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West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Serving the counties of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Polk, and St. Croix

EVENTS & FUNDING

MARCH 2021

WE ARE HIRING!

West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) is seeking to fill a professional generalist planner position. The position will focus primarily on natural resource, transportation, and community development planning projects. If interested, please send cover letter and resume to the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, 800 Wisconsin Street, Mail Box 9, Eau Claire, WI 54703, ATTENTION: Lynn Nelson, or email cover letter and resume to [Lynn Nelson](#) by March 8, 2021.

Click [here](#) for additional information.

JOIN US FOR AN UPCOMING VIRTUAL BROWN BAG PRESENTATION ON PASSENGER RAIL!

The event is free, but you must register ahead of time.

The West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (WCWRPC) will be hosting a virtual brownbag luncheon to discuss initiatives to establish passenger rail service in the region through public and private partnerships. The session is free, but you are asked to register [here](#) by noon on ***Monday, March 15, 2021.***

COVID-19 Resources & Funding

Economic conditions are rapidly changing throughout our Region due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, our office and the Regional Business Fund, Inc. are continuing to develop a list of resources to assist communities and business respond to immediate and long-term challenges. The WCWRPC COVID-19 Resources webpage, available [here](#), provides a list of helpful resources, programs and agencies.

Economic Development Administration (EDA) CARES Act Recovery Assistance Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

Administered by WCWRPC and Regional Business Fund, Inc.

COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide

US Dept. of Agriculture

Rising to Challenges: Navigating through COVID-19 in Wisconsin: Strategies and Resources for Small Businesses and Community Groups

Publication by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Upcoming Events: March - April 2021

Wisconsin Counties Association 2021 Virtual Legislative Exchange

March 2-3, 2021

Red Letter Grant 2021 Workshops and Events

March 3, 2021 - Cyber Security for Small Business Workshop

March 4, 2021 - Start-Up Basics Panel

March 30, 2021 - Finance + Taxes Workshop

Value Capture Strategies Webinars - Federal Highway Administration

March 10, 2021 - Introduction to Transportation Utility Fees: Maintaining Local Roads, Trails and Other Transportation Primer

March 24, 2021 - Introduction to Development Agreements and Other Contract-Based Value Capture

April 14, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies and Municipal Bonds and Debt

May 12, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies and Infrastructure Bank Programs

May 19, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies and Capital Improvement Plan-The Primer

June 9, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies and Project Delivery: Public-Private Partnerships

June 16, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Tax Increment Financing-The Primer

July 14, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Transportation Reinvestment Zones-The Primer

August 4, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Developer Impact Fees-The Primer

August 25, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Special Assessment Districts-The Primer

September 15, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Risk Assessment-The Primer

October 6, 2021 - Value Capture Strategies: Making the Business and Economic Case-A Primer

10th Annual Red Cedar Watershed Conference

March 11, 2021 - Tainter Menomine Lake Improvement Association, Inc.

Planning & Zoning Webinars - Center for Land Use Education

March 16, 2021 - Shoreland Zoning

April 8, 2021 - Subdivision Regulations

April 29, 2021 - Zoning Fundamentals

May 18, 2021 - Meeting and Hearing Conduct

Food Finance Institute (FFI) Scaler Services Online Workshops

March 18, 2021 - Sources & Uses of Capital Finance Planning

April 15, 2021 - Food Safety & GFSI Planning

Workforce Development, Energy, and Forestry

March 22, 2021 - NADO Research Foundation and WealthWorks

Momentum West 2021 Annual Meeting and Awards Celebration (virtual)

March 31, 2021

2021 Wisconsin Hazardous Materials Awareness & Waste Disposal Training (online)

April 6, April 8, April 13, and April 15, 2021 - State of Wisconsin Bureau of State Risk Management

Legislative Power over Administrative Agencies - A Retrospective on 2011

Wisconsin Act 21

April 8, 2021 - Tommy G. Thompson Center on Public Leadership

Main Street Awards (Virtual)

April 21, 2021 - Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Funding Opportunities: March - May 2021

Business and Industry (B&I) CARES Act Program

Funds available until expended – US Dept. of Agriculture

Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Funding to Small Cities and Towns **JUST**

