

2021 HEALING THE PLANET GRANT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Eligible projects will connect people and families with community green spaces on public land and could include park improvements, park/recreation builds, playground equipment, watershed restoration, riparian plantings, recycling infrastructure and related programs, beautification and greening, community gardens, vacant lot restoration, outdoor classrooms, waste/recycling containers, educational trail signage, pollinator plantings and education, raingarden installation/education, graffiti removal and native tree/shrub plantings.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE?

Examples of ineligible expenses include but are not limited to: scholarships, general overhead, mini-grant programs, professional development, travel costs, fundraising expenses, lobbying expenses and projects on private land that do not benefit the public.

CAN I APPLY FOR A \$1,000 GRANT?

No. Applications will be accepted for \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000. Interested applicants that have smaller projects that do not meet the minimum grant of \$2,500 are encouraged to expand the scope of their project or partner with another organization. Applications for less than \$2,500 will not be considered.

MY ORGANIZATION DOES WORK IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, PA; CAN I APPLY?

No. Based on GIANT store locations, applications must be for projects in the following states and counties. Applicants can reside outside of the target locations but the project **MUST** be in the below locations. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.**

Maryland: Alleghany, Carroll, Cecil and Washington counties.

Pennsylvania: Adams, Berks, Blair, Bucks, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Perry, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Snyder, Union and York counties.

Virginia: Clarke, Culpeper, Frederick, and Warren counties. Also the cities of Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro and Winchester.

West Virginia: Berkeley, Jefferson and Mineral counties.

CAN MY TOWNSHIP APPLY FOR A GRANT?

Applicants can be any tax-exempt organization including nonprofit organizations, conservation districts, schools, religious organizations, local and county governments, etc. EIN must be provided.

CAN I MAIL IN MY APPLICATION?

No. Online submissions only will be accepted and will open on **June 1, 2021**. Sorry, no applications will be accepted by post or email.

WHAT CAN I USE AS MATCH FUNDS?

Eligible items that can be used as match funds include but are not limited to: committed cash funds towards the project, in-kind donations, and volunteer hours (hourly rate from The Independent Sector <https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2021/>). Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful encourages community match. Match is preferred but **not** required.

CAN MY APPLICATION INCLUDE PRE-OCCURED EXPENSES?

No expenses occurring in the past are eligible. All project expenses must occur during the project timeframe of August 2021 (award date) to July 31, 2022.

CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE PROJECT?

Yes, we encourage combining projects whenever possible into one grant application. One organization can apply for multiple levels of funding for different projects in different project areas but we can only accept one application per project. As an example ABC Organization can submit two separate applications for two different projects:

- Application 1) \$5,000 to implement a community garden on public land in City A.
- Application 2) \$10,000 for a community multiuse space with a playground and sports area Township B.
- Alternatively, ABC Organization can submit one application for \$15,000 for both projects.

WHAT IF MY PROJECT WILL TAKE PLACE IN MORE THAN ONE COUNTY?

You can still submit one application for the whole project or combine multiple projects into one application, as long as all of the work areas will be in counties on the list of GIANT store locations. For the county/state selection questions on the application, please enter whichever county is the primary. Then in the project location and project description boxes include details for all locations. For any areas that are not owned or managed by your agency/organization please make sure to also include landowner letters of support.

CONTACT/GRANT QUESTIONS

For grant questions and guidance regarding eligible projects, please contact Heidi Pedicone, Director of Programs for Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful at hpedicone@keepbeautiful.org or 877-772-3673 x 109.