

**Synopsis of Changes in Georgia Community Greenspace Program Administrative
Rules 391-1-4-.01 through 391-1-4-.18.**

Changes:

391-1-4-.02 Definitions The following terms were defined or their definitions clarified.

- (a) “Appropriated funds”
- (b) “Commission”
- (d) “Community Fund”
- (e) “Community Program”
- (f) “Compliant local government”
- (h) “Costs of acquisition”
- (j) “Department”
- (k) “Grantee”
- (l) “Grantee municipality”
- (m) “Greenspace”
- (n) “Greenspace Conveyance Agreement”
- (q) “Non-appropriated funds”
- (r) “Non-grantee municipality”
- (s) “Non-participating municipality”
- (t) “Permanently protected land and water”
- (v) “State Grant Funds”
- (w) “State Program”
- (x) “The Act”

391-1-4-.05. Duties of the Georgia Greenspace Commission.

- (f) is amended to add “Grantee Municipalities.”

391-1-4-.06. Operation of the Georgia Greenspace Fund.

- (a) is amended to identify the amounts in the State Fund available through the various grant programs established under the Act.

391-1-4-.07. Establishment and Operation of Community Greenspace Trust Funds

The first paragraph is amended to reflect that only Grantee Municipalities must establish a Community Greenspace Trust Fund. Non-grantee municipalities may participate in the State Program without establishing a Community Greenspace Trust Fund.

- (c) is amended to require that grantees must maintain separate accounting of deposits from each donor of funds only when such donations exceed \$5,000.

391-1-4-.08. Determination and Notification of a Local Government’s Eligibility to Apply for Grants from Appropriated Funds.

- (b) was amended to give the correct name of the U.S. Census Bureau.
- (c) was amended to reflect that a participating municipality may be either a grantee municipality or a non-grantee municipality.

391-1-4-.09. Determination and Publication of Annual Amounts of Awards to Be Granted from Appropriated Funds.

- (a) (4) added to reflect the legislative change that counties receiving more than \$500,000 from an appropriation are to have 10% of the funds set aside for matching grants for municipalities.
- (b) Was amended to address municipalities located wholly within one eligible county.
- (c) Was amended to address municipalities located partly in one or more eligible counties.
- (d) Was amended to allow for counties to work cooperatively with non-grantee municipalities to permanently protect greenspace in the jurisdiction of a non-grantee municipality, allow title to be held by the non-grantee municipality, and transfer the reporting responsibilities to the non-grantee municipality through a Greenspace Conveyance Agreement with the Department.
- (e) Was amended to allow flexibility in managing permanently protected greenspace.
- (f) (3) was amended to calculate grant awards for counties that are eligible to receive funds in excess of \$500,000, for which the Department must set aside 10% of the award amount to fund supplemental matching grants to municipalities.
- (f) (4) was amended to allow counties to submit municipal grant shares with their program submittals or progress reports.
- (g) Was amended to correct the name of the state program.

391-1-4-.10. Development, Submittal and Approval of a Community Program Upon a County’s First Becoming Eligible to Participate, or Following a Break in Participation.

This paragraph was amended various places to replace “participating” with “grantee” municipality, to reflect the new term defined at 391-1-4-.02 (m).

- (a) (1) was amended to update an address.
- (b) was amended to reflect the obligations of grantee municipalities and non-grantee municipalities and to simplify the rules.
- (c) (6) was amended to reflect that municipalities that are out of compliance with previous Greenspace Grant awards or other state laws may make the municipality ineligible to receive further state grants.
- (c) (13) was amended to simplify the rules by eliminating detail that appears in program application templates.

- (c)(16) was amended to replace “non-participating” with “grantee” and “non-grantee” municipality, to reflect the new terms defined at 391-1-4-.02 (m) and (s).
- (d) (2), (5) and (6) were amended to incorporate “grantee” municipalities, to reflect the new terms defined at 391-1-4-.02 (m).
- (d) (6) was added to reflect local governments not in compliance with previous Greenspace Program Grant Awards or other state law may make them ineligible to receive subsequent state grants.

391-1-4-.11. Continuation of a Previously Approved Community Program.

- (a) (1) was amended to update an address
- (c) was amended to reflect the obligations of grantee municipalities and non-grantee municipalities and to simplify the rules.
- (d) (6) was added to reflect local governments not in compliance with previous Greenspace Program Grant Awards or other state law may make them ineligible to receive subsequent state grants.
- (e) was amended to reflect local governments not in compliance with previous Greenspace Program Grant Awards or other state law may make them ineligible to receive subsequent state grants.

391-1-4-.12 Biennial Progress Report and Disbursement of Appropriated Funds

- (a) (1) was amended to reflect the obligations of grantee municipalities and to simplify the rules
- (a) (2) was amended to clarify the information that must be included in the progress report.
- (a) (6) was amended to provide clarification.
- (a) (7) was added to require the submittal of information required under the Grant Award Agreement
- (d) was added to reflect local governments not in compliance with previous Greenspace Program Grant Awards or other state law may make them ineligible to receive subsequent state grants.

391-1-4-.13. Disbursement of Appropriated Funds Remaining at the End of a Fiscal Year.

Was amended to change the date by which a Community Program had to receive approval of the Greenspace Commission from June 1 to May 15 to reduce administrative burdens at the end of the state fiscal year.

- (a) was amended to reflect local governments not in compliance with previous Greenspace Program Grant Awards or other state law may make them ineligible to receive subsequent state grants.

391-1-4-.14. Determination of Amounts of Awards from Non- Appropriated Funds

was deleted and replaced by 391-1-4-.50 through 391-1-4-.58.

391-1-4-.15 Audits and Investigations.

was renumbered 391-1-4-.14

(a) was amended to reduce reporting requirements.