



## **Grant Program Information**

Thanks to funding from the Turner Foundation, Georgia River Network is pleased to offer the 2010 round of grants for watershed work by grassroots river groups in Georgia that address water efficiency needs or water quality degradation from non-point source pollution.

### **Grant Size**

Grants will range from \$2,000 to \$10,000. Up to \$50,000 will be awarded to watershed groups through the grant program.

### **How To Apply**

Applicants should submit a proposal by June 1, 2010 (received, not postmark date)

### **Eligibility requirements**

- The proposed work must take place in Georgia
- The organization must be a grassroots based river 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
- The proposal must outline how the project meets the grant criteria, how the measurable objectives will be met, and a project budget
- Applicants that have received previous funding through this program must have completed all previously funded work.

### **Criteria**

- Projects must be completed by April 1, 2011.
- Projects must:
  1. Address documented water quality degradation from non-point source pollution through advocacy, campaigns, on the ground project implementation, or legal work. For, example:
    - Address erosion and sedimentation and/or buffer encroachment/removal from construction and land clearing/grading activities
    - Address post construction stormwater pollution
    - Provide for local protections for watersheds such as increased buffer widths, better development site design requirements, enhanced stormwater controls, wetland conservation, or land use planning
    - Address non-point source pollution from agriculture and/or forestry

OR

2. Address water efficiency needs through advocacy, campaigns, on the ground project implementation, or legal work. For, example:
    - Implement a campaign to call for local water efficiency requirements by ensuring the successful passage of model ordinances such as requiring retrofit on reconnects, prohibiting water waste, or requiring new development to use Water Sense appliances and water efficient landscaping.
    - Implement a public and local leadership education campaign by hosting town hall meetings, publishing and distributing brochures, and/or hosting a speakers' series on the financial and environmental benefits to successful water efficiency programs that ensure a reduction in water use and savings to the customer.
    - Implement a campaign to call for city and county funding for water efficiency financial incentives, such as rebates and fixture trade-ins.
    - Implement a campaign to get a water utility to adopt and fund a leak detection and repair program with aggressive goals.
- Project must identify and achieve measurable results
  - Project must include components that can be utilized by other organizations and duplicated in other watersheds
  - Project funding fills a gap where other funding isn't available
  - Project demonstrates creativity/innovation
  - Project requires a modest investment in order to potentially make a significant impact.

### **Examples of projects**

- Implementing 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
- Implementing a project to monitor post construction stormwater runoff, reporting NPDES violations and improving enforcement
- Implementing a campaign to increase mandatory buffer widths in a city or county
- Implementing a project to work with farmers to voluntarily install stream buffers on their agricultural fields, address water conservation, or promote sustainably produced local foods 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 valve (outside Metro District), 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 (*see* EPA WAVE program): 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 campaign to get a water utility to adopt and fund a leak detection and repair program with aggressive goals.

### **Proposal Evaluation**

Proposals will be evaluated on the project criteria listed above and past results if the proposal is from a previous grantee.

### **Award Distribution and Reporting**

Funds will be disbursed to grantees in June upon receipt of signed grant contract. Projects must be completed and a final report submitted by April 1, 2011.

### **Project and Proposal Assistance**

GRN and American Rivers are offering assistance to watershed groups with developing a campaign or a project plan, writing an effective grant application, or guidance in the implementation of the project.

Based on the amount of interest, GRN and American Rivers may not be able to provide immediate assistance to all groups.

If you have any questions about this assistance program or wish to apply for assistance in developing or implementing your project contact Jesslyn at [jesslyn@garivers.org](mailto:jesslyn@garivers.org).