

YORK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION GRANT FUNDS FOR SCHOOL GARDENS

GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

GARDEN PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Conservation District's School Garden program is conducted in first grade classrooms with a standards-based plant lesson each month per classroom culminating in the planting of a raised bed vegetable garden in March to be harvested (and eaten) in May by the students. Program fee= \$150/classroom. (See program outline, next page)

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL GARDEN LESSON SERIES:

- ✓ Participation and engagement of all first grade teachers
- ✓ Ability to schedule consecutive 45 minute periods for Conservation District staff to conduct each monthly lesson.
- ✓ Construction and placement of a 4' x 8' raised garden bed (with good garden soil) per classroom in location with full sun and water access. [Cost estimate per bed for labor and materials \$250]
- ✓ Ability to pay Conservation District \$150 per classroom for materials and mileage for entire 8-lesson program.

PURPOSE: This grant has been obtained by the York Conservation District from Duke Energy for the purpose of expanding the Conservation District's School Garden Program to first grade programs in up to 10 additional elementary schools in York County. Eligible schools are those which do not have garden programs because of lack of funding, but who wish to begin and maintain a school garden program.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY:

This is a grant opportunity for schools wishing to participate but which have been unable due to lack of funds for construction of raised beds and/or per-classroom fee. This grant will provide 75% of the \$400 cost per classroom for program participation (\$250 each bed + \$150 fee = \$400 per classroom). Schools who apply and are accepted for funding will be required to:

- ✓ Have approval from entire first grade team, administration and grounds maintenance
- ✓ Have a 5-year plan for instructional use of the raised beds beyond the first year
- ✓ Have ability to provide 25% cash match (\$100 per classroom)
- ✓ Provide a suitable site for each classroom to have a 4' x 8' raised bed (These will be constructed and placed by Conservation District)



SCHOOL GARDEN LESSON SERIES PROGRAM OUTLINE

Offered by York Soil & Water Conservation District

Contact Barbara O'Connell, 803-684-3137, barbara.oconnell@sc.nacdn.net

This series is designed to begin in September with a 45 minute lesson in each classroom each month (except December). Cost for this program is \$150 per classroom which covers supplies for the entire 8-lesson series. Each lesson combines a hands-on activity and the reading of a related book.

Month	Lesson	Activity	Literature
September	1. What Plants Need	Plant seeds in cups	<i>Jack's Garden</i>
October	2. Plant Parts We Eat	Sort vegetables by part eaten	<i>Tops & Bottoms</i>
November	3. MyPlate/Soil to Spoon	Soil to Spoon activity, nutrition	<i>The Vegetables We Eat</i>
January	4. Wheat seeds to bread	Grind wheat and taste bread	<i>Little Red Hen</i>
February	5. Worms Eat My Lunch	Make (demonstrate) a compost worm bin	<i>Diary of a Worm</i>
March	6. Plant a Garden	Vegetable seed planting in raised bed	<i>Oh Say Can You Seed</i>
April	7. We eat a Rainbow	Identify vegetables by color, pick and taste radishes	<i>Who Grew My Soup?</i>
May	8. Harvest Time	Pick vegetables, prepare and eat salad	

GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROGRAM INCLUDE

- Addressing plant science standards for participating grade level students
- Providing a hands-on learning experience outdoors in nature
- Helping students understand the value of soil and water as important natural resources
- Helping students understand where their food comes from and the importance of agriculture in our society
- Helping students understand the nutritional value of fresh foods and enjoy eating what they grow themselves

YORK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

SCHOOL GARDEN GRANT APPLICATION

Funds provided through grant funding by Duke Energy Foundation

Name of School _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Principal _____

Garden Project Lead First Grade Teacher _____

Lead teacher phone: Cell _____ Home _____

Number of first grade classrooms anticipated for 2017-18 school year _____
(This is the number of garden beds to be constructed)

Signatures of individuals approving this application:

_____/_____/_____
Lead teacher signature Principal signature Grounds maintenance signature

_____/_____/_____
Printed name Printed name Printed name

PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE DOCUMENT ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING:

1. Garden beds will become a permanent amenity for the school. Describe your school's plan for using the raised beds and maintaining the garden program for at least 5 years beyond the initial year of participation in the first grade lesson series conducted by the Conservation District. Five year plan can include any grades.
2. Please attach a site plan of the school showing the proposed placement of the raised garden beds, vehicle access to bed location, location of first grade classrooms, and route to be used to take students from classroom to gardens. Beds should be located in full sun with water access. (NOTE: Beds should be placed to allow for mowing on all sides and at least 3' from any walls or fences)
3. Please indicate availability and source of funding for school's 25% cash match (\$100 per classroom)