



Outdoor Recreation, Parks & Trails Grant Program

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<https://de.gov/ORPT>



Agenda

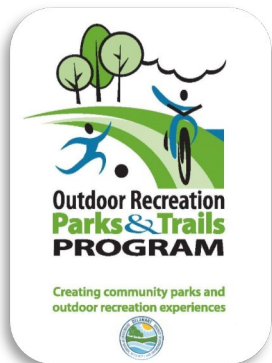
- History of the Program
- Eligibility
- Incentives Considerations
- Application Timeline
- SCORP Alignment
- Tools & Resources



DELAWARE STATE
PARKS
YOUR OUTDOOR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

History of the Program

- Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
- The **Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Trails Program** (ORPT), formerly known as the Delaware Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund (DTF)
- Since 1988, when the first grants were awarded, the program has provided nearly \$36 million in matching grant assistance
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Council



ORPT Grant Eligibility

Funding Allocation ~\$1M

- Sponsors may apply
 - Municipality (up to 50%)
 - County (up to 50%)
 - Park Districts (up to 75%)
- Incentives (up to 75%)



Consider a wide range of projects: size, scope and partnerships

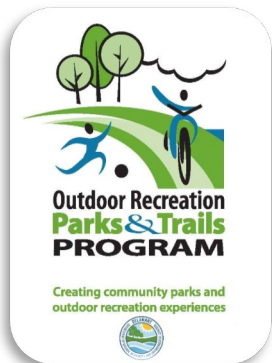
- Picnic tables, benches, playgrounds, lighting, maintenance and restroom facilities, skate parks, trails, bridges, etc.



ORPT Grant Eligibility

Project Eligibility

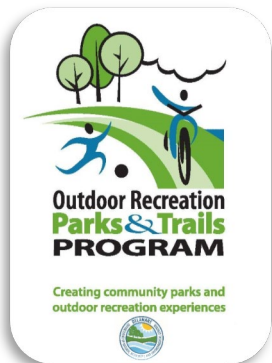
- Parkland Acquisition
 - Planning and Design
 - Development
-
- Property ownership
 - Public use and access
 - Continuous protection of the resource



ORPT Grant Eligibility

Sponsor Responsibilities

- Maintenance
 - ORPT inspections every 5 years
 - Consideration in new grants
- Remain in public use
- Continuous protection of the resource
- ORPT signage

