



# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

## FOR ALABAMA OUTDOOR CLASSROOM SCHOOLS

For more details including specific deadlines, visit the websites listed below along with the Alabama Wildlife Federation's website at [www.alabamawildlife.org](http://www.alabamawildlife.org).

Last updated: January 2024



### Agriculture in the Classroom

#### **Deadline in October**

The Alabama Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation Educational Grant makes grants available for classroom projects that integrate agriculture into curriculum areas during the school year.

**Grant amount: \$25-\$500**

**<https://www.alabamaaitc.org/app-mini-grant/>**

### Alabama Audubon

#### **Deadline in February**

Alabama Audubon Education MiniGrants provide financial support for educators and educational non-profits working to connect students with birds, their habitats, and the next generation of responsible stewardship.

**Grant amount: up to \$1,000**

**<https://alaudubon.org/education-minigrants>**

### Alabama RC&D Council Grants

#### **Deadline in June**

"RC&D" is short for Resource Conservation and Development, a unique process that helps people protect and develop their economic, natural, and social resources in ways that improve their area's economy, environment, and quality of life. There are 9 RC&D Councils across Alabama, and many provide funding for conservation education projects such as Outdoor Classroom development at area schools. Contact your local RC&D Council to see if they are currently accepting grant requests.

**Grant amount: varies greatly from \$250 to \$2,500 or more**

**<https://alabamarcd.org/find-your-council/>**

### American Academy of Dermatology Association

#### **Deadline in December**

The AAD's Shade Structure Program awards funds to schools, day-cares, parks, and other non-profit organizations for installing permanent shade structures where children learn and play. In addition to the grant, the AAD also provides a permanent sign to be placed near the shade structure featuring sun-safety tips.

**Grant amount: up to \$8,000**

**<https://www.aad.org/public/public-health/shade-structure-grants/shade-structure-grant-application>**

### American Association of Educators Classroom Grant Foundation

#### **Deadlines in March and October**

Classroom grants are competitive awards available to all educators for professional development or classroom materials.

**Grant amount: up to \$500**

**<https://www.aeteachers.org/index.php/classroom-grant-application>**

### American Honda Foundation

**Not currently accepting grant applications. Check back in Fall 2024. Regular Deadlines: February and August for new organizations; May for returning organizations**

The American Honda Foundation Grant is available for projects that reflect the basic tenets, beliefs and philosophies of Honda companies, including imaginative, creative, youthful, forward-thinking, scientific, humanistic and innovative. We support youth education with a specific focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects in addition to the environment.

**Grant amount: average grant range is \$20,000 to \$75,000**

**<https://csr.honda.com/longform-content/honda-usa-foundation-funding/>**

## **AMGA Project Funding Program**

### **Deadline in January**

The Alabama Master Gardeners Association (AMGA) allocates monies each year to help support a variety of horticultural projects in the State of Alabama. The purpose of the project should be educational and should promote and involve the community in gardening. Applications must be submitted by a Master Gardener, and Master Gardeners must be directly involved in the project and should be the main force in the initiation and implementation.

**Grant amount: up to \$2,000**

**<https://alabamamga.org/amga-project-funding-program/>**

## **Bee Cause Grant**

### **Deadline in October**

These grant programs allow for schools and non-profit organizations to receive support for educational beehives and bee programming so students can observe bees up close and learn about the vital role these pollinators play in our food system.

**Grant amount: a hive or \$1,500**

**<https://www.thebeecause.org/the-bee-grant/>**

## **Bee Conservancy: Sponsor-a-Hive**

### **Not currently accepting grant applications. Check back in Spring 2024. Deadline in March**

Sponsor-A-Hive places native bee houses and honey bee hives across the U.S. and Canada to empower underserved communities to grow food, bolster local ecology, and protect vital keystone species. Each year, they provide bee homes, ongoing support, and educational materials to schools, gardens, and other community groups to help foster local native bee resilience.

