

MARJORIE L. AND ARTHUR P. MILLER FUND  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**SUMMARY SHEET (One page only) Note: If Philanthropy Network Common Grant Application is used, this Summary Sheet MUST accompany application. Please visit our website at [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org) to obtain an electronic version of this application.**

Date: 9/16/18

**Contact Information:**

Organization Name: **Horse-Shoe Trail Conservancy, Inc.** Contact Name: **Ingrid Cantarella-Fox**  
Address: **PO Box 2226, Southeastern PA 19399** Contact Title: **President**  
Phone: **484-432-2150** Contact E-mail: **ingridcf@verizon.net**  
Web Address: <http://hstrail.org> Fax: **n.a.**  
Year Incorporated: **1935**

**Have you previously received the Miller Grant Award:** Yes  No

If "Yes", please indicate date and amount of each grant, if any, received from the Foundation:

(1) Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Rec'd: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (2) Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Rec'd \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Rec'd: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (4) Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Rec'd \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Organizational Information:**

Geographic Area Served (*If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County municipalities served*): **Chester, Berks, Lancaster, Lebanon, and Dauphin Counties. Chester County municipalities include Schuylkill, Tredyffrin, Charlestown, West Pikeland, West Vincent, East Nantmeal, South Coventry, and Warwick Townships.**

Annual # of Clients & Description of Population Served: **1744 members, population within Chester County municipalities traversed by the Horse-Shoe Trail – 60,677.**

Mission Statement: **To protect, preserve, and maintain the Horse-Shoe Trail for hikers and equestrians forever**

Organization Description: **The Horse-Shoe Trail Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) private non-profit organization which promotes, preserves, and maintains the trail, is a 100% volunteer organization. The Board of Directors is currently comprised of 18 members who oversee the operations of the Conservancy. Committees include data management, communications, equestrian, trail maintenance, trail preservation, membership, archivist, fundraising, and finance.**

Annual Budget \$ <b>29,720</b>	<b>0</b>	# of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
<b>8</b>	% of budget for program expenses	<b>18</b> # of Board Volunteers
<b>92</b>	% of budget for administrative expenses	<b>140</b> # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
<b>0</b>	% of budget for fundraising expenses	<b>3974</b> # of Volunteer Hours
<b>100</b>	% total	

Top 3-5 funding sources: **Membership donations, sale of trail book, grants.**

**Proposal Information:**

Grant Amount Requested: **\$2,500**  
Description of Grant Purpose: **Creation of a GIS-based web map service for administrative use and a web-based application to allow trail users to track their location and progress along the trail on mobile devices.**

## GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

### 1. Organization's history, goals, key achievements, and distinctiveness

The **Horse-Shoe Trail** is a 141 mile bridle ("Horse") and hiking ("Shoe") path connecting Valley Forge National Historical Park and the Schuylkill River Trail with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail north of Harrisburg. It was originally blazed (in yellow) in 1935 and is closely related to the development of the early American iron industry which was prevalent in this part of Pennsylvania during the 18th and 19th centuries. The many furnaces and forges in this area were connected by trails leading to the forests between them that were being used for charcoal, an important ingredient to iron making. Portions of these trails have survived to become today's Horse-Shoe Trail. It is used by hikers, horse-back riders, dog walkers, trail runners, bird watchers, hunters, cross country skiers and snowshoes.

The Trail, which was initially developed through "hand-shake agreements" with landowners, is privately owned by property owners through which the Trail traverses, except where the Trail is located within public road rights-of-way. Easements have been acquired along segments of the Trail and a primary goal of the Conservancy is to continue acquiring additional easements to better preserve the Trail for future use.

The Trail is designated as a major greenway on the *Major Greenways of Pennsylvania* map and is a designated section of the proposed Highlands Trail from Connecticut to Maryland. It is also identified as a greenway of statewide significance in *Pennsylvania Greenways: An Action Plan for Creating Connections* since it makes connections beyond local or regional boundaries, connects major destinations or hubs such as large public natural lands, communities, cultural or historical sites, and provides long-distance recreational opportunities. A 17.4 mile segment of the Trail in Chester County, which traverses Warwick County Park, State Game Lands, Crow's Nest Preserve, Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site, and French Creek State Park, was designated as a **National Recreation Trail** by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2014. It is located within the Hopewell Big Woods, which is part of the Schuylkill Highlands portion of the multi-state Highlands Region.

### 2. Funding request (see attached proposal to address items A. through C. and also Attachment 5 (itemized project budget))

- D. It is important to fund this project now since our current mobile device application is limited only to Android phones and therefore not broadly available to trail users.
- E. We intend to meet the challenge component of this grant through the in-kind contribution of volunteer hours from our consultant at a rate of \$24.35 per hour.

### 3. Timetable (see attached proposal)

### 4. How impact and results will be demonstrated

- a. The impacts of the AGOL Web Map Service will be demonstrated by allowing the Board to reduce time and resources compiling asset inventories from multiple sources, and to also utilize a macro level tool to most efficiently make decisions regarding the H-ST. It will also give the Board the power to update spatial data as they see fit versus having to reach out to a contractor for minute tasks.
- b. The impact of the Guidebook Web Map Application will be increased safety for trail users. The Board can point out hazards along the trail and communicate this via the map service. Parking, restrooms, and rest stops will also be more easily communicated to trail members via the application. Trail members will also be able to properly identify the trail route via the

application. The Board hopes to encourage increased membership via the web application, marketed as a fun and unique way to utilize the trail.