

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**

***Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (BRC)***  
Administrative Policy/Grant Guidelines

**SUBJECT:** Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 5, 2009

**REVISED DATE:** November 22, 2013, December 5, 2018

**BACKGROUND:** The Bureau of Recreation and Conservation wants to ensure that universal accessibility is developed for all parks and other recreation facilities. Standards and guidelines for accessibility were first developed in the 1960's and have recently been updated.

**POLICY:**

All facilities renovated or developed with DCNR funding must be accessible to persons with disabilities. All site development drawings, plans and specifications funded by DCNR must clearly show that the proposed facilities, use areas and amenities are intended to be accessible to persons with disabilities.

It is the responsibility of the grantee to comply with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (2010 Standards). Compliance with these regulations is required. It is strongly recommended that grant applicants and grantees work with a licensed design consultant to ensure that the project is designed and constructed consistent with the pertinent ADA laws, standards and guidelines.

Technical Assistance can be provided by the United States Access Board at [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) or via E-mail: [ta@access-board.gov](mailto:ta@access-board.gov).

The following resources are available to assist you and your design consultant in understanding and meeting the ADA Accessibility Standards and Guidelines:

- US Dept. of Justice- 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (2010 Standards) - <http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADAStandards/2010ADAstandards.htm>  
(Reference Chapter 10: Recreation Facilities)
- Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas – <http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/recreation-facilities/outdoor-developed-areas>
- (For Trails) Universal Access Trails and Shared Use Paths - [http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr\\_20030471.pdf](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/cs/groups/public/documents/document/dcnr_20030471.pdf)

This policy remains in effect until revised or rescinded.