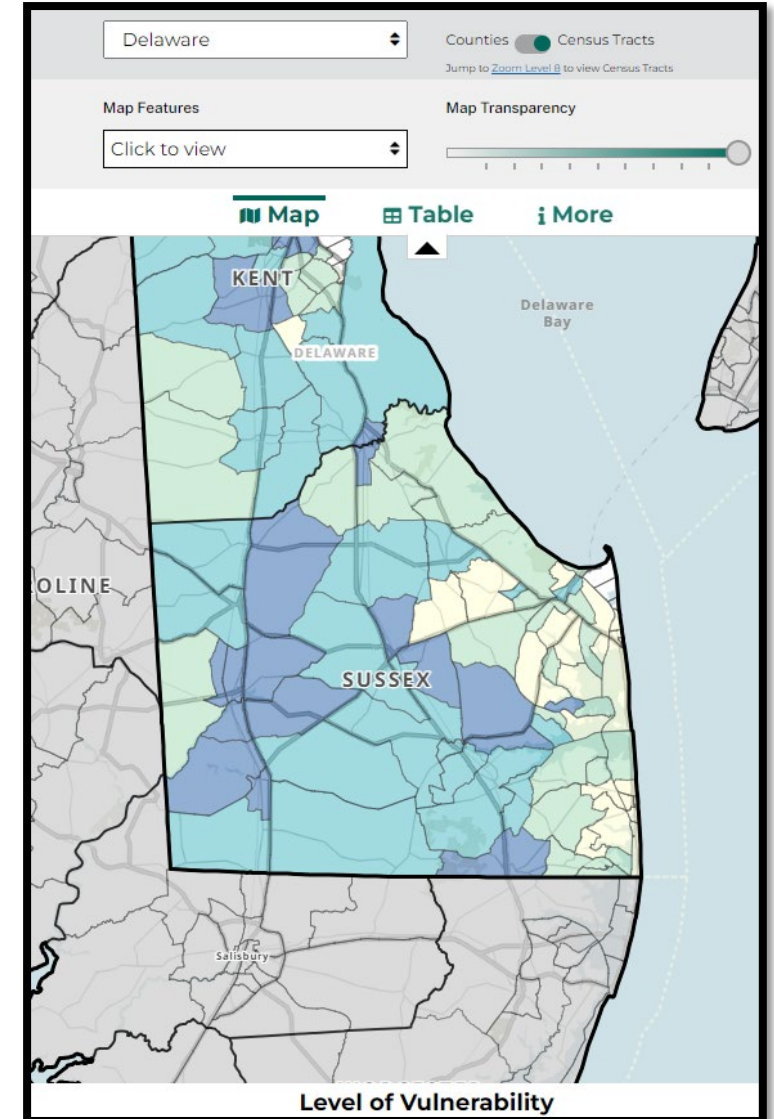


ORPT Grant Eligibility

Equity Incentive (Vulnerable & Underserved)

CDC Social Vulnerability Index (15 indicators) four themes:

- Socioeconomic
- Household composition
- Race/ethnicity/language, and
- Housing & Transportation



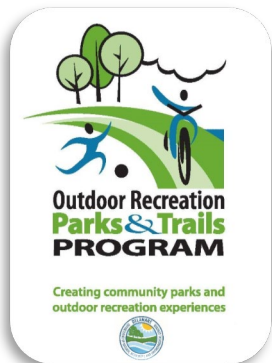
ORPT Grant Eligibility

New Sponsor Incentive

(up to 75%)

- No prior ORPT funding

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Bethel | 7. Henlopen Acres |
| 2. Camden | 8. Houston |
| 3. Cheswold | 9. Magnolia |
| 4. Dewey Beach | 10. Viola |
| 5. Felton | 11. Woodside |
| 6. Hartly | |

