



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE GIANT COMPANY ANNOUNCES 2023 HEALING THE PLANET GRANT PROGRAM**

*In partnership with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, \$300,000 in grants will be awarded to projects focused on food waste prevention, reduction, and recovery*

**CARLISLE, Pa., March 2, 2023** – [The GIANT Company](https://www.giantmartins.com) in partnership with [Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful](https://www.keeppabeautiful.org), today announced the return of its Healing the Planet grant program. This year, \$300,000 will be awarded to projects that address food waste prevention, reduction, and recovery across The GIANT Company's operating area in the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia.

"In the past two years of our grant program and partnership with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, we have worked with dozens of grant recipients to make a difference in healing the planet by connecting families to green spaces and focusing on water conservation," said Jessica Groves, community impact manager, The GIANT Company. "As a grocer, we are tackling the issue of food waste in our operations every day. Understanding that we all can make changes to divert food waste for our landfills, this year we are focusing on projects which specifically take steps to address this issue."

The 2023 Healing the Planet grant program is accepting online applications now through April 13, 2023 via the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful [website](https://www.keeppabeautiful.org). Projects must address food waste prevention, reduction and or recovery and can include community composting, increased access to compost for agricultural producers, educational programs regarding food waste prevention, reduction and recovery and diversion of food waste from landfills. Community gardens are eligible for funding but must have a food waste prevention, reduction and or recovery component, such as education. Awardees will be announced in June.

This is the third year The GIANT Company has partnered with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful to offer Healing the Planet grants. In the past two years, more than \$800,000 has been awarded to 87 recipients for projects which connected people and families to green spaces and improved or helped to protect local waterways and water resources.

"Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is excited to learn about the many inventive ways food waste is being prevented, reduced and recovered," said Shannon Reiter, president, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "Not only do these types of projects save natural resources and reduce the amount of material that enters the waste stream, they can also potentially provide food security to those in need. We are honored to

continue our partnership with The GIANT Company to provide opportunities to make a difference in the efficiencies of food waste within our communities. We also want to thank all of you who 'rounded up' at the register. Your generosity will directly impact your local community."

As part of The GIANT Company's healing the planet initiative, the company is committed to zero-waste initiatives, offsetting emissions, reducing food waste and producing green energy, and plastic bag recycling and plastic reduction efforts. To learn more, visit [giantfoodstores.com/pages/our-purpose](https://giantfoodstores.com/pages/our-purpose).

In addition, customers can also support The GIANT Company's healing the planet initiatives. Now through May 31, customers can round up their purchase at any GIANT, MARTIN'S or GIANT Heirloom Market store at checkout. Funds donated through round up will benefit Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, Rodale Institute, and Planet Bee Foundation.

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#### **About The GIANT Company**

*The GIANT Company believes that no matter where or how, when meals happen, families connect, and when families connect meaningfully, good happens. Guided by its brand platform, For Today's Table®, the omnichannel retailer proudly serves millions of neighbors across Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and New Jersey. With more than 36,000 talented team members supporting 193 stores, 132 pharmacies, 107 fuel stations, and over 185 online pickup hubs and grocery delivery service in hundreds of zip codes, The GIANT Company is changing the customer experience and connecting families for a better future. Founded in 1923 in Carlisle, Pa., The GIANT Company family of brands includes GIANT, MARTIN'S, GIANT Heirloom Market, GIANT Direct and MARTIN'S Direct. The GIANT Company is a company of Ahold Delhaize USA. For more information, visit the [GIANT](#) or [MARTIN'S](#) websites.*

#### **About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful**

*Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's vision is a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has worked with hundreds of thousands of volunteers across the state to pick up nearly 155 million pounds of trash from Pennsylvania's roadways, waterways, greenways, vacant lots, forestlands and other community spaces. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's core programming focuses on litter and illegal dump prevention, cleanup, community greening, and proper waste handling and sustainable practices. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful works with many partnering organizations on the state and grassroots level to accomplish our goal of a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania. Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful is the state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., the nation's largest volunteer-based community action and education organization. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit [www.keppabeautiful.org](http://www.keppabeautiful.org).*

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