



Canal
Corporation



NYS Canal Corporation and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor NEWS RELEASE

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New Grant Program to Support NYS Canal System Tourism Infrastructure and Events

WATERFORD, NY- The New York State Canal Corporation, through the *Reimagine the Canals* initiative, and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor are launching a new competitive grant program to support tourism and recreation along the New York State Canal System, including canal waterways and Canalway Trail. The 2022 program will provide funding to support tourism infrastructure and amenity improvements, and events.

Funding is open to counties, municipalities, units of local government, not-for-profit organizations and federally recognized Native American tribes.

"The Canal Corporation is proud to fund and partner with the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor in launching this new grant program that aims to grow unique recreation and tourism experiences along New York's iconic Canal system," said **Brian Stratton, Director of the New York State Canal Corporation**. "This funding will continue to make opportunities along the canals more exciting and accessible for visitors and we look forward to providing this support in an effort to improve experiences while promoting the connectivity between our historic waterways, trails, and canalside communities."

The grant program includes two funding categories: Event Support, with an award range of \$500 to \$15,000, and Tourism Infrastructure & Amenity Support, with an award range of \$5,000 to \$24,000. Applicants may apply for one or both categories.

“We look forward to bringing many innovative ideas and exciting events to life through these grants. Combining federal, state, and local resources in support of community-based projects and events will benefit residents and visitors to New York’s iconic canals,” said **Bob Radliff, Executive Director of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.**

Potential applicants will find details at www.eriecanalway.org/resources/grants/

Applications open on February 22, 2022 and are due on April 1, 2022. A virtual Q&A will be held on March 3, 2022 at 10am; registration details will be posted on the website.

ABOUT NEW YORK STATE CANAL CORPORATION

The **New York State Canal Corporation**, a subsidiary of the New York Power Authority, oversees the operation and promotion of the New York State Canal System. The Canal Corporation’s mission is to operate and maintain a premier waterway and trail system that honors the historic legacy of the Erie Canal and offers unique recreational and tourism opportunities, while also promoting sustainable economic development throughout the canal corridor. For more information on the New York State Canal System and the Canal Corporation, please visit www.canals.ny.gov.

ABOUT THE ERIE CANALWAY

Nearly 200 years after its construction, the Erie Canal remains an iconic symbol of American ingenuity and determination. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor works to preserve the Nation’s extraordinary canal heritage, promote the Corridor as a world-class tourism destination, and foster vibrant communities connected by more than 500 miles of waterway. It achieves its mission in partnership with the National Park Service, New York State agencies, non-profit organizations, local residents, and more than 200 communities across the full expanse of upstate New York.

www.eriecanalway.org