



September 15, 2015

Connecticut Municipalities  
Nonprofit Land Conservation Organizations  
Water Companies

Dear Conservation Partners:

I am pleased to announce that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will be accepting applications from municipalities, non-profit land conservation organizations, and water companies for the competitive Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program. DEEP will be awarding grants to projects that offer the highest conservation and recreational value - and that leverage the greatest percentage of private and municipal funding. Funding for this grant round will be made available from Community Investment Act funds held by DEEP, and may be augmented by state bond funds.

The deadline for submitting applications to DEEP is February 2, 2016.

DEEP will seek input from Recreational and Natural Heritage, Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Review Board on funding recommendations for responsive grant applications. For your planning purposes, please be aware that grant awards should be announced in early Fall 2016. DEEP is committed to offering this grant program on a yearly basis with the same schedule. For more information or to download the grant application, please visit DEEP's website at [www.ct.gov/deep/openspace](http://www.ct.gov/deep/openspace).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David Stygar at 860-424-3081, Allyson Clarke at 860-424-3774, or visit the webpage above to find answers to frequently asked questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Klee", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert J. Klee  
Commissioner