

# Leech Lake Division of Resource Management

## *Agwajiing Izhaadaa Grant*

### Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Division of Resource Management is excited to announce the establishment of the Leech Lake *Agwajiing Izhaadaa* (Let's Get Outside) (AI) Grant. This grant is designed to provide funding opportunities to promote outdoor initiatives, access to natural resources, and encourage outdoor cultural activities for the communities of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

Sharing knowledge of the outdoors and creating space for others to learn is vital to the survival of our relationship to place. We carry an inherent knowledge in terms of the natural resources that surround our home on the Reservation. This grant allows opportunities for the community to be reacquainted with that knowledge in hopes of passing it down for many generations to come.

This grant aims to help support our local community by providing opportunities to get Tribal members engaged in nature. Getting more people into the outdoors is crucial for the future stewardship of natural resources. By connecting with nature, our Tribal community will better understand the urgent need to protect it and maintain it for future generations. Let's get outside!

## Purpose

Enbridge owns and operates six pipelines, Lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, and 67, that bisect the Leech Lake Reservation and Tribal, state, private, and federal land parcels as it crosses. For the pipelines to occupy lands managed by the Chippewa National Forests, a special use permit ("SUP") is required. On July 7, 2016, Enbridge submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) an application for renewal of the SUP. In 2020, the USDA issued a SUP on certain lands managed by the United States within the Chippewa National Forest. As part of the Renewal Application, USDA consulted with the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe regarding the potential impacts of granting this permit on the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. As a result of the consultation, mitigation measures were recommended for the land-use change and the effects on the Tribe's retained rights within the Chippewa National Forest as well as environmental and social implications of perpetuating pipelines on the Leech Lake Reservation. The applicant agreed to these measures and because of these efforts, this fund was established.

To date, mitigation payments to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe have been utilized for projects in Leech Lake communities throughout the Reservation. Some examples include the Onigum Beach Project, Pug Hole Lake fishing pier, and the Addiction and Dependency Program Sugar

Bush Improvement Project. Many of these projects were completed by the Division of Resource Management on the recommendations of community members and Local Indian Councils. We are pleased to announce this RFP to continue this endeavor and open the opportunity to Local Indian Councils and Local Tribal Organizations to present their ideas and project plans to receive funding. This RFP allows Leech Lake communities to host events or projects within their organizations to utilize funding from the Leech Lake DRM Agwajiing Izhaadaa Grant to promote natural resource education and outdoor recreation and provide a fair opportunity for the use of this funding.

## Eligible applicants

1. Tribal programs, schools, or Local Indian Councils
2. Public entities (cities, counties, and public schools, including public colleges and higher education institutions).
3. Non-profit organizations, including:
  - a. Boys & Girls Clubs
  - b. Informal, after school, and early childhood programs,
  - c. 501c3
4. Community-based youth programs,
5. City, county, state, and federal agencies.

Please note: Private businesses are not eligible for this grant program.

## Application & Submission Information

Wherever you are with your project ideas, you can contact us. There are staff available to assist you throughout your project, including completing your initial application.

To submit project proposals, use the short form available from:

- The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Division of Resource Management website <https://www.llojibwe.org/drm>
- Request a project application from Lakota Ironboy at [Lakota.ironboy@llojibwe.net](mailto:Lakota.ironboy@llojibwe.net) or
- The DRM front desk.

Applications for the Agwajiing Izhaadaa Grant must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. CST on 04/15/2024. Incomplete applications and those received after 4:30 p.m. CST on 04/15/2024, will not be considered.

## Funding availability and project period

AI will award 5-10 projects totaling \$50,000 depending on project proposals requested throughout the formal submission process.

Applications will be accepted starting 03/15/2024, and running for 30 days to the first closure date of 04/15/2024. All applications will be reviewed after the initial application period. If additional funds remain, AI will re-open and award additional projects on a first-come-first-serve basis on completed applications received following the initial closure date.

Once funds are exhausted, we will announce that we are no longer accepting applications until the next grant cycle.

## Grant Limits

The amount requested for projects will need to be submitted along with a budget sheet included in the application. The minimum award request is \$500 with a maximum of \$10,000. The amount requested must be clearly stated in your application, including how the funds will be used. There are specific unallowable activities that these grant funds cannot be used for. Please see the complete list on page 6 of the RFP.

