



## **News release for individual recipients of GMRPTC grants December 2023**

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### **\$210,000 Parks and Trails Legacy Grant to fund 19-acre expansion of Rockville County Park**

**12/11/2023**— People who enjoy outdoor recreation in Stearns County will soon have their experiences enhanced, once recommendations are approved to fund \$210,000 for the acquisition of approximately 19 acres of land located directly adjacent to Rockville County Park

The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC) recently completed its application review process and chose Rockville County Park and 13 other parks and trails around the state to receive a portion of \$16.3 million in funding for fiscal year 2025. The GMRPTC will now recommend that the Minnesota Legislature approve funding through the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, one of four funds created by the 2008 Minnesota Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. The Legislature has annually approved GMRPTC recommendations, since Legacy Funds are already dedicated and may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

“We are elated to have been selected for this grant from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission, which will allow us to add approximately 19 acres to the existing Rockville County Park,” said Ben Anderson – Parks Director. “Area residents and visitors already enjoy the relaxation and beauty they find at Rockville County Park, and this needed funding will make their visits better than ever.”

“Every grant awardee is deserving, and we commend them for how thoroughly they described their needs in their grant applications,” said GMRPTC Executive Director Renee Mattson. “It’s the dedicated people at the local level who make Greater Minnesota’s regional parks and trails really shine, and we’re pleased to assist them with their efforts.”

The 14 parks and trails recommended for **\$16,354,035 in Fiscal Year 2025 funding** are below. District numbers in the grid refer to these geographic areas of Minnesota: 1-Northeast; 2-Northwest; 3-West Central; 4-East Central; 5-Southwest; 6-Southeast.

**Grant Recipient – Award Amount – District**

Sandstone Robinson Quarry Park - \$2,257,200 – District 1

Hubbard County Deep Lake Park – \$1,042,300 – District 2

Red Lake River Corridor, East Grand Forks - \$888,177 – District 2

Warroad Point Park - \$2,760,333 – District 2

Gull Lake Trail – Fairview Township and City of Nisswa - \$1,456,951 – District 2

Lac qui Parle County Park - \$595,380 – District 3

Morrison County Belle Prairie Park - \$924,516 – District 4

Isanti County Springvale County Park – \$81,000 – District 4

Isanti County Irving and John Anderson County Park - \$255,400 – District 4

Sherburne County Two Inlets at Bde Hehaka – Omashkooz Zaaga’igaans Regional Park -  
\$1,985,875 – District 4

Stearns County Rockville County Park - \$210,000 – District 4

Lyon County Garvin Park – \$926,809 – District 5

Greater Mankato River Valley Trail System - \$1,216,456 – District 5

Cannon Valley Trail - \$1,720,593 – District 6

Emerging Opportunity Fund - \$33,045 – Available for special granting opportunities that may arise

“Legacy Funding is a far-reaching gift that Minnesotans had the foresight to create to enhance their enjoyment of the outdoors,” said Mattson. “Without Legacy dollars, many of these projects simply would not happen or would take many years before coming to fruition.”

The GMRPTC provides recommendations to the Minnesota Legislature for grants to parks and trails of regional significance in the 80 counties outside the seven-county metropolitan area. Since its creation in 2014, the GMRPTC has awarded more than \$83 million in grants for 122 projects in the state’s 77 designated parks and trails. Combined with \$30 million in community investments to date, grants are used to fund infrastructure improvements, land acquisitions, new facilities, trail rehabilitation and more.

Additional information may be found at [www.gmrptcommission.org](http://www.gmrptcommission.org).

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