

GARDEN RESOURCES

GRANTS

Tips

- 1) *Search words for garden grant/funding searches: school garden, edible garden, vegetable garden, community garden, science, environmental education, school greening, green, environmental sustainability, school gardeners*
- 2) *Search words for other funding that is related to gardening: school lunch, wellness, farm to school, garden to school café, nutrition, nutrition education, wellness, school wellness, children's health, school nutrition, science, science education, gardening volunteers, science teacher awards, science teacher grants, teacher grants, curriculum development (there are grants available for lesson plan development, which can essentially be anything in a subject area...gardens, therefore, a good candidate), community service, service learning*
- 3) *Also look for things like school garden/garden contests, awards, prizes, giveaways, etc.*
- 4) *When writing grants:*
 - *Don't chase dollars: don't create a project that you can't put in place just to get a grant. Make sure the envisioned project matches the funder's interests. See what it has funded in the past.*
 - *Project does not have to be complicated: a start-up garden with simple first-year goals is grant worthy*
 - *Follow the grant guidelines*
 - *Keep language concise; avoid lingo*
 - *Objectives and goals are not the same things (goals represent what is to be accomplished broadly; objectives are the measureable project tasks)*
 - *Make sure results are measureable (evaluation, unless specified, does not have to be complex: journaling, pre- and post- surveys, interviews, other types of qualitative data to show impact)*
 - *Do get help writing the grant if you don't have time. Maybe someone on the PTA is charged with grant writing? Maybe your school has a grant writer? Maybe you have a friend who can polish up your ideas?*
 - *After you get the grant: immediately write an official thank you on school letter head; figure out who should sign (you, principal, PTA pres, etc.); if there is a school website, newsletter, e-mail updated, etc. acknowledge the funder there; keep a record of what is being accomplished and make sure that the evaluation component is implemented; send in mid-year and final reports on time and include with them photos (a photo CD is great with a slide show), articles, student journal entries/work, etc.*
 - *Keep funders up to date during the year: a new planting, a new article, anything that keeps them interested and on their radar*

Grant Search Websites

Make sure to check in with school administrators, who receive funding announcements time and again; check union publications and websites, education journals, etc. Also, check to see what funders have supported other gardens; and get the annual report of environmental organizations, etc., to see who funds them.

Grant Wrangler (sign up for announcements)
<http://www.grantwrangler.com/>

The Foundation Center (major funding resource: sign up for announcements; there are also subscription services)
<http://www.foundationcenter.org/>

Teachers Count
<http://www.teacherscount.org/teacher/grants.shtml>

Grants Alert
<http://www.grantsalert.com/grants.cfm?id=4&gid=33319>

Teacher's Network
<http://www.teachersnetwork.org/Grants/>
http://www.teachersnetwork.org/Grants/grants_other.htm

The Chronicle of Philanthropy
<http://philanthropy.com/deadlines/>

New York Teacher (grants, awards, freebies)
<http://www.uft.org/news/teacher/grants/>

Teaching with Contests
<http://teachingwithcontests.com/?tag=elementary-school>

Some of the following grant opportunities may be one-time opportunities, thus making a few obsolete. But always good to check.

Garden-Specific

National Gardening Association: Kids Gardening (check regularly for grant opportunities)

<http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp>

Kids Growing Food, New York Agriculture in the Classroom

http://agout.cals.cornell.edu/aitc/award/kids_growing.htm

Other grants/awards from New York Agriculture in the Classroom

<http://agout.cals.cornell.edu/aitc/index.html>

Annie's Homegrown, Inc.

http://www.annies.com/grants_for_gardens

Fiskar's Project Orange Thumb

http://www.fiskars.com/content/garden_en_us/Garden/ProjectOrangeThumb/grantprogram

