2013 Grant Program Application and Information

ABOUT

Thanks to a grant from the Turner Foundation, Georgia River Network is pleased to offer grants for grassroots river groups in Georgia to directly impact high priority problems through advocacy, campaigns, on the ground project implementation, or legal work. Grants will range from $2,000 to $10,000. Up to $40,000 will be awarded to grassroots river groups through the grant program. Deadline for applications: May 24, 2013 (not postmarked, received). Funds will be disbursed to grantees in late June. Projects must be completed by May 1 of 2014. For more information, visit http://www.garivers.org/protect-your-river/small-grants-program.html or contact Debra Tate at 706-549-4508.

ELIGIBILITY

- The proposed work must take place in Georgia
- The organization must be a grassroots-based river protection group and utilize citizen advocates to achieve its goals
- The organization must have a strategic plan or plan of work developed by the board and staff (if the organization is staffed) that outlines the need for the proposed project
- Applicants that have received previous funding through this program must have completed all previously funded work and turned in required reports on time.

CRITERIA

- Projects must be completed by May 1, 2014. Phases of multi-year projects are acceptable as long as progress can be demonstrated within the year.
- Projects must address documented problems that are most impacting or threatening the watershed, such as pollution, inefficient use of water, or impairments to stream flows.
- Project proposals should provide data, reference Georgia's 303d list of impaired waters, or other information to demonstrate the problem that will be addressed and why it is a priority.
- Projects must consist of a plan of work that outlines demonstrable impacts the project will have on the problem and how they will be achieved.
- Projects should require a modest investment in order to make a significant impact.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

- Implement a project to report NPDES violations and improve enforcement.
- Implement a project to protect or improve stream flows.
- Oppose the construction of a new reservoir or water withdrawal/diversion.
- Implement a campaign to increase mandatory buffer widths, better development site design requirements, enhanced stormwater controls, wetland conservation, or land use planning in a city or county.

- Work with local, regional, or state government to improve a specific policy that is impacting or threatening water quality or quantity in your watershed.
- Implement a project to work with farmers or foresters to: utilize funding programs available to aid in voluntary installation and maintenance of stream buffers or water conservation practices on their agricultural fields/forestry operations; or promote sustainably produced local foods/forest products that protect the landscape, water quality and water supply.
- Implement a campaign to get your local government to pass ordinances that reduce water demand. Examples of ordinances include: require retro-fit on reconnect, prohibit water waste, require rainwater shut-off valves, prohibit HOA's from mandating high-water use landscapes, require efficient process equipment for new development for selected business, require self-closing faucets for new development, or require car washes to recycle water.
- Implement a campaign to get your local government to offer financial incentive programs to help reduce water demand in the residential sector through the replacement of old fixtures with new efficient fixtures including: a low-flow toilet rebate program, trigger shut off valves on hoses, and irrigation system hose timers and moisture sensors.
- Implement a campaign to get your local government to offer financial incentive programs to help reduce water demand in the institutional, commercial, and industrial sectors through the replacement of old fixtures with new efficient fixtures including: a low-flow toilet rebate program, replacement of water-cooled equipment with new air-cooled equipment, process water reclamation systems, air conditioning condensate capture and reuse, elimination of water intensive phases of industrial processes, cooling tower modifications, industrial laundry equipment upgrades, improvements in cleaning processes, restaurant low flow spray nozzles, large efficient commercial dishwashers, air cooled ice machines, or automatic meter reading systems.
- Implement a Get the Dirt Out campaign to engage and train citizens to monitor construction sites, report erosion and sedimentation and buffer violations, and improve enforcement.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION
Proposals will be evaluated on the project criteria listed above and past results if the proposal is from a previous grantee. Projects that do the following will be prioritized for funding:
- Clearly planned, impactful proposals.
- Include components that can be utilized by other organizations and duplicated in other watersheds.
- Funding will fill a gap where other funding isn't available.
- Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
- Have statewide or regional implications.
- Help the organization progress.

AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND REPORTING
Funds will be disbursed to grantees in June upon receipt of signed grant contract. Projects (or funded phases of larger projects) must be completed and a final report submitted by May 1, 2014. A mid-year progress report is due in February.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES
Please address all items below and email proposal to debra@garivers.org. Please attach a copy
of your strategic plan or annual plan of work.

Organizational Information
Name of Organization
Contact Name and Title
Address, Phone, Email, Website
Organization Mission
Organization Annual Budget
Federal Tax ID Number
Number of Paid Staff / Number of Board Members (attach a list of board members and staff)
Title of Project and Requested Amount

Grant Request Summary (No more than 100 words)
Describe the proposed project, including location

Project Need and Description (No more than 1000 words)
- Describe the documented problem that your project will address and how it is impacting or
  threatening your watershed.
- Provide data, reference Georgia's 303d list of impaired waters, or provide other information
  to demonstrate the problem that will be addressed and why it is a priority.
- Describe your project plan and how it will specifically impact the problem described. What
  results and impact will be achieved and how will they be measured? What components can
  be utilized by other organizations and/or duplicated in other watersheds? How will this
  funding fill a gap where other funding isn't available? Does the project demonstrate
  creativity and innovation? Will the project have statewide or regional implications? Will the
  project help your organization progress?

Outputs (may be bulleted)
Identify specific deliverables of the program (i.e. Number or workshops conducted).

Timeline
Include a brief timeline for your project plan, highlighting major milestones and tasks to be
accomplished including expected completion dates.

Budget Request
Please attach a project budget and organizational budget for the fiscal year of implementation
of this project. Please include the source and amount of any additional funding sources
(received and pending) including in-kind funding. If your budget includes lobbying, please break
down the anticipated lobbying expenses. Please note that the Georgia River Network and
Turner Foundation encourage and support advocacy as long as the organization is following the
code set forth by the IRS.

Previous Grants
Applicants that have received previous funding through this program must have completed all
previously funded work and turned in required reports in a timely manner. If you have not
completed previously funded work please provide an outline of when and how the work will be
completed or explanation of why it cannot be completed.

Please direct questions to Debra Tate at debra@garivers.org or 706-549-4508. Please email completed application to Debra Tate, Georgia River Network, debra@garivers.org.