

Environmental Project Funding Opportunities

STATE SOURCES

Environmental License Tag Grants. Grants to promote new enthusiasm for the practice of environmental education for Oklahoma teachers, public or private (Pre K – 12), school environmental clubs, youth group leaders, and/or organizations with a youth component to apply for the grant. Applicants may apply for amounts from \$200 up to \$1,000 per grant, with approximately \$14,000 total to be awarded annually in February or March. Categories include: Environmental Club Projects, Edible School Gardens, Environmental Education Projects, Green Schools, Outdoor Classroom Revitalization, Recycling, and Composting. These grants are sponsored by the DEQ's Oklahoma Environmental Quality Education Committee and have been awarded annually since 1996. Detailed information is available on the DEQ Website: www.deq.state.ok.us. Contact: Erin Hatfield at (405) 702-7119 or erin.hatfield@deq.ok.gov.

OGE Energy Corp. Awards teacher grants up to \$1,000, and they are available to teachers at public schools in OG&E and Enogex service territories in Oklahoma and Western Arkansas. Any creative project, which deals with reading, mathematics or science, will be considered. Information about teacher grants is provided during the last semester of the school year. Find more information at: <http://www.oge.com/community/teacherskids/Pages/TeachersKids.aspx>

Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants. Sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Forestry Services in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the Oklahoma Urban and Community Forestry Council, this grant program is designed to establish, expand and promote urban and community forestry in the State of Oklahoma. Grants may be awarded to state and local units of government, approved non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations, civic groups, educational institutions or other tree volunteer groups. All projects must occur in Oklahoma. The amount available ranges from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per grant and is a 50% matching program. However, in-kind matching is acceptable. Contact: Mark Bays (405) 521-3864 to request a grant package. (*Note: Potential 2011 budget cuts may eliminate this program.*)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Outdoor Classroom Grants. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' (FWS) Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program provides project development grants up to \$5,000.00 for Outdoor Environmental Classrooms. These Outdoor Classrooms must emphasize wetlands and/or endangered and threatened ecosystems in Oklahoma. Funds are to be used for project development, such as, wetland construction, walkways, gazebos, plant material, etc. For more information on wetland development and how to get a wetland classroom going at your school, contact Jontie_Aldrich@fws.gov / (918) 382-4511 or Terry_Dupree@fws.gov / (918) 605-8047.

NATIONAL SOURCES

The AT&T Cares Youth Service Action Fund offers support to youth (ages 5 to 25) and organizations to plan and implement service projects on National Youth Service Day 2003 (April 11-13). While projects may have a service-learning component, youth are encouraged to use their creativity and resourcefulness to address unmet needs and problems in their communities, whether or not the projects are tied to a curriculum. Twenty-five grants of \$500 are available to youth and youth organizations. Website: www.ysa.org/awards/award_grant.cfm

Best Buy Children's Foundation. To enhance the quality of life of school-age children in communities where Best Buy Co, Inc. through support of programs and organizations that offer leadership and educational opportunities. The Foundation invests in organizations and programs committed to making a difference in the lives of children. Emphasis is placed on innovative programs that promote personal achievement, mentor relationships and life skills, and accentuate learning opportunities for school-age children. All grants are given to schools or 501(c)(3) organizations or organizations seeking this nonprofit status. Contact: Best Buy Children's Foundation, Community Relations Dept., P.O. Box 9448, Minneapolis, MN 55440-9448, Phone:(952) 947-2650, With the @15 grant, our goal is to empower teens to thrive by helping them excel in school, engage in their communities, and develop life and leadership skills. Website: http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/our_foundation.htm

Captain Planet Foundation. Deadlines: May 31 - September 30 - December 31

The Captain Planet Foundation primarily makes grants to U.S.-based schools and organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million. Grants are made for activities that conform to the mission of the Captain Planet Foundation which is to: promote and support high-quality educational programs that enable children and youth to understand and appreciate our world through learning experiences that engage them in active, hands-on projects to improve the environment in their schools and communities. Grants from the Captain Planet Foundation are intended to serve as a catalyst to getting environment-based education in schools, and inspire youth and communities to participate in community service through environmental stewardship activities. Website: <http://captainplanetfoundation.org/>

Echoing Green Fellowship Program. Gives social change entrepreneurs tools and resources to start public service projects in fields including education, environment, arts, health, youth service, community and/or economic development, and civil rights. Fellows receive a two-year \$60,000 stipend, health and dental insurance, networking opportunities, and technical assistance. There are no restrictions regarding specific program areas or geographic territories. Website: www.echoinggreen.org/

EPA Environmental Education Grants. The Grants Program sponsored by EPA's Office of Environmental Education (OEE), Office of External Affairs and Environmental Education, supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to help people make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. EPA awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Local educational institutions, state agencies and non-profit groups are eligible to apply. These grants cannot be used for structure construction and a 25% cash or in-kind matching donation is required. The RFP (request for proposals) usually comes out sometime during the summer, with the deadline in the fall.

