



Keep Iowa Beautiful Community Beautification Grant Program

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS:

Background Information – Beautification Grants

The Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB) Community Beautification Grant program is funded through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Solid Waste Alternative Program (source - solid waste tonnage fees) under a contractual arrangement with Keep Iowa Beautiful for program management and implementation. This KIB Community Beautification Grant Program is intended to leverage local dollars, support volunteer efforts and encourage the work of communities with the desire for improving the image and appearance of their areas.

General Information – Community Projects

Applicant Eligibility: Any public or nonprofit organization in a community of 5,000 or under is eligible to apply for and receive funds for a community beautification and derelict building removal and / or renovation.

Project Eligibility:

1. A community beautification project must have one or more of the following as its primary purpose:
 1. Litter prevention / removal / education / implementation / public awareness
 2. Recycling education / implementation / public awareness
 3. Beautification programs – flower, tree and shrub planting, painting & fix-up and general landscaping.
 4. Public nuisance abatement.
 5. Derelict buildings – removal / renovation including asbestos abatement and removal, recovery and recycling of reusable materials and / or the purchase of recycled-content materials used in renovation efforts.
2. Grant limits are \$5,000 for beautification and \$15,000 for derelict building projects.
3. Projects with long-term or continuing benefits are desirable as opposed to one-time projects without lasting benefit.
4. Projects involving youth with a focus on service learning hour opportunities, are most desirable.
5. Special consideration for the derelict building segment will be given to those applicants that hire the unemployed for the deconstruction, reconstruction or clean up of the properties.
6. Projects that have an ongoing structure, planning effort or organization such as Keep Your Community Beautiful, Main Street, Trees Forever or other efforts are desirable.
7. The following are ***not*** eligible for funding:
 - Taxes.
 - Vehicle registration.
 - Legal costs.
 - Contingency funds and / or organization operational costs.
 - Proposal preparation.
 - Motorized equipment costing more than \$1,000.
 - Contractual project administration.
 - Land / building acquisition, leases, easements, etc.
 - Speakers, entertainment, refreshments and food.
 - Costs for which payment has been or will be received under another federal, state or private financial assistance program.
 - Costs incurred before a written agreement between the applicant and KIB has been executed.
 - Office furniture, computers, fax machines and other office furnishings and equipment.
 - T-shirts and give-a-way items.
 - Outdoor furniture (grants are available under the “Build with Bags” program).
 - Administrative and general operating costs of the project sponsor.
8. An approved community project must be completed within the funding period.
9. Photo documentation and media planning are required giving recognition to grant administrators and fund sources.
10. A detailed budget must be submitted with the project application.
11. Be prepared to undergo an audit regarding expenditures of the grant.

Funding:

1. **Payments are made based on proof of expenditure of grant funds** (i.e. invoices, receipts, cancelled checks, etc.) **for reimbursement.** Only one invoice on completion of the project should be submitted. The exception is the derelict building program where funds may be allocated in a direct payment with 10% held back until project completion.
2. The higher the degree of matching contributions / support the more likely a project will rate favorably. However, a project need not include matching funds.
3. Funds approved for a project are for a fixed dollar amount. Cost overruns are the responsibility of the project sponsor.
4. The maximum beautification grant amount is \$5,000. Special funding for derelict building restoration / removal may be eligible for grants of up to \$15,000. If the review committee determines a modified or lesser grant figure the project sponsor will be contacted to see if that is acceptable.

Matching Contributions: Matching contributions / sponsorship funds can include cash, in-kind contributions and volunteer labor.

1. In-kind contributions include donated materials, supplies and business services. Business services are those services provided by a business or by a person whose trade, profession or occupation is to provide those services.
2. The value of an in-kind contribution is its purchase price or market value.
3. The value of volunteer labor shall be consistent with the state's current minimum wage rate.

Application Deadline: For the first year the following deadlines are in effect: applications are due or postmarked no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday - August 20th, 2010. Electronic / email applications are accepted. A review team will evaluate the applications and announce award winners on Friday – September 3rd, 2010.

Where to submit a project application:

Keep Iowa Beautiful – Beautification Grant
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Des Moines, IA 50309
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Phone: 515-323-6507
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