Garden Crusader Award

<http://www.gardeners.com/Garden-Crusader-Awards/5549,default,pg.html>

America the Beautiful Fund: Operation Green Plant (free seeds)

http://www.america-the-beautiful.org/free_seeds/index.php

Wild Ones: Seeds for Education Grant Program

<http://www.for-wild.org/sfecvr.html>

The Bulb Project

<http://www.thebulbproject.org/>

Nature Hills Green America Awards

http://www.naturehills.com/2010_green_america_awards_press_release.aspx

Green Thumb Challenge

http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=22&Itemid=289

Tomato Bob (free seeds for schools)

<http://www.tomatobob.com/Free%20Seeds%20For%20Schools.htm>

Gary Ibsen's Tomato Fest (seed donations)

<http://www.tomatofest.com/tomato-seed-donations.html>

Garden/green related

NYSAR3 SCHOOL RECYCLING/WASTE REDUCTION

GRANT PROGRAM: Go Green Competition

www.nyc.gov/html/.../pdf/NYSAR-Go-Green-Competition-s.pdf

Golden Apple Awards

http://home.nyc.gov/html/nycwasteless/html/at_agencies/at_school_contestwinners09.shtml

Lowe's Toolbox for Education

<http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/>

Captain Planet Foundation

<http://captainplanetfoundation.org/>

Clorox Green Heroes Grant Program

<http://greenhero.greenworkscleaners.com/index.tbapp>

<http://www.facebook.com/greenworks>

Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge

<http://wecanchange.com/>

Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (free trees, planting, and other resources)

<http://www.ftpf.org/>

Melinda Gray Ardia Environmental Foundation

<http://www.mgaef.org/grants.html>

Citizens Committee for New York City: Mollie Parnis Dress Up Your School Award (for underserved schools)

<http://www.citizensnyc.org/grants.html>

The Home Depot: Building Healthy Communities Grant Program

http://corporate.homedepot.com/wps/portal/!ut/p/c1/04_SB8K8xLLM9MSSzPy8xBz9CP0os3g

Student Conservation Association: Green Your School Contest

<http://www.thesca.org/green-your-school>

EPA Environmental Education Grants

<http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>

(Note that there are lots of federal grants, but usually are designed for whole school districts or even state education offices. But, definitely worth researching.)

Nickelodeon: The Big Green Help

<http://bghevent.com/grant/index.htm>

Together Green (look under Grow Green for grants)

<http://www.togethergreen.org/>

Nutrition-Garden

Produce for Kids: Play with Your Produce Classroom Challenge

Michele Israel
718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

<http://www.produceforkids.org/teachers/contest.html>

Love Your Veggies

http://www.loveyourveggies.com/school_grants.php

Gardenburger Communtiy Garden Grants

<http://www.gardenburger.com/Grants.aspx>

Slow Food in Schools Micro-Grant (underserved schools)

http://www.slowfoodusa.org/index.php/programs/in_schools_detail/slow_food_in_schools_micro_grant/

General Mills: Champions for Healthy Kids

<http://www.generalmills.com/corporate/commitment/champions.aspx>

Got Breakfast?

<http://gotbreakfast.org/grants.php>

Cabot School Grants

http://www.cabotcheese.coop/pages/community_and_you/grants_and_fundraising.php#community_content

Seventh Generation Donations/Grants

<http://www.seventhgeneration.com/contact-us/donations-and-giving>

Community Service/Service Learning

Earth Day Network: National Civic Education Project

<http://www.earthday.net/node/13458>

Project Learning Tree (must take the workshop to be eligible for grants; workshop is worth it)

http://www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_21.html

Youth Service America Grant Listing

<http://www.servicewire.org/nsb/Grants-and-Awards>

National Service Learning Project

http://www.service-learningpartnership.org/site/PageServer?pagename=page_not_found

Disney Environmental Challenge

<http://disney.go.com/planetchallenge/>

Collective Brands (Payless)

<http://www.collectivebrands.com/collective-responsibility/people/our-community>

Pay it Forward Foundation Grants

<http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org/educators/mini-grant.html>

School- focused (science and others)

There are many teacher-centered grants, as well as awards that will support teacher-generated projects. Here is a small sampling:

Michele Israel
 718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

NEA Foundation Green Grants

<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/nea-foundation-green-grants/>

