



GET THAT GRANT!

Funding Opportunities and How LBN Can Help

Though the growing season may be winding down, now is the time to think about how to fund your school garden or outdoor learning landscape ideas for next year! Below is a list of granting opportunities to help your educational institute or organization get their great ideas sprouted. (Sources: Kids Gardening, NEEA, MEEA and a few others).

Grant writing takes a significant investment of time and is extremely competitive! Before you begin completing any application, be sure to thoroughly research what, who, where and when the granting organization funds, make a personal connection anytime you can, call (if a phone number is available) if you have questions (that are NOT answered in their web info), weigh out your odds (#, \$, time...), clearly define your vision and strategy, be thorough yet to the point and follow instructions to the "T".

We want to see your vision grow! Learning by Nature offers **grant proposal reviews** (related to outdoor learning landscapes / gardens on a school ground, please allow 1-2 weeks turnaround time). If you would like to have a proposal reviewed by an outside professional before submission (which is good practice by the way AND could significantly improve the odds of being funded), LBN offers this service for \$125/proposal (up to 6pgs) or \$45 for proposals less than \$500 or less than 3 pages. Call for cost over 6 pgs. **Need assistance creating a sustainable standards-based vision or design for your school project ideas? Give LBN a call 406-599-1770.**

Funding and Grant Opportunities

(remember to research and confirm specific deadline dates and criteria)

Captain Planet Foundation ~ Deadline: December 31

Captain Planet Foundation provides funds for hands-on programs that promote understanding of environmental issues. www.captainplanetfoundation.org for details.

PPL (Montana) ~ Deadline: Jan. 31

Competitive environmental education grants. Schoolteachers can receive up to \$1,500 in funding for school projects that focus on issues like watersheds and wetlands, air quality, renewable and non-renewable resources, energy conservation and the greening of schools.

<http://www.pplmontana.com/environment/our+environmental+programs/environmental+education+grants.htm>

Project Orange Thumb Grant ~ Deadline: December 31

This year, Fiskars' Project Orange Thumb will select 11 recipients – 10 programs will receive \$5,000 in cash and tools to help support their goals of neighborhood beautification and horticulture education, and one lucky applicant will receive a complete garden makeover! www2.fiskars.com/Activities/Project-Orange-Thumb/Grant-and-Garden-Makeover-Application

2011 Welch's Harvest Grant ~ Deadline: February

In partnership with Scholastic and the National Gardening Association, Welch's supports school garden programs through Welch's Harvest Grants. Schools around the country can apply for a Welch's Harvest Grant. Five \$5000 recipients, ninety-five \$500 receive support for garden projects.

<http://www.scholastic.com/harvest/>

Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! Pollinator Garden Grants ~ Deadline: December 1

In 2010, Project Learning Tree and the USDA Forest Service are *offering grants to teachers and students participating in PollinatorLIVE: A Distance Learning Adventure*. Participating teachers can apply for *GreenWorks!* funding to create pollinator gardens in their schoolyard or community. The maximum grant amount is \$500. Deadline to apply is December 1st, 2010. www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_274.html

Herb Society of America Grant for Educators ~ Deadline: December 31

The Grant for Educators challenges individuals, groups or small businesses to develop and deliver learning experiences to the public. The grant recognizes innovative projects that enhance herbal education in school systems, in communities, or in any public forum (electronic or person-to-person). It requires learning goals and a mechanism to measure the educational outcomes. For more details:

<http://herbsociety.org/resources/educator-grants.html>

Documen-Tree ~ Entry deadline: October 29

Cintas and American Forests have partnered to award one winning school or community with Historic Trees from American Forests' Historic Tree Program to be planted during a special presentation in honor of Earth Month in April. To enter, submit a creative 60-90 second video explaining why your school deserves to win. The winner will receive five historical trees and \$5,000 toward school supplies.

www.cintas.com/customer_applications/DocumenTree/

Youth Garden Grants ~ Application deadline: November 1

Youth Garden Grants are awarded to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities and intergenerational groups throughout the United States are eligible to apply. Applicants must plan to garden with at least 15 children between the ages of three and 18 years. Five programs will receive a \$1,000 gift card to Home Depot and National Gardening Association (NGA) and 95 programs will win a \$500 gift card to Home Depot and educational materials from NGA. www.kidsgardening.org/ygg.asp

SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Environmental Excellence Awards ~ Deadline: December 1

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment recognize the outstanding efforts of K-12 students and teachers across the country who are working at the grassroots level to protect and preserve the environment. Eight school or community groups are selected each year to win \$10,000 and one environmental educator/leader receives \$5,000. www.seaworld.org/conservation-matters/eea/index.htm

2011 Mantis Award Application ~ Deadline: March

The Mantis Awards recognize charitable and educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life in their host communities. The 25 recipients receive Mantis tiller/cultivators.