**<https://www.thebeeconservancy.org/sponsor-a-hive-eligibility/>**

## **Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program**

### **Deadline varies regionally, must register for info**

The 3rd Grade Cabbage Program is FREE to all 3rd graders. In spring, students will receive plants that produce "oversized" cabbages. Teachers choose a class winner and submit a nomination form to Bonnie Plant Farm. One lucky third grader in each state will win a \$1000 scholarship. Once you enroll the class in the program, Bonnie Plant Farm will contact you and deliver the number of plants you request.

**Grant amount: A cabbage for each student, possible \$1,000 scholarship**

**<https://bonniecabbageprogram.com/participate/>**

## **Budding Botanist Grant**

### **Deadline in October**

The Klorane Botanical Foundation is committed to supporting programs to teach respect for the environment and protect nature through the preservation of plant species and biodiversity. Applicants for the Budding Botanist Grant must demonstrate that at least 40% of their student population would qualify for free or reduced-price meals, and must be planning a new or expanding an existing school garden program designed to teach students about environmental sustainability and the importance of biodiversity.

**Grant amount: \$1,200**

**<https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/budding-botanist-24/>**

## **Captain Planet Foundation**

### **Deadline: year-round**

Captain Planet Foundation™ invests in high-quality, solution-based programs that embrace STEM learning and empower youth to become local & global environmental change-makers. Project Hero is their free online platform that offers standards-oriented and authentic project-based learning experiences to empower students to take action for their local species and ecosystems. Each Quest offers a unique learning and activation journey that focuses on locally-relevant environmental issues. AWF recommends the Pollinator Quest and Soil Quest for Outdoor Classroom schools.

**Grant amount: \$150**

**<https://herofortheplanet.org/#quests>**

### **Central Alabama Electric Cooperative's Bright Ideas Grant**

***Available for educators located in rural areas of Autauga, Elmore, Coosa and Chilton counties. Available in parts of the following counties: Tallapoosa, Talladega, Bibb, Perry, Dallas, Lowndes.***

#### **Deadline in December**

Teachers in public and private schools, K-12 and home school associations in CAEC's service area are eligible to participate. The Bright Ideas Grant Program supports innovative and effective classroom education curriculum that cannot be covered by traditional school financing.

**Grant amount: Up to \$1,500**

**<https://caec.coop/community-enrichment/bright-ideas-grant/>**

### **Clif Family Foundation**

#### **Deadlines in March and August**

The Clif Family Foundation offers grants for general organizational support or to fund specific projects that strengthen our food system, enhance equitable community health outcomes, safeguard our environment and natural resources and build stronger communities.

**Grant amount: average is \$7,000**

**<https://cliffamilyfoundation.org/grants-program>**

### **Costco Wholesale**

#### **Deadline: year-round**

Costco Wholesale's Warehouse donation program is intended to meet the needs of organizations which are focused on children, education, or health and human services and serve a local neighborhood and organizations with a similar scope of service. Requests should be submitted 4-6 weeks before event.

**Grant amount: \$25-\$50**

**<https://www.costco.com/charitable-giving.html>**

### **Dekko Foundation**

#### ***Limestone County Only***

#### **Deadline: year-round**

The Dekko Foundation invests in the development of economic freedom, specifically within the healthy development of children and young people up to age 18 in environments that nurture their self-sufficiency. Send in your proposal at least 90 days before you would like to receive a response from this foundation. Please be advised this foundation prioritizes projects that have not yet begun and is less likely to invest in projects that are already underway/completed and are seeking reimbursement.

**Grant amount: open**

**<https://www.dekkofoundation.org/how-to-apply/>**

### **Gardening Know How School & Community Garden Sponsorship**

#### **Deadline: year-round, program selection is the following year**

Gardening Know How awards \$1,000 to 20 different garden projects with a growing, unmet need for more soil, seeds, fertilizers, building materials, or even just help getting the word out about the program.

**Grant amount: \$1,000**

**[www.gardeningknowhow.com/school-community-garden-sponsorship](http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/school-community-garden-sponsorship)**

### **Georgia-Pacific**

#### **Deadline: year-round, but early submission in October is encouraged**

***Available for organizations within 30 miles of the following AL GP locations: Huntsville, Talladega, Pennington, Monroeville, Perdue Hill, Brewton.***

The Georgia-Pacific Foundation supports organizations that improve the quality of life in communities where Georgia-Pacific operates (must be within 30 miles of GP location). Grants are awarded for educational efforts, community enrichment, environmental programs, and entrepreneurship initiatives. Do not apply through the grant portal. Organizations should contact the local GP facility in your community for support consideration.