ING Unsung Heroes

<http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/Education/INGUnsungHeroes/index.htm>

Kids in Need Teacher Grants

<http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/>

NSTA Awards and Recognitions (some monetary awards)

<http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx>

Science Updates (e-mail update on science-related materials, events, etc. for NYC teachers: great resources, and grant listings) Contact: RHarris2@schools.nyc.gov to be put on the mailing list

Spirit of Innovation Awards

<http://www.conradawards.org/>

Lexus Eco Challenge

<http://www.scholastic.com/lexus/>

America Honda Foundation

<http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

Toyota TAPESTRY Grant

<http://www.nsta.org/pd/tapestry/>

Toshiba America Foundation

<http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/about/HowApply.jsp>

Richard C. Bartlett EE Award

<http://www.neefusa.org/bartlettaward.htm>

Community

Check into civic councils, chambers of commerce, community foundations. For example:

Park Slope Civic Council Grants

<http://www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org/index.php?section=Grants>

Brooklyn Community Foundation (was Independence Community Foundation) has a Green Communities Fund

<http://www.brooklyncommunityfoundation.org/>

The Gannett Foundation Community Action Grant Program

<http://www.gannettfoundation.org/contacts.htm>

Walmart Store and Sam's Club Giving Programs

<http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/238.aspx>

Miscellaneous Possibilities

Don't forget your public officials and their discretionary grants

PTO Today Parent Group of the Year Award (has several categories)
<http://www.ptotoday.com/pgy/>

Jenny's Heroes
<http://www.jennysheroes.com/>

Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation
<http://www.noyes.org/index.html>

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Many corporations have corporate giving programs/ community giving programs. Some of these you can find at places like the Foundation Center. Best bet is to find a company you like and that you believe might have an interest in a garden or a related project.

- Check on its website for giving interests or even the potential for contributions. Sometimes, there are people to contact re: giving. Often, it is the community or public relations person who oversees that component. Try to find that person's name and write directly. Sometimes phoning is better.
- Write a short note to describe what your project and see if the company might be interested in sponsorship, donations, etc.
- Companies like publicity, to support a specific project that could carry its name, etc.
- As with grants, proper acknowledgement is essential: thank you letters, publicity, post donations on website, newsletters, e-mail updates, etc.

Good "fishing" source is CSR Wire.com: sign up for alerts.

DONATIONS

This takes research, but if you are willing to dig around, you can get everything from lumber to soil donated. Start with local merchants...and then, begin the larger search via the Internet, etc. If you can fund at least 50% of your garden through in-kind donations, you are in great shape.

Try list serves: if you are on any, and you are able to post needs/wants for your school, give it a shot. Brooklyn Freecycle is a good one, as well as parent lists, etc.

SEEDS/PLANTS

Many seed companies donate seeds, especially at the end of planting seasons (i.e., Fedco, Botanical Interests, etc.) Disregard the expiration dates; it's a bit of a fallacy. Many seeds in packets can last for years. There are also seed companies that will provide discounts if you sign up with them as a school/non-profit. And some have applications to complete, like Burpee.

Sometimes green market farmers will donate seeds/plants and/or provide those at a terrific discount. Also good to approach community gardens for starter plants, as well as join local gardening groups, including GreenThumb and Brooklyn Botanic Garden GreenBridge Community Garden Alliance.

OTHER INFORMATION/FUNDING SOURCES (some sites post funding opportunities)

Environment

Green Schools NYC
<http://greenschoolsnyc.ning.com/>

Northeast Sustainable Energy Association

Michele Israel
 718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

<http://www.nesea.org/k-12/>

UFT Green Schools Committee (sign up for announcements and the list serve)
uftgreenschools@gmail.com

Green Schools Initiative
<http://www.greenschools.net/>

Educating Tomorrow
<http://www.educatingtomorrow.org/grantsscience>

Edutopia
<http://www.edutopia.org/>

North American Association for Environmental Education
<http://www.naaee.org/>

National Environmental Education Week
<http://www.eeweek.org/resources/funding.htm>

