

Making your Stormwater Pond Project Eligible for a Neighborhood Project Grant



The Neighborhood Project Grant program provides grants up to \$1,000 for groups to complete projects that build connections within their neighborhood. To qualify for one of these grants, projects must meet the goals of the grant program. Below are some commonly asked questions and answers (A:) to help your group design a stormwater pond project that meets the grant program requirements.

1. Are volunteer hours required for the neighborhood match, or would a monetary contribution from each homeowner in the neighborhood meet the criteria?

A: The goal of the Neighborhood Project Grant program is to help build a more connected community by working together toward a common goal. Volunteer hours in the form of a work party **must** be included in the neighborhood match portion of the project to be considered for funding. Projects including monetary contributions only will not be considered for funding through the City's grant program.

2. Can we use grant funding to pay for contracted work by a professional (such as removing large trees)?

A: Some or all of the grant funding can be used for contracted work, provided that that the neighborhood match includes an equivalent number of volunteer hours during a work party focused on the project.

3. We have a few individuals in our neighborhood who already help with our stormwater pond maintenance throughout the year. Would their monthly volunteer hours be eligible to be included in the neighborhood match?

A: No. The volunteer match must be completed during the project in a work party format, not over a period of time as regular maintenance.

4. Are we able to use funding for equipment that we will need to continue our maintenance throughout the year?

A: You are able to use the grant funding for equipment that you will need during your project. After the project is complete, the equipment belongs to the group to use for continued project maintenance.

5. Are we able to use a portion of our grant funding for a neighborhood picnic after the project?

A: Yes, you are able to use some grant funding for a picnic or other special event where neighbors are able to connect with one another after your work party. Consider applying for a Neighborhood Event Grant, instead of a Neighborhood Project Grant, if picnic expenses are the only costs you are interested in funding.

6. Does that City of Tumwater offer any additional resources for stormwater pond projects?

A: Neighborhoods are able to receive a free 20-30 yard dumpster to dispose of any debris associated with their stormwater pond project through the City of Tumwater's Storm Pond Dumpster Program. For more information call Tumwater Water Resources at (360) 754-4140.