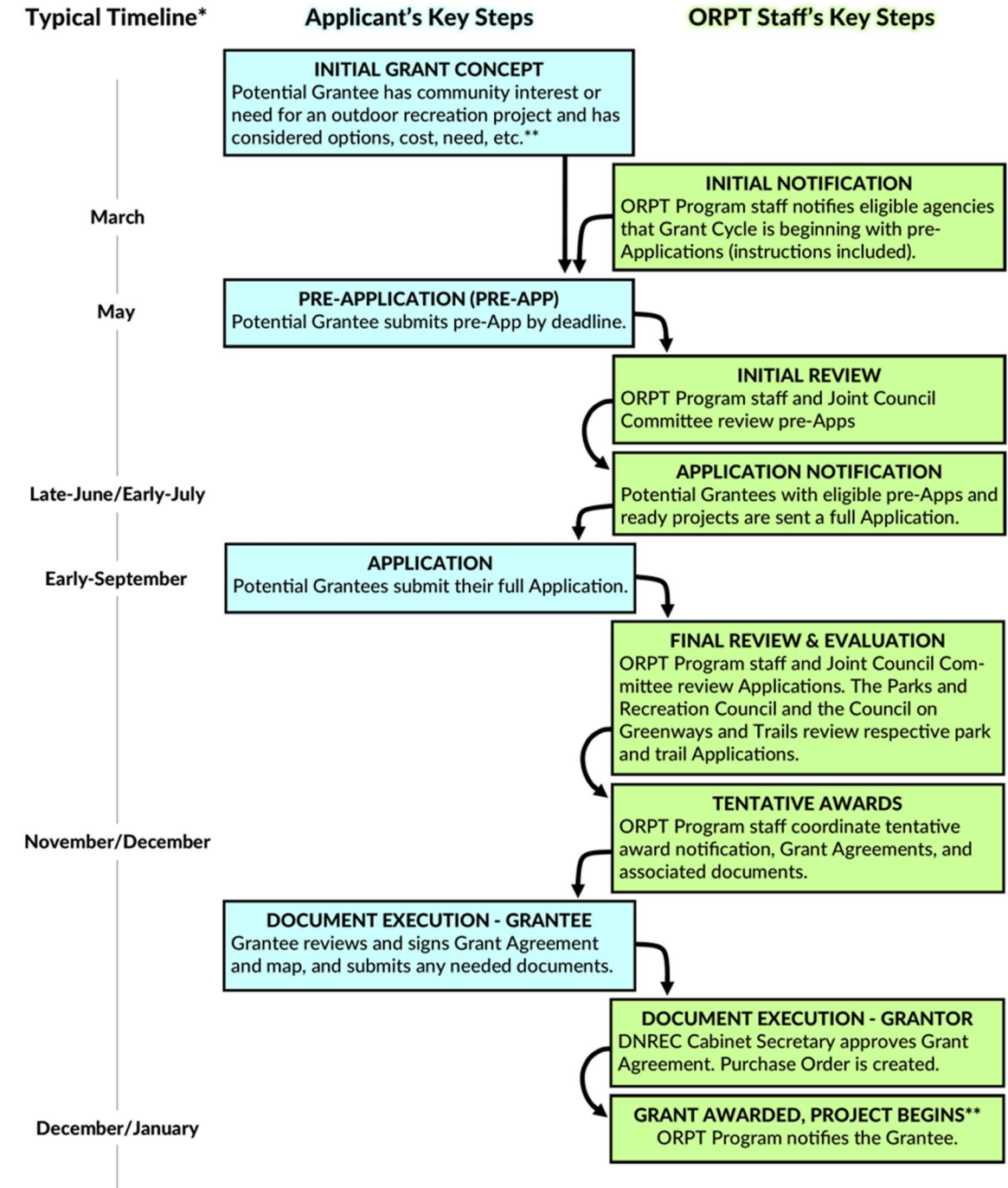


ORPT Grant Cycle

Timeline Summary

- Pre-applications April - May
- Full Applications June - September
- Grant Approval November – February