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html> (Note: Potential 2011 budget cuts may eliminate this program.)

generationOn. With a multi-year commitment of \$5 million, by the Hasbro Children's Fund, generationOn, the youth division of Points of Light, is helping young people develop into healthy, empowered, creative problem-solvers and global leaders by experiencing their power and potential through service, service learning and giving back. By partnering with teachers, parents, schools, community organizations and businesses, generationOn gives kids the opportunity to see firsthand the issues in their communities and the tools and resources they need to respond and become part of the solution. Site also provides kits if great project & activity ideas for kids, teens and teachers. Website: <http://generationon.org/>

GreenWorks! Community Action Projects. This Project Learning Tree's (PLT) environmental community action component encourages students to participate in community based partnerships by developing and implementing environmental action projects, such as tree plantings, stream clean-ups, recycling outdoor classrooms and GreenSchools projects. This grant program is open to any PLT trained educator and must contain a community partnership element such as working with scouts, PTA organization, local business etc. Apply online: <http://www.plt.org/greenworks> Questions? Contact: Christina Stallings Roberson at 405-522-6158 or Christina.Stallings@ag.ok.gov.

The Home Depot. Grants, up to \$5,000, are available to registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, public schools or tax-exempt public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their community. Grants are given in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services. Organizations requesting a grant are required to have a Federal Tax Exempt nonprofit status and must include a copy of the 501(C)(3) letter/form. Website: <http://homedepotfoundation.org/how-we-help/grants.html>

Kodak American Greenway Grants. Through a partnership of Eastman Kodak, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program provides small grants for the planning and design of greenways and support of grassroots greenways organizations in U.S. communities. Grants range from \$500 to \$2500. Online application: http://www.conservationfund.org/kodak_awards

National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) Grants. In addition to core programs—Classroom Earth, National Public Lands Day, National Environmental Education Week, Business and Environment, Earth Gauge® and Health and Environment—NEEF provides grants to leverage the reach of our programs, implement our program goals, support the efforts of other organizations and strengthen the environmental education (EE) field as a whole. In 2010, NEEF gave over \$300,000 to more than 100 grantees in 34 states. Website: <http://neefusa.org/grants/index.htm>

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grants. Emphasizes innovative and effective wildlife conservation activities in an urban or rural setting. Governmental units, educational or non-profit groups are eligible to apply for amounts of \$10,000 and up. Contact: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, 1120 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 857-0166, Website: <http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=GrantPrograms>

Lowe's Charitable & Educational Foundation. Any individual public K-12 school or non-profit parent group associated with that public K-12 school is eligible to apply. The Foundation provides funding only in communities where Lowe's operates stores and distribution centers. Grants generally range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Larger amount requests will be considered, but are seldom awarded. Apply online: http://www.cybergrants.com/lowes/start_app.html

National 4-H Council Youth Grants Program. Offers grants for youth in local communities, in counties, and on the state level. These grants provide opportunities for young people and adults to take action on issues critical to their lives, their families, and their communities. Youth take the lead in the design of the project, the proposal writing process, the implementation, and the evaluation of funded projects. Website: <http://www.4-h.org/>

NASA

NASA has funding available for cooperative agreements for projects designed to education students, teachers and lifelong learners about climate change. Funding is available for higher education institutions, state agencies, local agencies, or federally recognized tribal government agencies; public school districts; and non-profit organizations. Website: <http://www.nasa.gov/home/index.html>

National Science Foundation

The NSF offers grants through its Climate Change Education Partnership (CCEP) program, which seeks to establish a coordinated national network of regionally- or thematically-based partnerships devoted to increasing the adoption of effective, high quality educational programs and resources related to the science of climate change and its impacts. Website: <http://www.nsf.gov/funding/>