African American Environmentalist Association - New York
<http://aaeanewyork.blogspot.com/>

NYU: Wallerstein Collaborative for Urban Environmental Education
<http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/wallerstein/resources/funding>

Natural Resources Defense Council
<http://www.nrdc.org/reference/kids.asp>

Action for Nature
<http://www.actionfornature.org>

Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation
<http://www.celfoundation.org/resources.html>

Center for Ecoliteracy (recently released a great book called: *Smart By Nature: Schooling for Sustainability*)
<http://www.ecoliteracy.org>

The Cloud Institute
<http://www.sustainabilityed.org/>

New York City Department of Environmental Education
http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/environmental_education/index.shtml

Garden

Cornell University: Garden-based Learning
<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/gbl/toolshed/index.html>

Garden ABCs
http://www.gardenabcs.com/Resource_Center.html

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718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

American Horticultural Society

<https://www.ahs.org/>

American Community Gardening Association

<http://www.communitygarden.org/>

Earthbox (I love these and recommend them for folks with space issues or who just want something that is mobile and produces amazingly well) <http://www.earthbox.com/>

School Garden Weekly

<http://schoolgardenweekly.com/>

Has news articles about school gardens from around the country; if you get an article published, send it. Along. Site also has tips and posts grant opportunities

Junior Master Gardener

<http://www.jmgkids.us/>

Rodale Institute

<http://www.rodaleinstitute.org/>

Arbor Day Foundation

<http://www.arborday.org/>

New York Restoration Project

<http://www.nyrp.org/About>

Brooklyn Botanic Garden GreenBridge (join its community garden alliance)

<http://www.bbg.org/edu/greenbridge/>

School Nutrition/Lunch/Student Health

The Sylvia Center

<http://sylviacenter.org/>

The Lunch Box

<http://www.thelunchbox.org/>

School Nutrition Professionals

<http://www.nutritionexplorations.org/>

My Healthy School

<http://www.myhealthyschool.com/>

Healthy Schools Campaign

<http://www.greenlearning.ca/>

Wellness in the Schools

<http://www.wellnessintheschools.org/>

NY Coalition for Healthy School Food

<http://www.healthyschoolfood.org/>

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 718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

School Lunch Talk

<http://www.schoolfoodpolicy.com/>

Better School Food

<http://www.betterschoolfood.org>

USDA: National Institute of Food and Agriculture

<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/business.htm>

American Council for Fitness and Nutrition

<http://www.acfn.org/>

School Wellness Kit

<http://www.schoolwellnesskit.org/futp/index.asp>

Food Bank of New York City

<http://www.foodbanknyc.org/>

Food Studies Institute

<http://www.foodstudies.org/>

Nutrition Explorations

<http://www.nutritionexplorations.org/>

Health Corps

<http://www.healthcorps.net/>

CDC: Fruits and Veggies Matter

http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov/health_professionals/educational_materials.html

Miscellaneous (and worthwhile)

Green Teacher

<http://www.greenteacher.com/>

Built It Green

<http://www.bignyc.org/>

Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture (this is a most awesome place)

http://www.stonebarnscenter.org/sb_directions/default.aspx

Kitchen Gardeners International

<http://www.kitchengardeners.org/>

Foodplay

http://www.foodplay.com/about_us/home.html

Banana Slug Band (has an awesome garden CD; would perform for schools if we can get a group of schools to share expenses)

<http://www.bananaslugstringband.com/pages/teacherGbk.html>

National Wildlife Federation: Schoolyard Habitats

Michele Israel
718-788-40967
mi@micheleisrael.com
www.micheleisrael.com

<http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Be-Out-There/Educators/Schoolyard-Habitats.aspx>

Instructables (tells how to make all sorts of things INCLUDING Earth Boxes and the upside down tomato planters)
<http://www.instructables.com>

The Slow Cook
<http://www.theslowcook.com/>

YES Magazine
<http://www.yesmagazine.org>

Edutopia
<http://www.edutopia.org/>