



The Giving Grove Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 Local Environmental Education Subaward Information for Schools

About The Giving Grove:

The Giving Grove is a program of the Kansas City Community Gardens, a non-profit organization that works to empower and inspire low-income households, community groups, and schools in the Kansas City Metropolitan area to grow their own vegetables and fruit. The Giving Grove program is focused on creating sustainable community micro-orchards that include fruits, nuts, and berries.

The Giving Grove is now offering EPA grant subaward funds to eligible schools in the immediate five county Kansas City Metropolitan Region. Subaward grant funds will be made available for the installment of new or expanded Giving Grove orchards with priority given to new orchards.

Subawards will be based on orchard size:

1. **\$1,000 award** - Small orchards of 5 to 10 trees (or a 12'x4' berry bed representing the equivalent of one tree)
2. **\$1,500 award** - Medium orchards of 11 to 15 trees
3. **\$2,000 award** - Large orchards of 16 to 20 trees

*A larger orchard could be made available upon special request

The subaward funding is made available to cover the entire cost of the trees (must be purchased from Kansas City Community Gardens), soil and associated soil amendments, environmental curriculum and orchard installation costs, and is expected to provide sufficient funding to pay for orchard maintenance tools.

Guidelines for subaward qualifications are as follows:

1. Schools applying for funds must be located in the greater metropolitan Kansas City area including: Johnson County, Wyandotte County, Jackson County, Cass County, Platte County.
2. School must have at least 40 percent of the students eligible for free or reduced lunches based on latest available figures.
3. Schools must participate in the installation of the orchard, and commit to the long-term maintenance of the trees, including summer maintenance.
4. Orchard project leaders will administer pre- and post- tests to all participating students, as provided by The Giving Grove, to measure improvements in students' knowledge during the project.

5. At minimum, two representatives from the schools must commit to attend all Giving Grove Trainings including: 1) New Steward Training, 2) Integrated Pest Management 3) Winter Pruning, 4) New Tree Maintenance, 5) Engaging Your Community, 6) Summer Pruning, and 7) Preparing for Harvest.
6. All operational costs (water, tools, and supplies) will be the responsibility of the school.
7. Subawards will be made available to metro area schools in fall 2018, spring 2019, fall 2019, and spring 2020 or until all available funds are awarded.

Requirements for all Giving Grove Partnering Sites:

1. *Water source:* Access to water is essential for the trees (can be either a water line or a catchment system).
2. *Two committed people:* A steward, primary person responsible for the trees; and an apprentice, a person that works with the primary steward must commit to the long-term maintenance of the orchard. At any point if one of these people were to relinquish maintenance duties, then a new person must be found. A team of 2+ people is ideal.
3. *Continual care & monitoring of the orchard:* The school's stewardship team is responsible for the overall care and maintenance of the orchard. Your weekly site visits are essential during the growing season.
4. *Attendance to workshops:* These workshops greatly increase your knowledge of fruit tree care and indicates a dedication to stewarding the orchard.
5. *Portion of Harvest:* A portion of the future harvest must be committed to serving at-risk individuals or food insecure families and communities.

Next Steps:

1. *Apply for Giving Grove - EPA subaward:* Complete the following subaward application.
2. *Site visit:* Giving Grove staff will complete a site visit with primary contact to determine if the site has the capacity/conditions suited for an orchard.
3. *Giving Grove Enrollment Form:* Complete the Giving Grove Site Enrollment Form.
4. *Acceptance of Giving Grove - EPA subaward:* We will announce your subaward following completion of site visit and Giving Grove enrollment form.
5. *Schedule a planting date:* Planting seasons include Spring (mid-March through early May) or Fall (mid-October through early-December)
6. *Subaward will be distributed to awarded sites:* Checks will be issued to schools based on the size of orchard as outlined above.
7. *Orchard Installation Reimbursement:* Schools will be invoiced for the cost of the orchard installment including plant materials, environmental curriculum and orchard installation costs. An estimated cost will be provided prior to project commencement. Excess funds can be used at the discretion of the awarded site for use of additional tools or materials for orchard use. We also recommend earmarking a portion of the award to compensate orchard stewards for their participation in Giving Grove workshop training sessions.



The Giving Grove - EPA Micro-Orchard Subaward Application

School Name: _____

School District: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Address to send subaward: _____

Does your school participate in KCCG's Schoolyard Garden program? Yes No

Does the school take trips to the Beanstalk Children's Garden? Yes No

What percentage of students are enrolled in the free and reduced meal program? _____

Please describe your vision for who will benefit from the future orchard harvest?

What size orchard does the school request?

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small (5-10 trees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium (11-15 trees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Large (16-20 trees) |
| \$1,000 subaward | \$1,500 subaward | \$2,000 subaward |

What are your goals for the new orchard? _____

Where did you hear about the Giving Grove? _____

Where did you hear about this specific grant? _____

It is important to note, the quantity and varieties of trees is dependent on the portfolio of trees made available by the Giving Grove, and the expertise and evaluation by our Giving Grove horticulturists.

Please send to: amanda@kccg.org or givinggrove@gmail.com, or mail to:

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