

City of Plymouth
Low Maintenance Landscaping Grant



3400 Plymouth Blvd.
Plymouth, MN 55447
(763) 509-5527

Grants for projects that conserve water and protect water quality

The City of Plymouth supports environmental education and neighborhood landscaping practices that protect water quality and conserve water. To encourage these practices and to demonstrate their potential for successfully fulfilling both environmental and aesthetic requirements, the City has established a grant program to support efforts that conserve water and protect water quality.

I. Purpose of Grant: This program is established to encourage and support community-based initiatives to protect water quality, promote water conservation and encourage the use of upland and aquatic plant species that are native to our local ecological region.

II. Award Amounts:

The total available amount in 2015 is \$5,000. Maximum grant amount for any single project is \$500.

III. Eligible Applicants:

Property owners, community associations, businesses, schools and educational institutions, non-profits and other community organizations.

IV. Eligible Activities:

Activities that protect water quality, reduce stormwater runoff and reduce water consumption by utilizing native or other low maintenance landscaping techniques are eligible for consideration. Suggested native plants for Minnesota can be found at the following links.

- [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - MN Stormwater Manual - Minnesota Plant Lists](#)
- [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Plants for Stormwater Design](#)
- [Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources - Native Vegetation / Seed Mixes](#)

All native plants that are included in the project should have the scientific name provided in the Supplies line item within the Budget section on page 4 of this document.

V. Participant Commitment:

Participants must make a commitment to complete and maintain their project.

VI. Public Promotion of Projects and Acknowledgment Requirements:

- Recipients may be asked to work with the City to seek media coverage for their project
- Recipients may be asked to allow others to view their project. This will be part of an ongoing effort to educate other Plymouth residents about the benefits of native landscaping and other practices to protect water quality and conserve water.
- All publications and publicity generated as part of this project must include acknowledgment of the City of Plymouth.

VII. Deadline:

Applications for 2015 grants are due on April 24th.

IX. Award of Grant:

Announcement of grant approvals will occur after May 14th. All applicants will receive written notification regarding their request for funding. Maximum grant amount for any project is \$500. Payment will be made upon completion of work and submission of payment request accompanied by original receipts for expenses.

X. Examples of improving water quality and reducing water consumption:

- Replace portions of lawn with native or other plants that require less irrigation, fertilizer or chemicals.
- Reduce impervious surfaces (concrete, rock, asphalt, buildings).
- Increase native plants (grasses, ground covers, flowers, shrubs, trees).
- Create a buffer area of native plants near a lake, wetland or creek.
- Create a rain garden
- Create a green roof
- Conserve water through the use of moisture sensors on irrigation systems, rain barrels, xeriscape or other water conservation techniques.

Which will:

- Slow down or reduce runoff to lakes, wetlands, streams, storm drains. Native plants are better at absorbing the extra nutrients, which flow across your yard during a rainstorm.
- Reduce lakeshore and stream bank erosion by planting native species with longer root systems.
- Increase wildlife habitat. Kentucky bluegrass does not provide food and shelter for many species of wildlife.
- Reduce watering by planting native plants that do not require as much watering as Kentucky bluegrass.

**City of Plymouth, Environmental Quality Committee:
Low Maintenance Landscaping Grant Application**

Return to: Ben Scharenbroich, Water Resource Technician, City of Plymouth, 3400 Plymouth Blvd, Plymouth, MN 55447. Phone: 763-509-5527 Fax: 763-509-5510 e-mail (preferred): bscharenbroich@plymouthmn.gov

Applicant Name: _____

Title: _____ Application date: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail: _____

Project Title: _____

Start and End Dates: _____

Total Cost of Project: _____

Amount requested from City of Plymouth: _____

Other sources of funding with amounts: _____

I. Narrative *(Use additional pages if needed.)*

Please describe the major purpose of your project.

List Action Steps necessary to accomplish your objectives (plan, install, maintain, educate).

Indicate the location of your project.

Describe your level of commitment to this project.

Outline the time frame for completing this project.

II. Budget: Please provide a budget breakdown, with a brief description for each line item.

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>\$ Requested</u>
1. Supplies (Plants, seeds, landscaping materials)	
	\$ _____
2. Equipment	
	\$ _____
3. Resource Materials	
	\$ _____
4. Miscellaneous	
	\$ _____
Total project cost:	\$ _____

III. Partners

List all participants in this project and their role.

IV. Please attach a sketch/plan of proposed project

Or attach additional related information.