

Funding Sources

(updated 4/14)

Greenworks Grants of \$200 - \$2,000 are available from Project Learning Tree at the national level, for projects involving youth, adults in communities, with positive environmental effects. Someone trained in Project Learning Tree activities should be involved. www.plt.org Tip: Request a letter of support from Sue Wintering in the Ohio PLT office, 614-265-6657 or plt@dnr.state.oh.us

WILD School Sites grants of up to \$500 are available from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, with applications accepted between January 1 and May 31, www.wildohio.com, click on Wild Resources and then Educator Resources. At least one member of the project committee must have completed either Project WILD, Growing Up WILD or Science and Civics training. Tip: Submit early, only twenty are available.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program award grants between \$5,000 and \$20,000 for wetland, riparian, or coastal habitat restoration projects that include education and community stewardship components. Deadline mid-February each year. Tip: work with partner organizations. <http://www.epa.gov/wetlands/restore/5star/>

Lowe's Outdoor Classroom Grant Program was created to provide outdoor, hands-on science education to students in grades K-12 and assist schools in enhancing their core curriculum in all subjects. This grant program was created to provide schools with additional resources to improve their science curriculum by engaging students in hands-on experiences outside the traditional classroom. All U.S. K-12 public schools are welcome to apply. <http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>

Toyota Tapestry grants up to \$50,000 and mini grants up to \$2,500 are available to science teachers and administered by the National Science Teachers Association, <http://www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/?lid=tnav>

American Honda Foundation Grants to K-12 and higher education programs in the fields of youth education (up to 21) and scientific education. <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

Ohio Environmental Education Fund mini grants of \$500 - \$5,000 are offered by the Ohio EPA Office of Environmental Education, with application deadlines around January 15 and July 15 every year. <http://epa.ohio.gov/oeef/EnvironmentalEducation.aspx> Projects must show how education activities will align with Ohio's Academic Content Standards. Construction activities are not eligible. Larger grants up to \$50,000 are also available, but much more competitive. Tip: Contact the OEEF staff for a pre-review. (614) 644-2873.

Ohio EPA 319 grants (named for Section 319 of the Clean Water Act) pass federal funds through to local watershed organizations to improve water quality. These sometimes include funding for education components. <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/nps/index.aspx> Contact your local watershed coordinator. via the Ohio Watershed Network, <http://ohiowatersheds.osu.edu/>

US EPA Environmental Education grants are awarded through both the national Office of Environmental Education www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html and smaller grants (but less competition) through the Region 5 office in Chicago. Application is usually announced in the Federal Register in September, with deadlines in November.

Tip: Pay attention, this program's funding is perennially in jeopardy in the federal budget process.

Youth Garden Grant Program of the National Gardening Association offers \$500 gift cards from The Home Depot to schools and community organizations with child-centered outdoor garden programs. <http://www.kidsgardening.org/>

Other Sources of funding at the local level:

Wal-Mart stores, Target, BP stations, Kraft Foods. Wendy's restaurants and grocery stores may not offer cash but may provide food or other supplies.

Boy Scouts: Eagle Scouts have to complete a community service project, and often perform construction or maintenance in parks and other outdoor learning sites.