

Central Platte NRD's Community Grants Program provides funding for community and/or non-profit groups to promote water, soil, wildlife, forest, grassland conservation and environmental awareness for the public or youth. This is a competitive grant with a maximum of \$2,000 per year and may be applied for at any time. The Community Grant requires no matching funds.

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One grant request of \$2,000 will be funded per fiscal year (July 1- June 30). If grant requests are less than \$2,000, additional grant requests will be entertained.

Grant Uses

Appropriate expenditures of funds may include: indoor/outdoor conservation projects, print or activity materials, educational resources, water projects, rain gardens, rain barrels, butterfly and pollinator gardens, seeds, bulbs, live plants, trees, native grasses, identification signs, wetland or pond habitat, bird/wildlife feeders, outdoor seating in nature settings, or other conservation-minded projects.

Judging Criteria

Proposals should demonstrate a well-thought approach to meeting conservation objectives of your organization and program(s). The application must state the methods that will be used to promote environmental and conservation awareness and a general timeline to meet your goal(s).

Applicant Procedures & Requirements

1. In the application, state the project leader, project purpose, objectives, methods, duration, maintenance, and itemized budget.
2. Submit application: to Marcia Lee, Information/Education Specialist, Central Platte NRD, 215 Kaufman Ave, Grand Island, NE 68803 at least three weeks before the funds are needed.
3. The Programs Committee of the Central Platte NRD board will review and make a recommendation board of directors at their monthly meeting. The information/education specialist will contact the Project Leader within two business days of the board's decision.
4. Following approval of the grant, awardees will receive a small sign identifying the project as being partially funded by the Central Platte Natural Resources District. The sign should be displayed near the project site or program.
5. The NRD logo and name must be placed on all materials. Once the grant is implemented, the project leader must provide a brief written report and/or photo of the project within three weeks of completion.
6. Copies of receipts for purchased materials must be included in your report. Unused funds exceeding \$25 must be returned to the NRD within 60 days. Permission to purchase materials other than those specified in the application (with NRD funding) must be approved by the NRD's information and education specialist.

Include the following in your Outdoor Classroom Application

1. **Organization Name, Address & Phone Number**
2. **Project Leader:** Include name of project coordinator and others who will serve as contacts. Include titles and phone numbers.
3. **Project Title and Description**
4. **Purpose and Goals:** Explain who will benefit from this project. Indicate objectives, goals, and approximate number of people reached.
5. **Methods and Activities:** Describe what will be executed to accomplish objectives and specific ways to meet your objectives.
6. **Results:** Include the overall benefits the outdoor classroom will provide. Will the project results be used for another purpose? Are there plans for additional promotion/education?
7. **Maintenance:** How will the project be maintained?
8. **Project Duration:** Provide timeline for beginning to end of site implementation. The summary and/or photos will be expected within three weeks after completion.
9. **Funding Request:** No funding in excess of \$2,000 per fiscal year will be considered.
10. **Itemized Budget:** Itemized budget any additional partner funding.
11. **Date Funds are Needed:** Send application at least three weeks prior to project start date.
12. **Signatures:** The Project Leader signature is required.

For more information, contact Marcia Lee (308) 385-6282 or lee@cpnrd.org