

**COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSISTANCE FUND**  
Guidelines & Application

The Bladen County Parks & Recreation Department is continuing to accept applications for the Community Recreation Assistance Fund, (CRAF).

The CRAF has been established to aid communities around Bladen County in setting up and conducting active sports programming in their communities for children ages 17 and under.

To apply for CRAF, we have supplied eligibility requirements, participants responsibilities and a form application. If you have any questions, please call the Parks & Recreation Department at 862-6770.

Deadline for applications is February 28, 2025.

Schedule for Community Recreation Assistance Fund

July-February.....Application Received

March-April.....Review of Applications & Project Selection

May 1<sup>st</sup> .....Announcement of Approved Projects

May-June.....Reimbursement Billings Accepted & Project  
Status Reports

## COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSISTANCE FUND

Maximum Available For Facility Development.....	\$500.00	(Tangible Assets)
Maximum Available For Active Sports Equipment.....	\$300.00	(Support Items)

### ELIGIBILITY

Community groups that have organized leadership for active sports programs are eligible. Each community group must have an active Recreation Advisory Board that supervises the actions of the group, consisting of a Chairman and at least three (3) members. Groups must also possess and submit a documented recreation plan for utilization of proposed funds. Funding is available for programming for ages 17 and under, ONLY.

### PARTICIPANTS RESPONSIBILITY

The participant is expected to initially pay in full all costs incurred during the project period. The participant, upon the presentation of a billing to the Bladen County Parks & Recreation Department, will then be reimbursed for 50% of the eligible cost represented by that billing. Equipment must remain available for recreational use for five (5) years or its useful life. All Facility development must remain open for a minimum of eight (8) years. Facilities must be available for public use, during normal hours, with no discrimination regardless of race, color, sex or national origin. Groups must be responsible for maintenance of equipment and facilities. If program is terminated before useful life of equipment of facility has expired, it shall revert back to Bladen County Parks & Recreation Department and become property of the County 100%. All development projects must be complete within three (3) months of award date.

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Applications may be filed annually until approved. No individual or group may be awarded grants in two consecutive years.

If an application is filed for a specific group in one (1) year, an application may not be filed the next year representing a different faction.

Funds may not be utilized for passive recreational programming. Funds are intended for usage in active sports programming specifically for children.

## ACTIVE SPORTS PROGRAMS AND EQUIPMENT THAT QUALIFY FOR ASSISTANCE

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>
Baseball	balls, bats, bases, catchers
T-Ball	balls, bats, bases, tee
Softball	balls, bats, bases
Volleyball	net, ball
Basketball	backboard, goal, net, ball
Soccer	ball, goals
Badminton	net, rackets, birdies
Field Hockey	sticks, ball, goals
Football	flags, ball
Lacrosse	sticks, ball, goal
Horseshoes	shoes, stakes
Shuffleboard	cues, discs
Tug-Of-War	rope
Croquet	balls, wickets, mallets, goal, stakes, storage, stand

The only facility development that qualifies for assistance is the construction of a baseball/softball backstop.

All needs will be ranked, based on the number of individuals served and program quality. Program quality will be determined by evaluation of submitted recreation plan. Priority will be given to groups that live twelve (12) miles or more from the nearest county managed program or facility.

# **COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSISTANCE FUND**

Instructions and help in completing the CRAF Application

## **I.PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Legal Applicant** is your committee Chairperson or the person who plans to implement the program. Please list legal applicants' current address.

**Organizational Unit** is the name of the community group, neighborhood, church or community organization – who is applying?

**Contact Person-** Please list someone other than legal applicant in case we cannot be able to reach legal applicant – who else shall we contact?

**Phone-** Please list home and work numbers for legal applicant as well as contact persons.

**Social Security Number-** Social Security Number of legal applicant.

**Type of Assistance-** Enter (A) for Active Sports Equipment or (B) for Active Sports Facility Development.

**Area of Impact-** Who will benefit from this program? Please list voting district, specific community, church, or neighborhood.

**Project Title-** Name of program. List active sport equipment or active sports facility.

**Number of Persons Benefiting-** Please list the number of people you feel will benefit from this program or project. Please use realistic numbers.

## **SIDE 2 – COMPLETE ONLY FOR CONSTRUCTION/DEVELOPMENT**

This side must be completed if you are applying for a facility development project. If you are applying for an equipment purchase only, skip down to item D. 1.

**A. Current Predominant Land Use** - List current land use

**B. Cultural Resources**

{a} are there any historical or archaeological structures on the land to be used?

{b} are there structures of any type on the property now?

**C. Land Alternations**

1. If yes, when and by whom. Please enclose a copy of the survey showing all property lines and date survey was conducted.
2. Project sponsor is not land owner, please have land owner sign a letter of agreement for a term of eight years. Maps or property are available through the Bladen County Tax Mapping Office for nominal fee. A deed ploy map is required, this may be obtained from the Register of Deeds office. We also request that you notify us of all adjacent property owners as to the parcel where the development will take place.
3. Has any preparations been made to the site proposed construction – cleaning or grading?

**D. Local Recreation Board**

Please list officers of your organization or group who can answer questions about your project.

**E. Additional Information**

Please list any additional information that you may think is vital to this grant application.

# COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSISTANCE FUND

Application For Assistance  
Bladen County Parks and Recreation Department

**If Project Is For Construction/Land Alternation Complete Side 2 Also**

## I. PROJECT INFORMATION

Legal Applicant	Organization Unit
Street/P.O. Box	City State Zip
Contact Person Phone ( )	Phone S.S.# ( ) ____/____/____
Type of Assistance a. Equipment b. Backstop Development Enter Letter ____	Area of Impact

**Project Title** Estimated # of Persons Benefiting \_\_\_\_\_ Has Project Been Submitted Previously (Y) \_\_\_ (N) \_\_\_

## II. PROPOSED FUNDING

County	\$____.00	Project Duration	_____ months
Local	\$____.00	Estimated Date to Begin	____/____/____
Other	\$____.00	Estimated Date of Completion	____/____/____
Total	\$____.00		

## III. PROJECT NARRATIVE

(Purpose, Expected Accomplishments, Major Tasks, Attach Estimates, Line Item Budget, & Drawings)

Print Name & Title

Signature

Date

**Side 2 / Complete Only For Construction/Development**

You Must Own the Land to Be Developed or Have a Certified Written Agreement for Development from Legal Landowner

**A. CURRENT PREDOMINANT LAND USE**

- a. Agricultural      d. Wetland (marsh/swamp)      Enter appropriate letter  
b. Forest Land      e. Other (explain)      \_\_\_\_\_  
c. Water

**B. CULTURAL RESOURCES**

1. List known archeological/historical sites on project land.

2. Buildings/Structures on site (abandoned barns, farm house, tobacco shed, bridge, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Will these be demolished?

\_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, which? \_\_\_\_\_

**C. LAND ALTERNATIONS**

1. Has land been surveyed recently? \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, when & by whom?

2. Is adjacent land controlled by project sponsor? \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes

(If no, please state owners name on all side of project. Please enclose a deed plot map.)

3. Has site preparation been conducted? \_\_\_\_\_ No      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, describe.

**D. LOCAL RECREATION BOARD**

1. Give information below about individuals who can confirm compatibility of proposed activity with existing or proposed land use plans.

A. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

B. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

C. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**E. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_