Seeds for Education - Grants for School Gardens and Community Nature Areas. The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program gives small monetary grants to schools, nature centers, or other non-profit educational organizations for the purpose of establishing outdoor learning centers. The grant recipient learning centers are those which most successfully reflect the Wild Ones mission to educate and share information about the benefits of using native plants in our landscape and to promote biodiversity and environmentally sound environmentally sound practices. Only through this knowledge, can we appreciate humankind's proper place in the web of life. The deadline is November 15 annually. Website: <http://for-wild.org/wildcertification/SFEInstructionsApplication.pdf>

State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Awards. State Farm is proud to team up with Youth Service America to offer grants of up to \$1,000 for youth-led service-learning initiatives in all 50 states. Eligible programs will engage youth in service-learning, an effective teaching and learning strategy that promotes student learning, academic achievement, workplace readiness, and healthy communities. These grants encourage semester-long projects that launch on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service in mid-January and culminate on Global Youth Service Day in mid-April. Website: www.youthserviceamerica.org/goodneighbor

Target is helping teachers bring learning to life for students through its *Take Education on the Road Field Trip Grants* program. Educators across the country recognize the importance of taking their students on field trips and are in need of additional funding to enhance regular classroom studies. Target awards 5,000 field trip grants across the country annually, which equates to 1 in every 25 K-12 schools receiving a grant. Applications due by November 1. Website: <https://targetfieldtripgrants.target.com/register.php>

Toshiba America Foundation Grants. The Toshiba America Foundation encourages programs, projects and activities that have the potential to improve classroom teaching and learning of science, mathematics and the science and mathematics of technology. Funding is available for private and public schools, grades K-5 or 6-12. Applications and guidelines are available online: <http://www.toshiba.com/taf/>

Toyota Tapestry Grant. A partnership program of Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. and the National Science teachers Association (NSTA), this program offers grants to K-12 science teachers. Grants are given to innovative projects that enhance science education in the school and/or school district. The projects must center on either environmental education or physical science applications (applied physics, chemistry and technology). Projects should demonstrate creativity, involve risk-taking, possess a visionary quality, and model a novel way of presenting science. They should also involve hands-on activities, have an interdisciplinary approach and relate science to students' lives. To be eligible, middle and high school science teachers must spend at least 50% of their classroom time teaching science. Elementary teachers must teach some science in the classroom. Proposals must describe a project including its potential impact on students, and a budget up to \$10,000. Details on NSTA Website: <http://www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/>

Youth Garden Grants from National Gardening Association & Home Depot. NGA awards Youth Garden Grants to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize one or more of these elements: educational focus and/or curricular ties (if applicant is a formal education program); nutrition or plant-to-food connections; environmental awareness/education; entrepreneurship; social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning. Schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and intergenerational groups throughout the United States are eligible. Applicants must plan to garden in current year with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18 years. Previous Youth Garden Grant winners who wish to reapply may do so, but must wait one year and have significantly expanded their garden programs. Website: <http://assoc.garden.org/grants/>

LOCAL SOURCES--Oklahoma City Metro Area

Margaret Annis Boys Trust Fund. This program provides support and encouragement for landscaping and beautification projects in parks, medians and other public lands in the Oklahoma City area. The program emphasizes strong partnerships with interested groups that must provide some matching resources and long-term maintenance for the projects. Funds are primarily used for purchase and installation of plant materials according to a landscaping plan. Non-profit organizations, neighborhood associations and other groups with a vested interest in the beautification of a particular area are eligible. Details on Website: <http://www.occf.org/boystrust>

Kirkpatrick Family Fund. Primary fields of interest are education, youth, culture, arts, neighborhoods and beautification. The Fund would be supportive of outdoor classroom gardens that have a strong educational component. Grants up to \$1,500 are reviewed monthly. Areas of Interest: Animals, Arts & Humanities, Children Youth & Families, Community Development, Education, Environment, Health, and Social Services. Website: <http://www.occf.org/kff.html>

Kirkpatrick Foundation. The mission of the Kirkpatrick Foundation is to support Arts and Culture, Education, Animal Concerns and Environmental Conservation, primarily in Central Oklahoma. Grant proposals are considered only from not-for-profit organizations qualified as public charities under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Website: www.kirkpatrickfoundation.com / Facebook: Kirkpatrick Foundation, Inc.