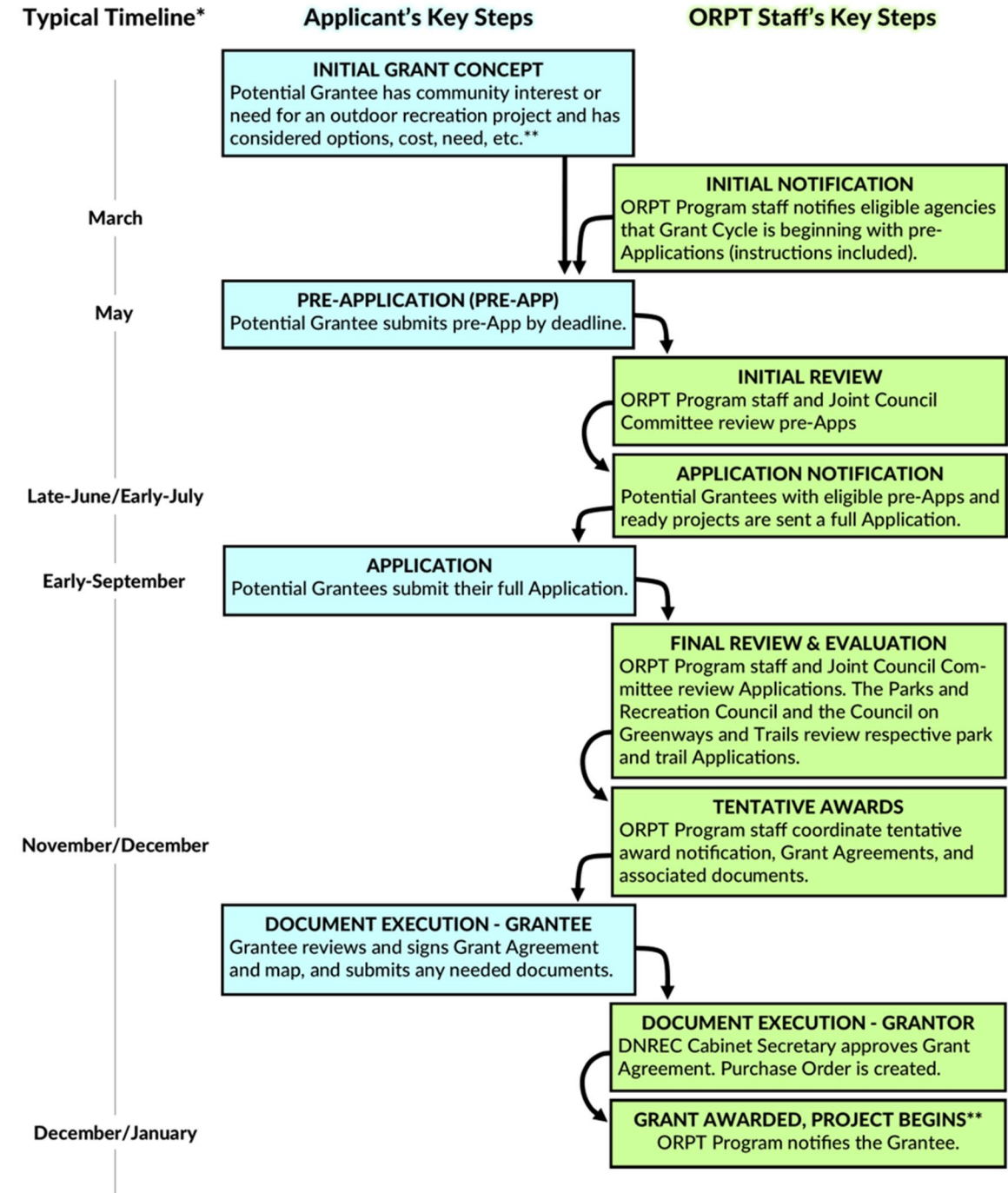
Call me, maybe! Anytime



ORPT Grant Cycle

Pre-Application (no commitment)

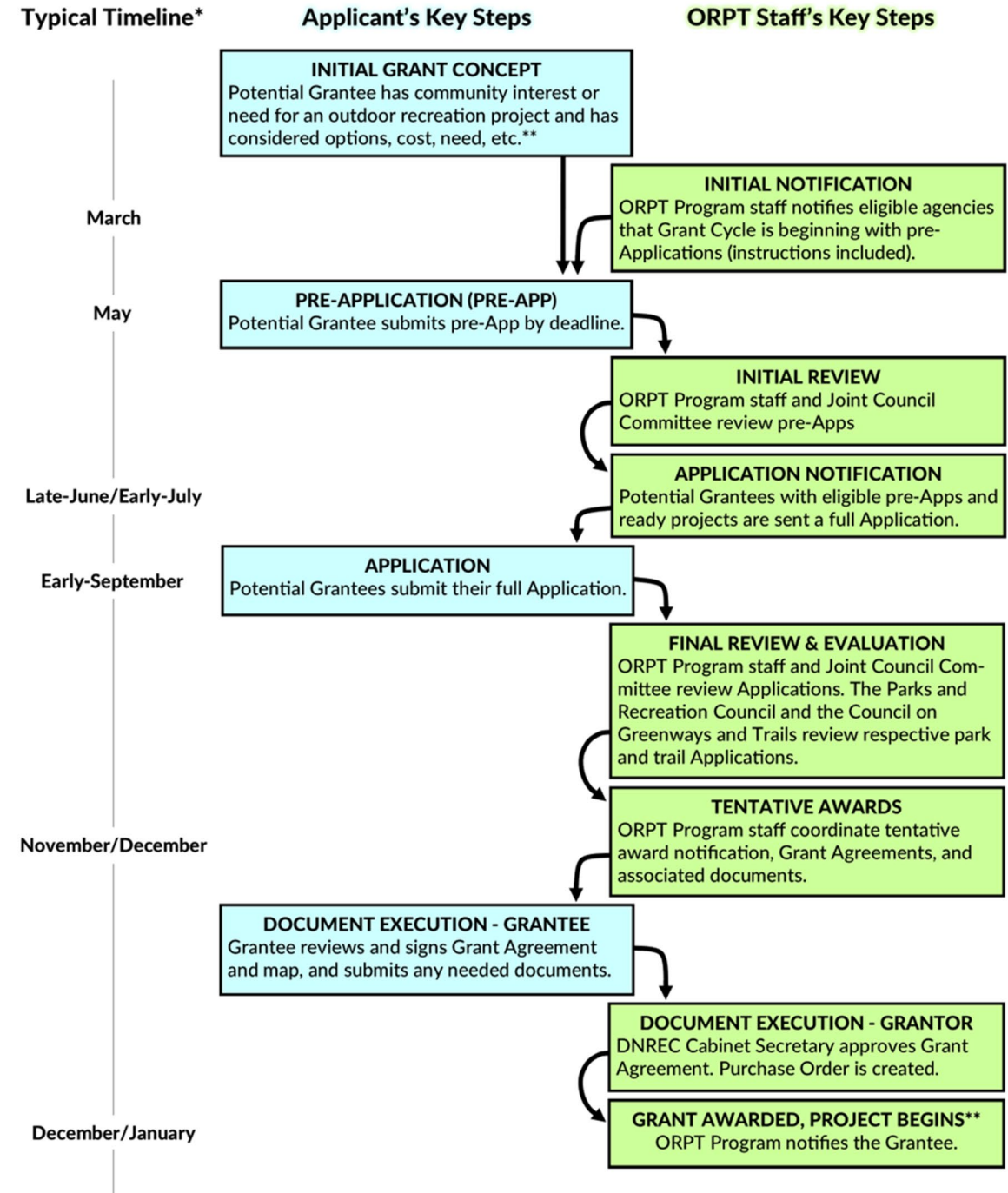
- Ownership of the property
- Project setting and location
 - *Drop a pin!*
- Proposed project, brief scope of work
 - Total project cost estimates
 - Grant request
 - Source(s) of match
- Realistic timeline (to begin 2026)



