

GCV 2020 Centennial Project – State Parks Grant Application Information

History: The Garden Club of Virginia has been involved with parks from the 1920's. In 1926, the Virginia Legislature created the State Commission on Conservation and Development. For the first time, the state had a single agency responsible for managing the conservation of its natural resources. Initially, the commission's efforts with regard to parks centered around acquiring lands for Shenandoah National Park, the first large national park in the east. By 1929, as acquisitions for Shenandoah were nearing completion, things began to change.



On Dec. 17, 1929, representatives of the Virginia Academy of Science, the **Garden Club of Virginia** and the Izaak Walton League held a meeting in Richmond to discuss the need for state parks. This meeting resulted in each organization passing a resolution in support of creating state parks and presenting those resolutions to Governor-Elect John Garland Pollard.

The Present: GCV will work directly with the Department of Conservation and Recreation and Virginia State Parks to accomplish our Centennial Project. Our goal is to fund projects that our clubs and parks coordinate together and that fall within our mission and the state parks mission: conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation and/or education. The state parks have existing programs and initiatives such as Youth Conservation Corps, "Track Trails," and "Discovery Areas" that also could be of interest.

Funds from Historic Garden Week will fund our gift of \$500,000 over five years. Funds will be available for use in parks all over the state for projects which they and local clubs propose. (Notes: Opportunities for projects are not limited to interactive exhibits as originally planned.)

Director of Conservation and Recreation, Clyde E. Cristman stated "I am very excited about the opportunity for us to do great things, linking the interests of the Garden Club of Virginia with the many needs we have in State Parks and Natural Area Preserves."

Application Process: Deadline for applications is December 1. Applications can be submitted throughout the fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), but final decisions are announced by the end of January. The Parks Grant Committee strongly encourages telephone inquiries (804) 643-4137 before applying. Proposals submitted without contacting the GCV Executive Director before the grant deadlines will not receive priority consideration. Any questions or concerns about your grant proposal or the process should be directed to the Executive Director.

How your proposal is evaluated. The Executive Director reviews proposals to determine eligibility under the Centennial Project guidelines and the application's completeness. In some cases, the Executive Director may request additional information, but is not obligated to do so.

The Parks Grants Committee meets early December with the Director of State Parks and again in early January when the committee makes funding recommendations. Applicants are notified promptly following final approval by the Board of Directors' at the Board's January meeting.

Projects submitted by clubs will be coordinated with the park manager. The park managers will follow protocol within the parks system set by DCR and the State Parks Director.

This meaningful gift is now available to all parks and natural areas throughout the entire state. We look forward with great anticipation to working directly with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Director of State Parks and managers of our state parks.

Numbers and Fun Facts:

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation manages a diversity of lands:

- 36 state parks
- 5 undeveloped parks
- 62 natural areas
- More than 120,000 total acres, mostly in state parks
- More than 600 miles of trails
- 262 cabins (located at Bear Creek Lake, Belle Isle, Chippokes Plantation, Claytor Lake, Douthat, Fairy Stone, First Landing, Hungry Mother, James River, Lake Anna, Natural Tunnel, Occoneechee, Shenandoah River, Smith Mountain Lake, Southwest Virginia Museum, Staunton River, Twin Lakes, Westmoreland)
- 22 five and six-bedroom cabins (Bear Creek, Belle Isle, Claytor Lake, Douthat, Fairy Stone, Hungry Mother, James River, Kiptopeke, Natural Tunnel, Occoneechee, Shenandoah River, Westmoreland)
- 1,673 campsites in 26 different parks
- 91 picnic shelters
- 22 visitor centers
- 11 swimming beaches
- 5 swimming pools
- 2 restaurants; 19 snack bars

State park attendance

- 10,474,134 (2017)



**GCV 2020 Centennial Project – State Parks Grant Application
COVER SHEET**

State Park _____

Project Title: _____

Sponsoring Garden Club President: _____

Garden Club: _____

Other partner clubs: _____

State Park Manager _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Information for Communication and Correspondence:

Phone _____ **Email:** _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Amount Requested: _____

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Please provide the following information

1. Duration or Completion Date:

Include a detailed timeline of the project.

2. Executive Summary:

*Include a **one-page summary** of your proposed project, highlighting the purpose, goals, and expected impact. Describe the need.*

3. Background of the Project:

Provide background information for the project, including why this project is important to the state park, your community, and your club.

4. Goals: Use this format for outlining and explaining your goals:

<u>GOAL</u>	<u>PROJECT ACTIVITY</u>	<u>EXPECTED OUTCOME OR IMPACT</u>
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5. Budget:

SAMPLE FORMAT:

Budget Item	Sub Total	Total Cost
Native plant collection	\$12.50 x 500	\$6250.00
Mulch	15 bags x 3.79	56.85
Design of outdoor space	Design time donated by club member	\$0
Fencing for border	6 panels x \$30	\$180.00
Total Budget		\$6486.85

6. Project Team:

Who will be involved with the project?

7. Other Sources of Funding.

Describe other funding sources that will support this project.

8. Sustainability:

Describe the plan to maintain the project over time. If it is a one-time project, please let us know.

9. Reporting: (The GCV State Parks Committee may request regular updates.)

A. Tell us how the project progressed, lessons learned, successes and challenges. Please include a few photos if you have them. Describe how the GCV's gift will be acknowledged.

We would like to include your project in our reporting about the Centennial in our media coverage.

B. Include a complete accounting of the income and expenses.

10. Additional Guidelines:

- A. The project must fall within the fields of conservation, beautification, horticulture, preservation and/or education. Funding of routine maintenance is not a priority.
- B. The project must benefit the Virginia State Parks or Natural Area Preserves.
- C. Please plan to submit written reports on the project's progress. You may be asked to attend a GCV meeting.
- D. Projects may be resubmitted if not funded or if awarded funding prohibits achieving the goals of project.
- E. Projects may be submitted in phases.

Send the completed application by December 1 to:

Mail:

Garden Club of Virginia, attn.: Lynn McCashin
12 East Franklin Street
Richmond, VA 23219

OR

Email: stateparksproject@gcvirginia.org