ADDED

Grant Awards are Limited

National Endowment for the Arts Research Grants in the Arts

SAM and Grants.gov Registrations – March 8, 2021 and March 19, 2021 respectively

Part 1 – March 29, 2021

Part 2 – April 1-8, 2021

Request for Applications: Receive Design Support and Technical Assistance to Host a Local Design Workshop

March 12, 2021 - Citizens' Institute on Rural Design

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grants

March 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Value-Added Producer Grants

March 16, 2021 (electronic application); March 22, 2021 (paper/email application) – US Dept. of Agriculture

The Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (formerly known as the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program)

March 16, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant **JUST ADDED**

March 22, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Rural Community Development Initiative Grants **JUST ADDED**

March 22, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Competitive Grants Program

March 23, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP)

March 25, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin Grants **JUST ADDED**

March 26, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection

National Endowment for the Arts Challenge America Grants **JUST ADDED**

SAM and Grants.gov Registrations – March 30, 2021 and April 13, 2021 respectively

Part 1 – April 22, 2021

Part 2 – April 27-May 4, 2021

Intermediary Relending Program in Wisconsin **JUST ADDED**

March 31, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

March 31, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Regional Infrastructure Accelerators

March 31, 2021 – US Dept. of Transportation

Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Loans and Grants in Wisconsin

March 31, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans and Grants **JUST ADDED**

April 1, 2021 (Pre-Application) – US Dept. of Agriculture

Food Safety Outreach Program

April 1, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Meetings Mean Business! Grants Program

April 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Joint Efforts Marketing (JEM) Grants

April 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Ready, Set, Go! Grants

April 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Tourism

Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Competitive Grants Program

April 8, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Industry Sectors Worker Training Grants

April 8, 2021 - Wisconsin Dept. of Workforce Development

2021 AARP Community Challenge JUST ADDED

April 14, 2021

FY2021 Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR) Phase I

April 14, 2021 – National Institute of Standards and Technology

Notice of Discharge Grants

April 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Wisconsin Humanities Council Major Grants

April 15, 2021

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) Trail Aids

April 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Snowmobile Trail Aids

April 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Targeted Runoff Management Program

April 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Grant Program

April 15, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

The Lawrence Foundation

April 30, 2021

Hometown Health Grant

April 30, 2021 – Mayo Clinic Health System

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Local Assistance Grant Programs

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Land and Water Conservation Fund

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Recreational Trails Program

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant for Local Governments

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Land and Water Conservation Fund

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Recreational Trails Program

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Urban Green Space

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Urban Rivers Grant

May 1, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources

Fund for Wild Nature

May 1, 2021

Wisconsin Humanities Council Mini Grants

May 1, 2021

Small Business Innovation Research Phase II

May 3, 2021 – US Dept. of Agriculture

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Program

May 13, 2021 – Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

The following state or federal funding agencies have various programs and deadlines:

Community Development Block Grant Planning (PLNG) Program

Applications accepted on a continuous basis – Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Community Development Investment Grant Program

No submission deadlines – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

EDA Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Freight Railroad Infrastructure Improvement Program

Ongoing – Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation

EDA Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

Contact the WCWRPC if interested

Community Development Block Grant-Emergency Assistance Program

Varies - Wisconsin Dept. of Administration

Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Contact local Natural Resources Conservation Service field office

Idle Sites Redevelopment Program

Continuous application process – Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture

Water & Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program

Ongoing – US Dept. of Agriculture



REGIONAL BUSINESS FUND, INC.

The Regional Business Fund, Inc. (RBF, Inc.) is a non-profit economic development corporation whose purpose is to promote business and economic development in west central Wisconsin. The RBF, Inc. offers low-interest loan funds to businesses that expand within the region, diversify the economy, add new technology, revitalize buildings in the region's downtowns, create or retain quality jobs, and increase capital investment in the region. The RBF, Inc. offers the following programs:

- **Revolving Loan Fund**
- **Growth Loan Fund**
- **Micro Loan Fund**
- **Downtown Facade Fund**
- **Technology Enterprise Fund**
- **EDA Fund**

For more information, visit our **website**, or please contact:

- **Tobi LeMahieu**, Fund Manager
- **Heidi Biesterveld**, Lending Specialist
- **Mai Xiong-Thao**, Loan Processor

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