**Grant amount: open**

**<https://www.gp.com/community>**

**<https://www.gp.com/about-us/locations/alabama/>**

### Grants in Place Fellows

**Deadline: Opens in August, deadline in September**

Founded in 2015 by the Rural Schools Collaborative, the Grants in Place Fellowship program awards rural teachers with funds to carry out a “place-based” (involving local flora and fauna, geology, and geography) education project with their students and communities.

**Grant amount: up to \$2,500**

**<https://ruralschoolscollaborative.org/programs/grants-in-place>**

### Green Our Planet GardenConnect

**Deadline in February; applications accepted on a rolling basis after February date**

Founded in 2013, Green Our Planet is committed to providing students the opportunity to learn science outside in a school garden and/or hydroponics laboratory. These experiences allow students to learn how to eat and live a healthy life and connect with the planet and nature in a meaningful way. The Green Our Planet GardenConnect program provides the content, community, and coaching for any school to run an outdoor garden program successfully. This application is for educators interested in only the school garden program.

**Grant amount: \$3,500**

**<https://greenourplanet-21334876.hs-sites.com/gardenconnect-program-application>**

### Green Our Planet HydroConnect

**Deadline in February applications accepted on a rolling basis after February date**

Founded in 2013, Green Our Planet is committed to providing students the opportunity to learn science outside in a school garden and/or hydroponics laboratory. These experiences allow students to learn how to eat and live a healthy life and connect with the planet and nature in a meaningful way. The Green Our Planet HydroConnect program provides the content, community, and coaching for any school to run an outdoor garden program successfully. This program is for educators interested in only the hydroponics laboratory program.

**Grant amount: \$10,500-12,500**

**<https://greenourplanet-21334876.hs-sites.com/hydroponics-program-application>**

### Green Our Planet Dual Program

**Deadline in February applications accepted on a rolling basis after February date**

Founded in 2013, Green Our Planet is committed to providing students the opportunity to learn science outside in a school garden and/or hydroponics laboratory. These experiences allow students to learn how to eat and live a healthy life and connect with the planet and nature in a meaningful way. The Green Our Planet HydroConnect program provides the content, community, and coaching for any school to run an outdoor garden program successfully. This program is for educators interested in both the school garden and the hydroponics laboratory program.

**Grant amount: \$14,000-16,000**

**<https://greenourplanet-21334876.hs-sites.com/dual-program-application>**

### Gro More Good Grassroots Grant

**Deadline in February**

The 2024 GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant is designed to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens to communities across the United States. Awards provide funding for the development of new and expansion of existing youth garden programs and greenspaces serving 15 or more youth.

**Grant amount: \$500 to \$1,000**

**<https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/gromoregood-grassroots-grant-24/>**

### HATS STEDTRAIN

**Available for K-12 schools in Jackson, Madison, Marshall, Morgan, and Limestone Counties.**

**Deadline in April**

STEDTRAIN is a Committee of the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies (HATS) that administers a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Seed Grant program that provides funding to an educator for innovative hands-on classroom projects that will stimulate children’s interest in science and technology.

**Grant amount: up to \$1,000**

**<https://stedtrain.org/showpage.php?pagelid=47>**

### **Jane R. Parks Memorial Grant**

**Deadline in October**

**Available within Madison County, Alabama.**

The Jane R Parks Memorial Grant is offered by Master Gardeners of North Alabama. Jane was a passionate educator for 30 years, and a gardener for most of her life. Through this grant, her legacy of friendship, gardening, humor, and boundless love for life continues. The Jane R. Parks Memorial Grant allocates monies to support a variety of education/horticultural projects in Madison County, Alabama.

**Grant amount: up to \$1,000**

**<https://www.mginfo.org/grants/>**

### **Karma for Cara Student Microgrant**

**Deadline in January, April, July, and October**

The K4C Microgrant Program is the bridge between ideas and action. K4C helps young citizen leaders execute and magnify their initiatives to help repair our world. Students 18 years of age and under may apply to complete service projects in their communities throughout the United States - turn a vacant lot into a community garden, rebuild a school playground or help senior citizens ready their homes for the winter, for example.

