

Cider House Restoration at the McIntire Garrison

Old York Historical Society — \$10,000 grant award

Old York Historical Society is restoring the McIntire Cider House, an important historic resource that is structurally compromised due to water infiltration. Stabilizing the building is imperative to its survival and for its future use as a public gathering space. Restoration work in 2025 includes temporary structural supports, roofing, and foundation stabilization. After completion of additional restoration activities, the Cider House ultimately will provide a public space for visiting and learning about the history of the McIntire Garrison property and the former McIntire farm fields, now the Smelt Brook Preserve under the stewardship of the York Land Trust.



Old York
Historical Society



Marine Debris Education and Cleanup

Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation — \$6,510 grant award

Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation is expanding its successful educational programming and beach and shoreline cleanups to the York River watershed area. Blue Ocean will engage the public in identifying and addressing areas in need of cleanup, and they will organize and lead educational programs for schools in and adjacent to the watershed using the organization's life-sized whale, marine debris activities, and other resources. Local groups and residents can contact Blue Ocean to request a presentation or to suggest locations or volunteer for cleanups.



Addition to York Land Trust's McIntire Highlands Preserve

York Land Trust — \$9,500 grant award

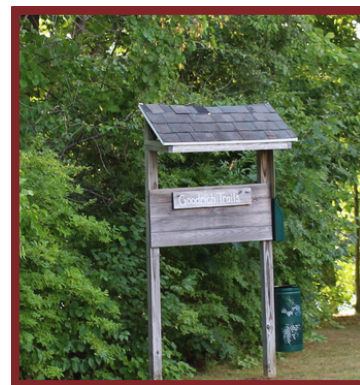
York Land Trust is conducting land surveys and other due diligence tasks necessary to acquire three Town of York-owned parcels, totaling approximately 14 acres, that will be donated by the Town and added to YLT's 500-acre McIntire Highlands Preserve. YLT's acquisition and stewardship of the parcels will help protect the water quality of Boulter Pond Reservoir, one of the region's water supply sources. The parcels are part of a 6,300-acre unfragmented forest block that provides critical habitats for native plants, fish and wildlife and creates a more resilient landscape.



Goodrich Park Invasive Plant Management – Phase 1

York Conservation Commission & York Parks and Recreation Department – \$10,000 grant award

York Conservation Commission and York Parks and Recreation Department are initiating and coordinating activities to remove invasive plant species found at Goodrich Park to preserve the park's natural beauty and protect native wildlife habitats. They will hire a licensed resource professional to manage invasive species and initiate habitat restoration on the 5-acre area surrounding the Grant House, in coordination and with assistance from town staff and volunteers. The phased approach will follow the Invasive Plants Control Practice Plan for the entire 28.5-acre Goodrich Park that was developed in 2024 with assistance from the Maine Forest Service.



Gear for York River Kayaking Tour Series

York Parks and Recreation Department – \$5,500 grant award

York Parks and Recreation Department is purchasing a multi-kayak trailer and gear storage boxes to better facilitate implementation of its long-term York River kayak tour series that expands community access to the river. Parks and Recreation will continue to offer 6-8 free kayak tours per year through the fall of 2028. Tours include basic paddling instruction, safety information, and educational information about river ecology and the Wild and Scenic River designation.



2026 York Climate Action Fair

York Ready for Climate Action – \$1,500 grant award

York Ready for Climate Action will coordinate and manage the 2026 Climate Action Fair to showcase actions, organizations, products, and programs that enhance sustainability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Areas of focus have included home energy efficiency and electrification, land conservation, native plants, electric transportation options, and sustainable home goods and yard care approaches. YRCA is enhancing its outreach and engagement activities for the 2026 fair to include York River watershed protection topics.



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York River Stewardship Committee
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