COASTAL & HEARTLAND NATIONAL ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP

2026 Funding Opportunities

The Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP) is part of the US EPA National Estuary Program and is comprised of local, state, and federal governmental entities, non-profits, private sector entities and the public. Its mission is to unite Central and Southwest Florida to protect water and wildlife. The CHNEP is non-regulatory, science-based, and citizen-supported, and its work is supported by a professional team who works to pair funding opportunities and resources with the communities and partners in the CHNEP's 10-county service area.

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Funding Opportunities

FloridaCommerce Community Planning and Technical Assistance (CPTA) Grant Program

Funding eligible communities, including Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAOs), municipalities, counties, and Regional Planning Councils, the opportunity to create innovative planning solutions that address economic development, resiliency strategies and critical local planning issues.
Funding 24 to 26 projects between $57,700 - $62,500
https://floridajobs.org/CPTA
Applications due May 1, 2026

FDEP Recreational Trails Program Grants

Funding to support the development and maintenance of recreational trails, trailheads and trailside facilities for both motorized and nonmotorized uses.
Funding projects up to $2 Million
https://floridadep.gov/lands/land-and-recreation-grants/content/recreational-trails-program
Applications due May 28, 2026

Ocean Conservancy's Large Marine Debris Removal Project

Funding to remove large marine debris and derelict fishing gear throughout coastal waterways of the US.
Funding projects between $50,000 - $200,000
https://oceanconservancy.org/work/plastics/cleanups-icc/large-marine-debris-removal-project/
Applications due May 31, 2026

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Grant Program

Funding to enhance recreation opportunities in rural and urban communities.
ORLP Technical Assistance Program
Applications due June 1, 2026

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Funding Opportunities Continued...

FDEP Resilient Florida Program Regional Resilience Entity (RRE)
Funding to assist communities with planning for and adapting to the impacts of flooding and sea level rise, and that will allow for increased participation in the Resilient Florida Program's various grant funding opportunities to support these projects.
https://floridadep.gov/rcp/resilient-florida-program/content/resilient-florida-grants
Applications due June 19, 2026

Gulf Partnership for Land Conservation Project Assistance Fund
Funding to support land conservation projects in the coastal region with important public recreation, wildlife habitat, resilience, and water quality benefits for local communities within the Gulf States.
Funding projects up to $50,000
https://gulfpartnership.org/project-assistance-fund-1
Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Florida One Million Dollar Habitat Pledge
Funding 20 coastal habitat focused projects statewide for $50,000 each.
https://ccaflorida.org/one-million-dollar-habitat-pledge/
Applications accepted on a rolling basis

Gulf of America Alliance (GOAA) Gulf Star Program
The Gulf Star Program provides funding for projects that support healthy beaches, clean waters, productive ecosystems, and thriving coastal communities.
https://gulfofamericaalliance.org/gulf-star/

EDA FY25 Disaster Supplemental Fund
Funding to assist communities recovering from a disaster.
Funding projects up to $50 Million
https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/359225
Applications accepted on rolling basis until funds have been expended

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