



**GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING GRANTS AVAILABLE. APPLY TODAY!**

*Do you want to make smarter investments in community water, trees, trails, food and parks?  
Do you know that the greener your community, the healthier the people are?  
Do you want to prevent excessive stormwater runoff and flooding by increasing infiltration?  
Do you know that a strategic plan is a top reason funders choose to invest in your community?*



If you answered *yes* to any of these questions, you are ready to apply to help your community develop a **Green Infrastructure Plan!** Thanks to new technical assistance grants from the Virginia Department of Forestry, you can help your community plan for protecting your best green assets – better utilizing what you have and restoring or reconnecting what may be lost without action! Grant funds will help you identify your natural resources, map and prioritize the best areas and identify strategic opportunities to protect or restore them as part of their community’s “green infrastructure.” For more see [www.gicinc.org](http://www.gicinc.org)

Green Infrastructure includes intact forests, urban trees, wetlands, parks and rivers, or agricultural soils that provide clean water, air quality, wildlife habitat and food. This technical assistance grant will help you map and prioritize your best natural assets and make plans to conserve or restore them. For example, applications for this project include revitalizing a downtown business district, protecting current and future water supplies, preventing excessive stormwater runoff, protecting wildlife and biodiversity, providing or identifying new outdoor recreation options or informing transportation, comprehensive plans, or zoning decisions. Projects can be done at a region, county, city or town scale.

**How:** Applications for technical assistance can be up to \$10,000 for developing maps

**Requirements:** Commitment to do the work, technical knowledge of Geographic Information Systems and meet the 80% match requirement with cash or time.

**Who Applies?** Local or regional governments, non-profit groups, land trusts, conservation groups.

**Why Apply?** Communities with a plan are more successful in creating healthy places people want to live in by prioritizing their high value natural assets and restoring or protecting them.

**Deadline:** Applications are due **August 21, 2015**. Projects will take nine months to a year to finish.

Want to learn more? Get an application packet and sign up for a free webinar by contacting Lara Johnson by email at [lara.johnson@gicinc.org](mailto:lara.johnson@gicinc.org)