## Grant Priorities

- Alignment within the intent of Enbridge Pipeline USDA Special use permit mitigation:
  - To increase access for Leech Lake Tribal members to natural resources.
  - To offset the Environmental Justice and Social Justice Implications of hosting pipelines.
- Programs that maximize the number of participants, especially from new and diverse audiences with limited opportunities.
- Incorporating traditional outdoor activities and teachings.
- Encourage youth, family, and elder focus.
- Projects that are community-focused with an ongoing impact rather than one-time events.
- New and innovative programming (if an existing program or project, the applicant must demonstrate a significant expansion in scope or inclusion of new audiences).
- Infrastructure promoting outdoor activity/activities.
- Infrastructure promoting cultural activity/activities.

## Grant Application Schedule

Item	Date
Applications Open	03/15/2024
Application submission period closes	04/15/2024
Review Period	04/15/2024-04/30/2024
Decision letter sent to applicant	05/01/2024

## Review Process

As applications are received, they will be reviewed by the Division of Resource Management to ensure the completeness of the application. If applications are incomplete, DRM Staff will request additional information. If information is not provided within five business days, applicants will be informed that their application is denied due to incompleteness.

If the application is complete, a panel consisting of staff from the Leech Lake Band Ojibwe, will review the application. Five (5) Staff will be assigned to sit on the review committee appointed by Division Directors from Resource Management, Health, Accounting, and Education.



## Review Criteria

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Creative projects promoting community engagement</li><li>• How this will impact the community</li><li>• Why this project is needed in the community</li><li>• Leech Lake community led projects will be prioritized for funding</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Amount of community involvement</li><li>• Amount of community impacts</li><li>• Demonstrates clear goals, benchmarks, timelines, and budgets</li><li>• The project continues beyond this initial funding</li></ul> |
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## Award information

DRM staff will follow up with you once your application is reviewed. If your project is selected for funding, you will be notified of the next steps in the process.

An agreement will be provided to lay out the project, work plan and goals as well as terms and conditions of the award. In addition to the interim report, there will be informal check-ins at 3 and 9 months (time may vary depending on project timeline.)

If your grant was not accepted based on the criteria or was deemed incomplete or missing components, you will also be notified in a timely matter.

## Reporting

DRM will provide a template for your Interim Report due and Final Report. You must show progress on your project in the interim report, or your funding may be revoked.

## Project Ideas- Not exhaustive

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Education classes that are held outside</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor cultural activities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Angling</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shooting (trap or archery)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling or ATV riding</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Skiing/tubing/sledding</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Disc golf</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Investigations on water issues or water education</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor recreation activities with an education, health, or wellness component</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hunting or trapping</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fishing Piers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Beach Restoration</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Safety training: Firearms, Boat and Water, ATV or Snowmobile</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Programs at State Parks or Trails</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Programs at other parks, trails, nature or environmental learning facilities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Biking or hiking at state and local parks or trails</li> </ul>
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## Ineligible activities - Grant dollars cannot be used for activities such as, but not limited to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase of hunting or fishing licenses, tags, or stamps</li> <li>• Firearms and ammunition are not eligible (bows and arrows ARE eligible)</li> <li>• For-profit projects</li> <li>• Group banquets, raffle prizes, or other fundraising or incentive activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital equipment and fixed assets, such as vehicles, motorized boats, ATVs, fundraising activities, snowmobiles, large ice fishing houses, trailers, or computer equipment</li> <li>• Personnel costs and fringe</li> </ul>
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## Eligible Costs

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation or travel costs to eligible locations</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Program fees, such as admission, membership, tours, facility fees, hired educators/speakers, or equipment rental</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher prep time or substitute teacher stipends for work on curriculum integration or to attend professional development</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Curricula and other necessary classroom educational materials</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Building materials</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Classroom equipment, or materials, such as binoculars, cameras, GPS units, compasses, or other outdoor instructional tools</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor recreation equipment and materials, such as snowshoes, cross-country skis, and clothing</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Fishing equipment</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> National Archery in the Schools (NASP) equipment</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Trapping equipment</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Hunting equipment (guns and ammo are not eligible)</li></ul> |
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## Questions

If you have a question about this grant or any of the application materials, please email [Lakota.ironboy@llojibwe.net](mailto:Lakota.ironboy@llojibwe.net) with the subject line: AI Grant Questions, or call (505)448-6675.