**Grant amount: \$250 to \$1,000**

**<https://karmaforcara.org/microgrant>**

### **Legacy**

**Deadline in December**

Legacy funds Education Grants annually to assist with helping to create environmentally responsible citizens through education. Any Alabama organization (including schools) planning a community based environmental program is encouraged to apply.

**Grant amount: up to \$2,500**

**<https://legacyved.org/legacy-grants/>**

### **Lee County Master Gardeners of Alabama**

**Deadline in December**

The Lee County Master Gardeners of Alabama provide funding for up to eight horticulture projects each year. Projects must be non-profit in nature and provide significant benefit(s) to the citizens of Lee County Alabama.

**Grant amount: up to \$2,000**

**<https://www.leemg.org/grants.html>**

### **Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund**

**Deadline in November**

The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund supports projects whose goals focus on developing an awareness for nature by growing native plants in a garden or landscape. Projects must be hands-on, emphasize involvement by students and volunteers in most phases of development, and increase the site's educational value.

**Grant amount: \$100-\$500 (for native plants and seeds)**

**<https://www.wildones.org/seeds-for-education/>**

### **Monarch Watch: Free Milkweed for Schools and Non-Profits**

**Year-round**

Monarch Watch provides free Milkweed plugs for schools and nonprofits to help create habitats for monarchs and pollinators.

**<https://www.monarchwatch.org/bring-back-the-monarchs/milkweed/free-milkweeds-schools-nonprofits/>**

### **National Head Start Association GroMoreGood Garden Grant**

**Deadlines in January**

NHSA will award grants in variable amounts depending on demonstrated need and proposal in the application. Grants will supplement needs of existing garden projects, help launch new garden projects, or supplement/launch outdoor green space projects (land that is partly or completely covered with grass, trees, shrubs, or other vegetation and an option for children and the community to learn).

**Grant amount: \$2,500-\$5,000**

**<https://nhsa.org/gromoregood-garden-grants/application/>**

### National Signature Project Award

**Grant is currently closed. Check back spring 2024. Deadline TBD**

Rural Schools Collaborative and National Rural Education Association are partners of the National Signature Project Award program awards rural teachers with funds to carry out classroom projects which demonstrate “place-based” education (involving local flora and fauna, geology, and geography).

**Grant amount: \$1,500- \$2,500**

**<https://ruralschoolscollaborative.org/programs/grants-in-place>**

### National Weather Association Foundation

**Deadline in June**

The NWAF’s Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grants are awarded annually to teachers/educators of grades K-12 to help improve the education of their students, their school, and/or their community in the science of meteorology. For additional information and application, visit <http://www.nwas.org/> and navigate to Foundation > Scholarships & Grants.

**Grant Amount: Up to \$750**

**<https://www.nwafoundation.org/scholarships-grants/sol-hirsch-education-fund-grants/>**

### Nature’s Path Gardens for Good

**Deadline in March**

The Gardens for Good grant program supports community gardens across North America that are growing organic food and making a difference in their communities. Open to community and school gardens for non-profits.

**Grant Amount: Up to \$5,000**

**<https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/our-path/nourishing-communities/gardens-for-good/>**

### Project Green Schools Outdoor Classroom Challenge

**Deadline in January**

Project Green Schools is challenging schools across the country to develop and implement a meaningful outdoor classroom and learning space that awards one Grand Prize of \$10,000 to further enhance an existing space or build a new space.

**Grant amount: \$10,000**

**<https://projectgreenschools.org/outdoor-classroom-challenge/>**

### Samull Classroom Herb Garden Grant

**Deadline in October. Visit website in Summer 2024 for more information on the upcoming cycle.**

Elementary classrooms grades K-6 with ten students or more may apply for a grant to establish an herb garden. In addition to plants, the funds may be used for supplies such as soil, plants trays, containers, child or youth sized tools, etc.

