

Escambia County RESTORE Project Application Portal

The Escambia County RESTORE Project Application Portal will open on July 1, 2015 and can be accessed at <http://restore.myescambia.com/>. The portal will be open for 90 days and will close on September 30, 2015 for Year 1 submittals. It is expected that the portal will reopen for new project submittals in subsequent years based on future funding allocations. Individuals, businesses, and organizations are invited to submit projects via the portal during that time period. No project proposals will be accepted after the portal's closing date.

Please note this is not a typical grant application. There are two steps:

1. Project Submittals
2. Project Implementation

Step 1 is for project submittals to come through the portal and be evaluated by County Staff, Consultants, the RESTORE Advisory Committee, and the Board of County Commissioners.

Step 2 will occur after the Multi-Year Implementation Plan (which will include all funded projects) is submitted and approved by the U.S. Department of Treasury. It is expected that this process will begin sometime mid to late 2016. *It is not guaranteed that you will implement your project if your project is selected.*

Project Guideline Process:

1. Develop a project idea
2. Review the following documents

Submitted projects must:

- a. Meet at least one of the eligibility criteria outlined in the federal RESTORE Act (see www.treasury.gov/services/restore-act or view the RESTORE Act Eligible Activities Sheet)
- b. Include a project budget (see Sample Budget Form)
- c. Address the Interim Needs Assessment and Project Selection Criteria

3. Partner and Collaborate (Optional)
4. Register in the portal: <http://restore.myescambia.com/>
5. Login and Create New Project

Portal Documents:

- a. Portal Instructions
- b. Portal Application

6. Continue Reviewing Portal

- a. While the portal is open, review submitted projects to see if there are any similar to yours. You are encouraged to contact and coordinate with other similar project to create larger-scale community impacts.
- b. You should periodically check the status of your project after the portal closes.

Do You Need Help? Attend one of the following Portal Workshops for specific questions:

In an effort to make the project development and submittal process easier, public meetings/workshops are set for various locations around the County.

The public meetings will provide:

- An overview of the *selection criteria* and weighting
- Information on *how to submit* projects via the portal
- An opportunity for potential applicants/interested parties to ask questions and speak with Escambia County officials and/or personnel from Dewberry.
- Ask one-on-one questions, bring your own laptop, work on your own project

Workshop Dates:

(District 2) - Monday, June 22, Lexington Terrace Community Center (700 S. Old Corry Field Road), 5:30 p.m.

(District 3) - Monday, July 13, Central Office Complex (3363 West Park Place), 5:30 p.m.

(District 1) - Tuesday, July 21, Charity Chapel (5820 Montgomery Avenue), 5:30 p.m.

(District 5) - Monday, July 27, Langley Bell 4-H Center (3730 Stefani Road), 5:30 p.m.

(District 4) - Tuesday, August 11, Gull Point Community Center (7000 Spanish Trail Road), 5:30 p.m.

Partnership and Collaboration

Escambia County is looking for projects that will restore the community with lasting effects; therefore, collaboration is recommend and encourage. If you believe you have an idea that could be leveraged to achieve multiple benefits and would like to reach out to fellow professionals in that specified area, please contact the following project facilitators.

Economic:

TBD

Environment:

Name: Chips Kirschenfeld

Phone: 850.595.3449

Email: jtkirsche@myescambia.com

Infrastructure:

TBD

Additional Information

Once the application portal closes, project proposals will be evaluated by the technical review team consisting of subject matter experts. Then the RESTORE Act Advisory Committee (RAC) will discuss the submittals and form a recommendation to the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners (BCC), who will ultimately make the final decision.

During the review process, applicants may be contacted for more information. Once all projects have been ranked, a list of recommended projects will be posted on www.myescambia.com/restore. The public will have an opportunity to provide comments on the project list. The Board of County Commissioners has the final authority for approval of the project list before it is submitted to the U.S. Department of Treasury for federal level review.

NOTE: Once approved by the U.S. Department of Treasury, ALL projects must go through Escambia County's normal procurement process. Some of the projects may be implemented by the County itself, but others will go out to bid. As a result, the organization or individual who initially submits the project proposal will not necessarily be the same organization/individual that receives the federal funding to implement it.

Please contact Shelly Marshall 850.595.3460 for more information.