

Green Partners Grants

The Hennepin County Green Partners grants support community-based projects with funding, resources and training to engage a wide array of audiences in learning about and taking action to protect the environment. As a result of successful collaborations, residents are empowered to become better environmental stewards and take action individually and collectively to prevent waste, recycle, reduce household hazardous waste, conserve energy, care for trees, protect pollinators, and improve air and water quality.

	Youth environmental education grant	Environmental action grant
This grant program has two options	Projects engage youth in learning about the environment and becoming environmental stewards using youth environmental education best practices.	Projects focus on motivating adults to do more to protect the environment by focusing on one or two environmentally friendly actions using behavior change strategies.
Eligible recipients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered nonprofit organizations such as community groups, youth programs and congregations Park districts Private and public schools and school districts, including community education programs like early childhood family education 	
Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must engage at least 150 youth who live, go to school, work, or recreate in Hennepin County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must engage at least 150 adults who live, go to school, work, or recreate in Hennepin County
Amount of funding available and grant length	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizations who have never received an environmental education grant may apply for a one-year grant of up to \$10,000 Organizations who have received an environmental education grant may apply for a one-year grant for up to \$20,000 or, if you meet the criteria, a two-year grant for up to \$40,000 	
Eligible expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funds may be used for project supplies, staff time, outreach, printing, communications, or event supplies 	
Application timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications due by 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 28 Proposal review: May through June 2022 Project approval: August 2022 (anticipated) Projects begin: September 2022 	
Project evaluation and reporting requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required to administer a survey to project participants. Additional qualitative and quantitative data gathering and reporting is optional. Final project report Project debrief with county staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After being selected to receive a grant, develop an evaluation plan that identifies outcome data to measure applicable to the project. Additional qualitative data gathering is optional. Discussion report with audience near the beginning of the project Final project report Project debrief with county staff
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orientation meeting: September, 2022 Meeting with Hennepin County staff advisor within first three months of project 	



Contact us

If you have any questions on the Green Partners program or want feedback on your project idea or application, visit hennepin.us/greenpartners or contact Patience Caso at patience.caso@hennepin.us or 612-596-6856.

Application assistance

Before submitting an application, applicants are **strongly encouraged** to attend an information meeting or contact the program manager for assistance, including feedback on ideas, suggestions for activities, and help completing the application. Contact Patience Caso at patience.caso@hennepin.us or 612-596-6856.

Information meetings

Webinars:

- Wednesday, April 6 from 11 a.m. to noon
- Tuesday, April 12 from 3 to 4 p.m.

Find access information and video recordings at hennepin.us/greenpartners, under environmental education grants.

Information meetings are a chance to:

- Find out more about the grant program
- Hear about and share project ideas
- Understand the county application process
- Get questions answered

Environmental education resources

Hennepin County offers resources on a variety of environmental topics, including:

- Activity guides
- Educational factsheets and brochures
- Education kits and event displays
- Sample articles, social media posts, and images
- Tours of recycling and waste management facilities
- Bus funding for environmental field trips
- Volunteer opportunities

Learn more at hennepin.us/environmentaleducation

Other environmental grants

Hennepin County offers the following grant programs that can help your organizations take steps to protect the environment:

- **Business, nonprofit, and multifamily:** Get funding for bins, supplies, reusable items, and more to start or improve waste prevention, recycling and organics recycling programs.
- **Natural resources grants:** Get funding to install projects that reduce runoff and protect water quality, such as rain gardens.
- **Aquatic invasive species prevention grants:** Get funding to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plants and animals and protect our lakes, rivers, and streams.
- **Healthy tree canopy grants:** Affordable housing properties, schools, and nonprofit organizations can get funding for trees to educate their audiences about trees and plant trees.

