
Sustainability Grant

Lexington – Fayette Urban County Government

Department of Environmental Quality & Public Works vision is to preserve, protect, and enhance our Bluegrass environment; to provide public infrastructure systems that are safe, efficient, and economical; and to promote a healthy and sustainable quality of life for our citizens.

Sustainability Grant (SG)

The purpose of the SG is to encourage residents to work collaboratively and creatively to educate local citizens on environmental issues and ways they can improve the environmental health of our neighborhoods. A 50% match is required for this grant. A match can be donations, materials or in-kind services or a combination of each. Documentation must be provided for both grant expenditures and on the value of all in-kind supplies, donations, materials and services. In-kind matches may also include items such as recorded use of personal vehicles or machinery. Documented volunteer hours will be valued at the federal minimum wage rate.

Eligible Projects on environmental issues in Fayette County include:

- Anti-Litter
- Beautification (outside only)
- Cleanup & restoration of illegal dumpsites
- Community Gardens
- Composting
- Green Roofs
- Permeable Pavers
- Streamside Restoration
- Rain Barrels (Lily Raintainers can only be used as a grant match)
- Rain Gardens
- Recycling Project
- Wildlife Habitat
- Other projects that are determined to improve the environmental health and meet the principles of sustainability

Ineligible Projects include:

- Building construction and repair
- Maintenance Projects (sidewalk repair)
- Privately created illegal dump clean up
- Other projects that are determined to be maintenance in nature

Eligible Reimbursements:

- Supplies
- Materials
- Equipment Rental
- Disposal Tipping Fee

Ineligible Reimbursements:
(These items can be used as in-kind match)

- Purchasing of equipment
- Advertising costs
- Employee salaries (regular or temporary staff)
- Lily Raintainer Purchase
- Meals
- Travel
- Membership dues
- Applicant salaries
- Digital or disposable cameras or camcorders
- Tire buy-backs
- Mileage of personal vehicle use

Guidelines

Please read all guidelines thoroughly.

Application Deadline:	March 1, 2015 by 4:30 PM
Maximum Grant Request:	\$5000 maximum, a 50% match is required. Partially funded projects may be offered. The grantee(s) has the option to accept or reject the partial funding.
Eligible Applicants:	All Fayette County churches, public and private schools, active neighborhood and homeowner associations and 501c3 non-profit organizations that are incorporated and have a complete slate of elected officers.
Conditions of Grant Acceptance:	<i>Projects that cannot be completed within the grant period will forfeit grant funds.</i> The Division of Environmental Policy reserves the right to audit all grant recipients in all matters related to the Sustainability Grant.

Review Criteria

The Grant Review Committee will make recommendations to the Urban County Council for final approval and grant award using the grant criteria. Incomplete applications or applications received after the submission deadline will not be considered. Partially funded projects may be offered. The grantee(s) will have the option of accepting or rejecting the partial funding.

Application Review Timeline

March 1, 2015	Application deadline
March-April	Panel will review applications and make recommendations based on established criteria
April 13, 2015	Preliminary Selections
April 22, 2015	Official Notifications
May 30, 2016	Project Completion and Final Report Due

Review Process and Calendar

Sustainability Grant funds are reimbursed upon completion of the project and approval of the final report by the Department of Environmental Quality and Public Works.

Grant Criteria

The Sustainability Grant panel evaluates grant applications according to the criteria listed below. The review of applications is an annual competitive process. Funding in one year does not guarantee funding in subsequent years. Please refer to the criteria when completing the application.

Project goals and its specific environmental benefits (40 Points)

- Overall goal of project
- Description of environmental benefits
- Illustration of other tangible results and benefits to the community
- Role of supporting organization(s)
- Justification for budget line items
- If applicable, clearly define any project that is proposed using LFUCG property (Contact list is included)