ORPT Grant Cycle

Full Application: Commitment to project-
Detailed project scope, budget, available
match, SCORP alignment

- Sponsoring Council Resolution
- Proof of Insurance - minimums
- November - Park Council recommendations
to DNREC
- Notice of Awards & DNREC Secretary
executes Grant Agreements



Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

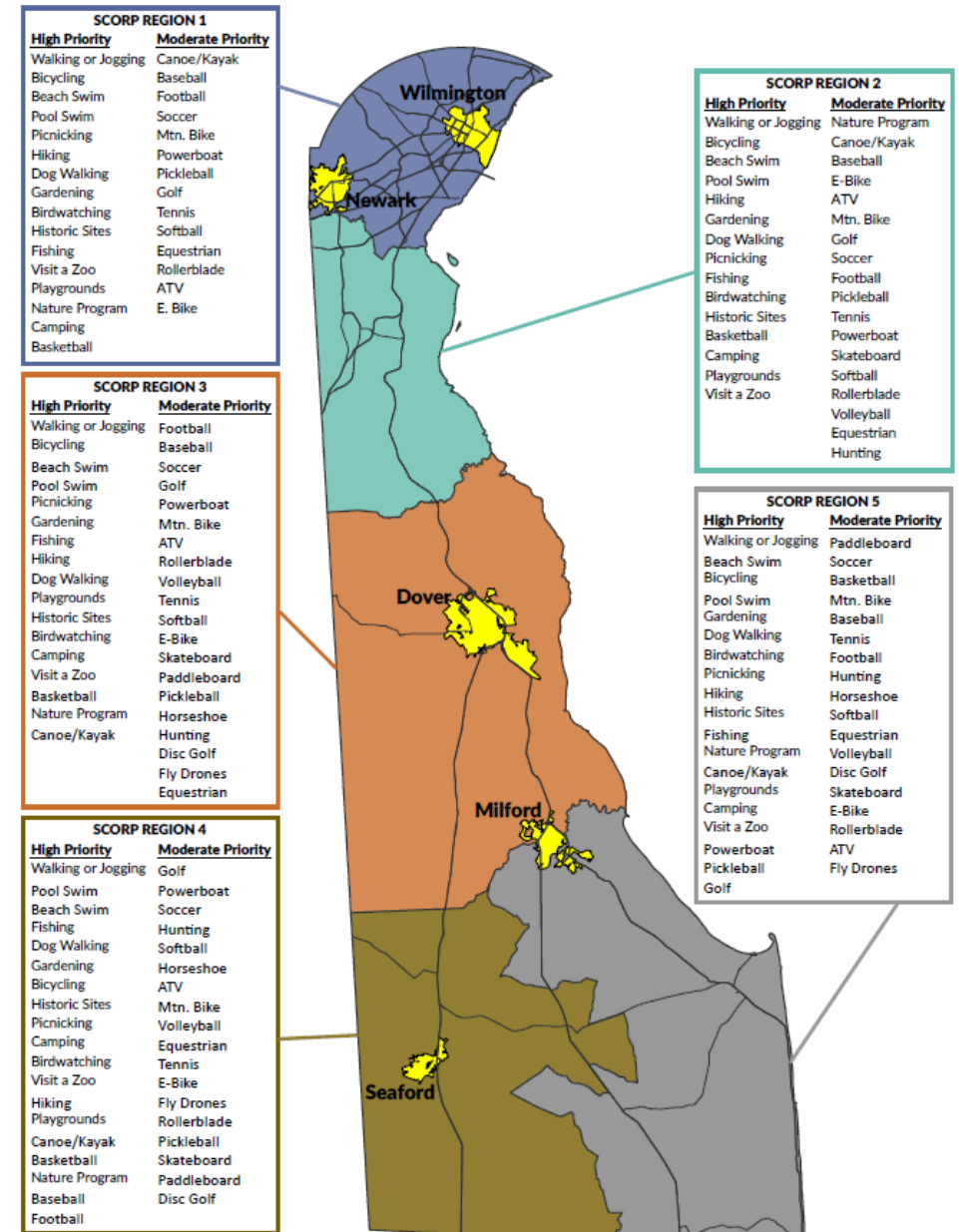
What it is and How We Use It

- A **Planning** and **Policy Guidance** document that identifies public facilities needs and priorities in outdoor recreation throughout the state of Delaware.
- **Guide** the investment of funding for outdoor recreation, specifically in the distribution of
 - Federal LWCF funding: annual allotment to DE State Parks
 - Delaware Outdoor Recreation, Parks, and Trails Program (ORPT): \$1 - \$1.5 million annual distribution

5 SCORP Planning Regions

Updated Prioritization Weighting:

50% Household part. in next 12 months
 33.3% Personal part. in previous 12 months
 16.7% Facility needs/desires



5 SCORP Planning Regions

SCORP REGION 1	
<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Moderate Priority</u>
Walking or Jogging	Canoe/Kayak
Bicycling	Baseball
Beach Swim	Football
Pool Swim	Soccer
Picnicking	Mtn. Bike
Hiking	Powerboat
Dog Walking	Pickleball
Gardening	Golf
Birdwatching	Tennis
Historic Sites	Softball
Fishing	Equestrian
Visit a Zoo	Rollerblade
Playgrounds	ATV
Nature Program	E. Bike
Camping	
Basketball	

SCORP REGION 2	
<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Moderate Priority</u>
Walking or Jogging	Nature Program
Bicycling	Canoe/Kayak
Beach Swim	Baseball
Pool Swim	E-Bike
Hiking	ATV
Gardening	Mtn. Bike
Dog Walking	Golf
Picnicking	Soccer
Fishing	Football
Birdwatching	Pickleball
Historic Sites	Tennis
Basketball	Powerboat
Camping	Skateboard
Playgrounds	Softball
Visit a Zoo	Rollerblade
	Volleyball
	Equestrian
	Hunting

SCORP REGION 3	
<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Moderate Priority</u>
Walking or Jogging	Football
Bicycling	Baseball
Beach Swim	Soccer
Pool Swim	Golf
Picnicking	Powerboat
Gardening	Mtn. Bike
Fishing	ATV
Hiking	Rollerblade
Dog Walking	Volleyball
Playgrounds	Tennis
Historic Sites	Softball
Birdwatching	E-Bike
Camping	Skateboard
Visit a Zoo	Paddleboard
Basketball	Pickleball
Nature Program	Horseshoe
Canoe/Kayak	Hunting
	Disc Golf
	Fly Drones
	Equestrian

SCORP REGION 4	
<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Moderate Priority</u>
Walking or Jogging	Golf
Pool Swim	Powerboat
Beach Swim	Soccer
Fishing	Hunting
Dog Walking	Softball
Gardening	Horseshoe
Bicycling	ATV
Historic Sites	Mtn. Bike
Picnicking	Volleyball
Camping	Equestrian
Birdwatching	Tennis
Visit a Zoo	E-Bike
Hiking	Fly Drones
Playgrounds	Rollerblade
Canoe/Kayak	Pickleball
Basketball	Skateboard
Nature Program	Paddleboard
Baseball	Disc Golf
Football	

