grant funds in the ~~amount of~~ \$ _____ to aid and assist the _____ Community in executing the proposed project described herein and that the County Judge or Recorder/Treasurer of _____ is further authorized to administer the grand funds for the same project.

THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN REGULAR SESSION _____
DATE

APPROVED: _____
Signature of County Judge

Typed name of County Judge

ATTEST _____
Signature of City of County Clerk

Questions?

Steve Stake, Program Coordinator
NPS Management Program
Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Natural Resources
101 East Capitol, Suite 350
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501) 682-3956
steve.stake@Arkansas.gov