



2007 Pilot Grants Program Awards

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor awarded \$200,000 in grants in 2007 to assist canal communities across the state. Thirteen communities received funding to cover projects and programs that protect and celebrate the corridor's distinct sense of place, while boosting heritage tourism and recreational opportunities.

Canal Society of New York

Amount: \$25,000
Project Name: Port Byron Old Erie Canal Heritage Park
Description: The project will develop and implement interpretive exhibit in the 1898 mule-boarding barn and blacksmith shop located at the Port Byron Old Erie Canal Heritage Park in Port Byron, NY.
Type: Interpretive Signage
Location: Village of Port Byron
County: Cayuga
Canal: Erie Canal

The Corn Hill Waterfront & Navigation Foundation

Amount: \$11,704
Project Name: Erie Canalway Cultural Heritage Interpretive Narratives in Monroe Co.
Description: Corn Hill Navigation (CHN) will create new interpretive scripts to be used aboard its two vessels to offer a live narrated cruising experience to the general public, school groups, and tour groups visiting Monroe County. Tours will highlight the cultural heritage of the Erie Canal in Monroe County. The CHN will also produce signage designed to publicize these cruises.
Type: Educational Program and Directional Signage
Location: City of Rochester Region
County: Monroe
Canal: Erie Canal

Village of Fairport

Amount: \$13,000
Project Name: Historic Interpretive Signs and Information Kiosk
Description: This program will tell the story of Fairport's rich and authentic history as an Erie Canal village. An integral part of its Main Street Streetscape Plan, the signage and kiosk will educate residents, boaters and visitors alike, stimulating interest in the canal corridor, enhancing the sense of place and community and contributing to ongoing efforts to make the Erie Canal a more widely known and better understood world-class heritage tourism destination.
Type: Interpretive Signage
Location: Village of Fairport
County: Monroe
Canal: Erie Canal

Valley Community Association

Amount: \$25,000
Project Name: Buffalo River Historical District Park Project
Description: The project will provide interpretive signage and exhibits to document Buffalo's history as the grainmilling capital of the world, its connection to the Erie Canal and for the historic E.M. Cotter Fireboat, which has been protecting them for the past 100 years.
Type: Interpretive Signage
Location: City of Buffalo
County: Erie
Canal: Erie Canal

Erie Canal Museum

Amount: \$25,000
Project Name: Interpretive Weighlock Exhibit
Description: An interpretive computer simulation of a weighlock building is being planned as a major component of a newly renovated exhibition area. A software program will be designed that enables students to virtually steer canal boats through the lock systems, enter the weighlock building, be weighed and collect tolls. This program will ultimately be on the Museum's Web site.
Type: Exhibit
Location: City of Syracuse
County: Onondaga County
Canal: Erie Canal

Chamber of Schenectady County

Amount: \$12,500
Project Name: Lock 7- 12 Canalfest
Description: Lock 7- 12 Canalfest is a 2- day festival held at multiple locations along a 32- mile stretch of the Erie Canal in Montgomery and Schenectady Counties. The event offers a multitude of activities, including historic tours, a music festival, classical concert, boat parade, canoe race, concerts, photography contest, barn dance, and fireworks.
Type: Event
Location: Multiple locations
County: Schenectady & Montgomery Counties
Canal: Erie Canal

Parks & Trails New York

Award Amount: \$25,000
Project Name: Web Gateway for Outdoor Visitors to the ECNHC
Description: Parks & Trails New York will create a Web- based map that highlights attractions, lodging, and other sites of interest along the canalway trail.
Type: Web site
Location: Erie Canalway Trail
County: all
Canal: all

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Village of Fort Ann/Town of Fort Ann

Award Amount: \$20,000

Project Name: Village and Town of Fort Ann Plan

Description: The grant will cover costs to research the components and feasibility of suggested improvements to the waterfront area along the Champlain Canal. The town will develop a waterfront map and plan for the area along the Champlain Canal in the Village and Town of Fort Ann.

Type: Improvement Plan

Location: Village & Town of Fort Ann

County: Washington County

Canal: Champlain Canal

Landmark Society of Western New York

Award Amount: \$15,625

Project Name: Enhancing the Visitor Experience Training Initiative

Description: Enhancing the Visitor Experience Training Initiative will cover the areas of hospitality and interpretation and be targeted to small businesses and museums respectively in the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor. The hospitality training will involve both development and delivery of a curriculum that is customized for Erie Canal communities and includes segments on The Canal Experience, Fundamentals of Tourism, Creating the Canal Experience, and Delivering the Canal Experience. Interpretation training will use a curriculum developed by the National Association for Interpretation and will be targeted to small museums with canal- related collections.

Type: Training

Location: Western New York

Counties: Wayne, Monroe, Orleans, Erie & Niagara Counties

Canal: Erie Canal

Historic Palmyra

Award Amount: \$4,200

Project Name: Heritage Walking Tours and Museum Brochures

Description: Historic Palmyra will write and compile historic information, historic and current photographs, maps, and descriptions to offer assistance and guidance to students, teachers, visitors, and residents. The new guide will include historic information for the cemetery and community, and feature architecture and history, as well as Historic Palmyra's four museums. The brochures will be accessible from Historic Palmyra's Web site.

Type: Brochure

Location: Village of Palmyra

County: Wayne County

Canal: Erie Canal

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Village of Phoenix

Award Amount: \$10,000

Project Name: Lock Island Pedestrian Access Improvement Project

Description: The Village of Phoenix will develop a recreational trails brochure and map, install signage, and improve pedestrian crosswalks to increase visitation to Lock Island, an underutilized community asset in the Village of Phoenix, on the Oswego River Canal System.

Type: Interpretive Signage and Brochure

Location: Village of Phoenix

County: Oswego County

Canal: Oswego Canal

Village of Jordan

Award Amount: \$4,600

Project Name: Erie Canal Heritage Walking Tour – Jordan

Description: Create a walking tour beginning on the original Erie Canal towpath and taking visitors on a tour through the National Heritage District of Jordan. The tour will include a walk in the canal bed and up stone stairs to street level, which will lead to the Jordan Historical Society Erie Canal Museum. There will be approximately 30 historic sites on the tour, clearly marked by signs and on a brochure map.

Type: Interpretive Signage and Brochure

Location: Village of Jordan

County: Onondaga County

Canal: Erie Canal

Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Award Amount: \$10,000

Project Name: Guide to the Ithaca Waterfront: Southern Gateway to the Erie Canal Panel

Description: The Cayuga Waterfront Trail Initiative is proposing to produce two products. First, a Guide to the Ithaca Waterfront, including a map and information about the Waterfront Trail and numerous waterfront destinations. Second, CWTI would like to produce an interpretive panel and kiosk to highlight Ithaca as the Southern Gateway to the Erie Canal.

Type: Interpretive Signage and Brochure

Location: City of Ithaca

County: Tompkins County

Canal: Cayuga Lake