SCORP REGION 5	
<u>High Priority</u>	<u>Moderate Priority</u>
Walking or Jogging	Paddleboard
Beach Swim	Soccer
Bicycling	Basketball
Pool Swim	Mtn. Bike
Gardening	Baseball
Dog Walking	Tennis
Birdwatching	Football
Picnicking	Hunting
Hiking	Horseshoe
Historic Sites	Softball
Fishing	Equestrian
Nature Program	Volleyball
Canoe/Kayak	Disc Golf
Playgrounds	Skateboard
Camping	E-Bike
Visit a Zoo	Rollerblade
Powerboat	ATV
Pickleball	Fly Drones
Golf	

Overarching Challenges

- Open space protection
- Crowding and access to parks and the beach in the summer
- Climate change
- Unfunded capital needs- investment and maintenance of existing facilities
- Better access for all
- Lack of affordable housing
- Population growth



7 Broad Topic Areas

55 Recommendations (Appendix D)

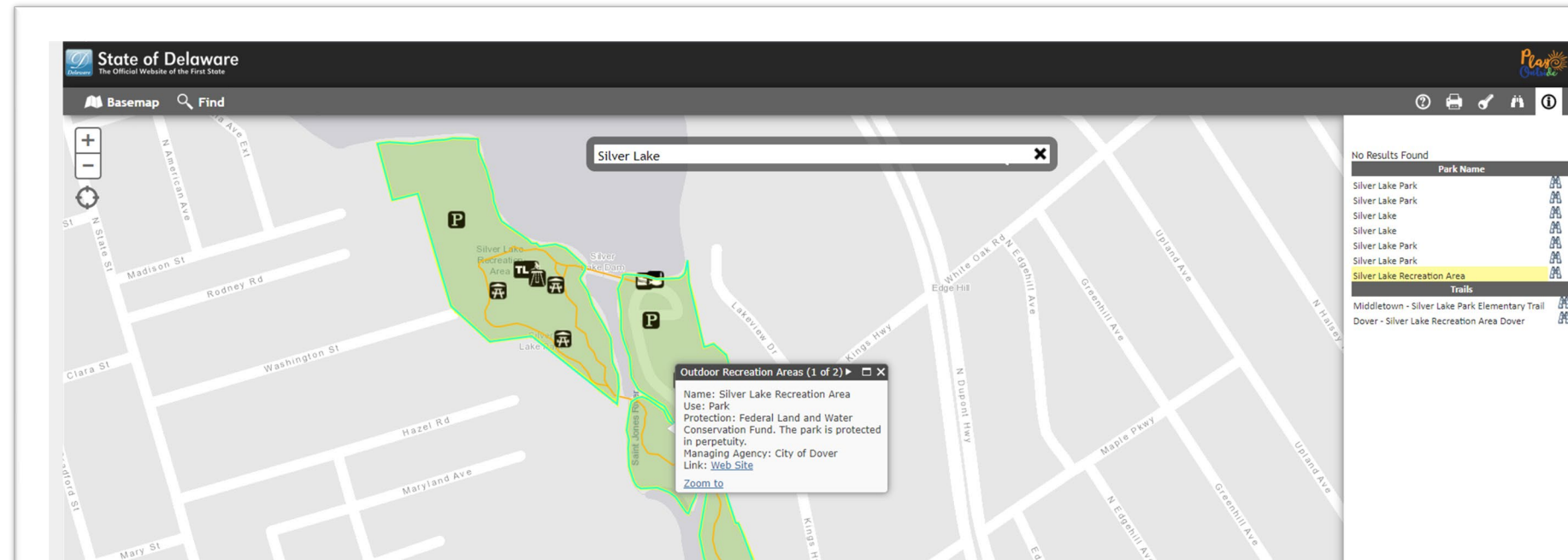
- Outdoor Recreation Inventory
- Improving Public Health
- Getting Children Outdoors
- Accessible Recreation
- Trails and Pathways
- Partnerships for Conservation, Recreation and Tourism
- Protecting Lands for Conservation and Tourism



ORPT Grant Program

Websites and Resources

- Program Website (<https://de.gov/ORPT>)
- Delaware SCORP (<https://de.gov/SCORP>)
- Play Outside Map (<https://de.gov/playoutside>)
- Delaware Recreation & Parks Society



Thank You, hope to see you in a Park!



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ORPT Coordinator

