

## The Tony and Dar Dean Outdoor Education Small Grants Program

2012

### Background:

On October 19, 2008, South Dakota lost one of its foremost conservation leaders with the death of Tony Dean at the age of 67. He leaves a legacy as an outspoken communicator, a Champion for fish and wildlife resources, an accomplished sportsman and a warm and caring family man. He was especially concerned with conserving wildlife habitats for future generations to enjoy and he worked hard to educate his audiences as to the importance of involving young people and their families in the outdoors.

Tony's wife Dar and their family have partnered with the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation (P&W Foundation) to establish the **Tony and Dar Dean Outdoor Education Fund**. This Fund will continue Tony and Dar Dean's passion for teaching South Dakota's families and youth about conservation and providing them an opportunity to experience South Dakota's fish, wildlife and natural resource heritage. Working in coordination with the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation, a restricted account has been established for the purpose of accepting donations for the Fund's operations. The P&W Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization and contributions are deductible to the maximum extent allowable for federal income tax purposes.

Central to the Fund's mission of youth conservation education is the operation of its **Small Grants Program**. This program is intended to provide resources, ideas and other support to people and organizations desiring to provide quality educational outdoor experiences for youth. These small grants are eligible to be used in a variety of ways including, but not limited to:

- Funding travel for students or groups to educational opportunities or events
- Providing supplies and materials to promote outdoor knowledge and skills
- Paying instructors or teachers who lead/organize conservation education events
- Create new activities and events that increase outdoor knowledge and participation among SD families and youth

- Supporting the curriculum and volunteers at the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Outdoor Campus facilities at Sioux Falls and at Rapid City that are applicable to outdoor education events for youth and families.

### **Eligible Applicants:**

- Schools
- Scout Groups
- Clubs and Service Organizations
- Conservation Groups
- Volunteers and Individuals

All Grant applicants must be South Dakota based. However, non-residents can serve as providers of contract services for the Grant.

### **Possible Projects**

- Day Trips for outdoor classroom experiences
- Outdoor Camps
- Outdoor seminars and education classes at schools, fairs, events and camps
- Preparation of activity books, teachers guides and resource training kits or trunks
- Training workshops for instructors and volunteers

Projects are strongly encouraged to have a greater reach and longer lasting impact than the actual grant period and have strong educational value over time.

### **Application Process**

All applications for the Tony and Dar Dean Small Grants Program will be taken electronically/on-line, using the attached form. This Summary of the Small Grants Program and the application form is available in electronic form at [www.Tonydean.com](http://www.Tonydean.com) and on the SD Parks and Wildlife Foundation web site at [www.parkswildlifefoundation.org](http://www.parkswildlifefoundation.org). Completed proposals should be sent to: [Wayne.Winter@state.sd.us](mailto:Wayne.Winter@state.sd.us). For related questions, please call John Cooper at (605) 222-7582 or Wayne Winter at (605) 773-4503.

### **Timeline and Reports**

Grant proposals will be accepted during **One** window in 2012 – from **April 5<sup>th</sup> – July 1, 2012**. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be given by August 1, 2012. Actual Funding of awarded projects will occur within 30 days after notification of acceptance. In 2012, a total of \$4000 is available to applicants for calendar year 2012 to apply to activities and projects that are to be completed in late 2012 or in 2013. The next grant application window for the Small Grants Program will occur on February 1<sup>st</sup> – April 15th, 2013 and applicants will be notified of acceptance or rejection by May 15th, 2013.

All projects must be completed within in 12 months after funding date. A short mid-term (6 months) project status report is required and a final report after the completion of the project is also required which summarizes the activities, number of people attending, volunteer hours and the overall impacts of the project. If, for valid reasons, the project is not completed within the allotted 12 months, the project sponsors (Applicant) must report the current status of the project and the reasons why the project could not be completed as planned if they desire an extension. Our overall goal is to provide support for worthwhile projects and we will strive to work out issues, timelines and problems with grant recipients. However, the Grant Committee reserves the right to request the return of any unused funds if the Project is not completed in accordance with the proposal and the contracts as executed.

### **Judging Criteria**

Project proposals will be reviewed and scored by a panel composed of the Dean family and reviewed by two persons representing the SD Parks and Wildlife Foundation Board. Scoring Criteria may include but may not be limited to:

- Overall impact and future use (can this project be replicated or used elsewhere)
- Reach (how many youth/adults will be involved/impacted)
- Effectiveness in getting youth/adults/families outdoors
- Educational value (if conducted by schools, what standards will be addressed)
- Project longevity (can/will he project continue after the initial grant period is completed)
- Does the Project have measurable objectives and goals
- Cost effectiveness and Project practicality
- Partnerships with other sources of funding and/or match and number of volunteers participating

### **Budget**

Grant Projects for 2012 will be for a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$1,500. Other sources of funding and support in the form of partnerships are strongly encouraged. A contract for services agreement must be in place for each recipient before any funding is disbursed. A total of \$4,000 is available for this Grant Program in 2012 during the open application window.