www.kidsgardening.org/grants/mantis.asp (could share w/ other BSD schools or community gardens)

Shade Structure Program ~ Deadline: April

The American Academy of Dermatology's Shade Structure Program awards grants in the amount of \$8,000 each for the purchase of permanent shade structures designed to provide shade and ultraviolet (UV) ray protection for outdoor areas. The AAD also provides a permanent sign to be displayed near the shade structure that promotes the importance of sun safety. <http://www.aad.org/skin-care-and->

[safety/skin-cancer-prevention/shade-structure](#)

Gardner's Supply-

Grant availability and focus change. See website or kidsgardening.org for updates (up to \$500).
www.gardeners.com

Build-A-Bear Workshop® Giving Programs ~ Deadline: Rolling

Champ—A Champion Fur Kids grants for children's health and wellness are awarded to programs with measurable outcomes that make the world a healthier and happier place for kids. For details:
www.buildabear.com/aboutus/community/grants/

Annie's Grants for Gardens ~Deadline: Rolling

Annie's offers a limited number of small grants to community gardens, school gardens, and other education programs that connect children directly to gardening. These funds may be used to buy gardening tools, seeds, or other gardening supplies. For application details:
www.annies.com/grants_for_gardens

Fruit Tree 101 ~Deadline: Rolling

This program of The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation brings fruit tree orchards to schoolyards, so students can make a positive environmental impact at their school, while creating a source of tasty snacks for decades to come. For an application: www.ftpf.org/fruittree101.htm

Operation Green Plant – Free Seed Grants ~ Deadline: Rolling

America the Beautiful Fund's Operation Green Plant program is offering grants of FREE SEEDS (vegetable, flower, or herb) to encourage citizen efforts to protect and preserve America's lands and resources. Shipping and handling fees for the first set of 100 seed packets is \$14.95. Additional set(s) of 100 packets are available for \$5 per set. For more details: www.america-the-beautiful.org/free_seeds/index.php

Lowes Tool kit for Learning Grants

Deadline (spring): February 18, 2011 (*application process closes after 1500 rcvd*)

Prefer funding requests that have a permanent impact such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/clean up type projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit will be favored. Please note the grant money cannot be used to pay for memorials, stipends, salaries, artists in residence, field trips, scholarships, or third party funding. 2011, focus and priority on basic, one-time project needs.

www.toolboxforeducation.com/hta.html (pre-approval required) Sample successful grant:
http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/resources/Lowes_TBFE_Sample_App_08-09.pdf

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Burpee Home Gardens "I Can Grow" Youth Garden Award ~ Deadline: December 3

"I can grow" sponsor and support urban school and community gardens in cities across the country in 2011. Established or start-up programs that demonstrate well-developed and staffed plans for a youth-centered educational program are encouraged to apply. Award includes a combination of cash, resources, plants. www.burpeehomegardens.com/ICanGrow/YouthGardenAward.aspx

The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program ~ Deadline: October 15th

Gives small monetary grants to schools, nature centers, and other non-profit and not-for-profit places of learning in the United States with a site available for a stewardship project. Cash awards from \$100 to \$500 are restricted to the purchase of native plants and seed for the grant-award year. Successful projects are eligible for discounts on seeds and plants from SFE Nursery Partners.

<http://www.for-wild.org/seedmony.html>

CVS Charitable Trust foundation and CVS Caremark Community Grants ~ Deadline: varies

Mission is to give back to the communities in which CVS employees live and work through charitable contributions, colleague engagement, and by raising awareness of important issues impacting neighborhoods across the country. General focus: children with disabilities, healthcare and communities.

www.info.cvscaremark.com/community/

National Science Teachers Award Programs ~ Deadline: November 30 (most)

50 different Awards available (up to \$10,000) for innovative science projects and additional grants are given for teaching performance and plans in the field of science. www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx

Ex: Delta Education/Frey-Neo/CPO Science Education Awards for Excellence in Inquiry-based Science Teaching

The Delta Education/Frey-Neo/CPO Science Awards for Excellence in Inquiry-based Science Teaching will recognize and honor three (3) full-time PreK–12 teachers of science who successfully use inquiry-based science to enhance teaching and learning in their classroom. \$1,500 towards expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference, and \$1,500 for the awardee.

www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx

Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Education Grants ~ November 8, 2011

EPA awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Annual funding for the program ranges between \$2 and \$3 million. More than 75 percent of the grants awarded by this program receive less than \$15,000. <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>

Grant Wrangler

Find funding opportunities for K-12 schools, searchable by grade level, keyword, category, deadline

www.grantwrangler.com

Remember Local Opportunitites For Funding and Collaboration

Local Garden Clubs

Civic Organizations (Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Optimist...)

University and Extension Staff

Local water and natural resource districts

Local natural resource / environmental-related nonprofit organizations

Local garden and supply-related vendors and businesses

High School and University community service-learning hours

Montana Watercourse

Others...