**Grant amount: \$300**

**<https://www.herbsociety.org/get-involved/grants-scholarships/>**

### Seed Savers Exchange

**Deadline: year-round**

The Herman’s Garden Seed Donation Program donates seeds to non-profit organizations in need. When visiting the webpage, scroll down to the Herman’s Garden Seed Donation Program “Apply Today” button.

**Grant amount: variety of 50 seed packets**

**<https://seedsavers.org/learn/#community-seed-donations>**

### State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Company

**Deadline in October**

State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Education Grant education funds initiatives that support academic performance improvement programs that impact K-12 students.

**Grant amount: \$5,000 or more**

**<https://www.statefarm.com/about-us/community-involvement/community-grants/good-neighbor-citizenship-grants>**

### **Tennessee Valley Authority STEM**

*Available in the counties of Cherokee, Colbert, Jackson, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, and Morgan.  
Available in parts of the following counties: De Kalb, Franklin, Lawrence, Winston.*

**Deadline TBD (opens Sept. 1)**

The TVA STEM classroom grant program, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority in partnership with Bicentennial Volunteers Incorporated (BVI, a TVA retiree organization), funds STEM learning projects in classrooms and schools in the TVA service area. Educators at K-12 public and private schools served by TVA's local power company partners can apply for grants up to \$5000.

**Grant amount: up to \$5,000**

**<https://www.tva.com/stem>**

### **Tomberg Family Philanthropies**

**The 2024 – 2025 grant cycle will open in July 2024.**

The Tomberg Family Philanthropies Grant funds projects in the areas of education, the environment, health, and poverty alleviation.

**Grant amount: \$5,000 - \$20,000**

**<https://www.tombergphilanthropies.org/about-our-grants/>**

### **Toshiba America Foundation** (for Grades 6-12)

**Deadlines in March, June, September, and December for grants up to \$5,000**

**Deadlines in May and November for grants over \$5,000**

The Toshiba America Foundation encourages teacher-led, K-12 classroom-based programs, projects, and activities that have the potential to improve classroom experiences in science, mathematics, and technology. These specific grants are for grades 6-12.

**Grant amount: up to \$5,000 and over \$5,000**

**<https://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp>**

### **Toshiba America Foundation** (for Grades K-5)

**Deadline in October**

The Toshiba America Foundation encourages teacher-led, K-12 classroom-based programs, projects, and activities that have the potential to improve classroom experiences in science, mathematics, and technology. This specific grant is for grades K-5.

**Grant amount: up to \$1,000**

**<https://www.toshiba.com/taf/k5.jsp>**

### **Walmart Local Community Grant**

**Deadlines in April, July, October and December**

The Walmart Community Grant Program provides grants to local nonprofit organizations and agencies. Walmart believes that strengthening local communities creates value.

**Grant amount: \$250 – \$5,000**

**<https://walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants>**

### **Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grant**

**Deadline in March**

Through their Garden Grant program, schools and non-profit organizations turn outdoor spaces into powerful hands-on learning gardens that connect kids with food, spark their curiosity and support classroom curriculum.

**Grant amount: \$3,000**

**<https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/programs/school-gardens-grant>**

### **Youth Garden Grant**

**Deadline in December**

Since 1982, the Youth Garden Grant has supported school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities. Schools planning a new garden program or expanding an established one that serves at least 15 youth between the ages of 3 and 18 is eligible to apply.

**Grant amount: Packages valued \$750 - \$1,750**

**<https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/youth-garden-grant-24/>**

## Local Fundraising Opportunities & Support

- School System “Partners-in-Education” Businesses
- Parent-Teacher Associations or Organizations
- Local County Commissioners
- Local Garden Centers
- Plant Rescue Groups
- Local Soil & Water Conservation Offices
- Student-Lead Fundraiser
- Local Master Gardener Groups
- Local Churches

### GRANT WRITING TIPS: TOP TEN LIST

1. **Know your audience** – Make sure your project’s goals match the goals of the grant you are applying for.
2. **Follow the guidelines listed** – Read and reread the guidelines provided and follow them to the letter.
3. **Proof your application** – Have someone who is not involved in your project review your proposal to make sure that it makes sense and answers the questions appropriately.
4. **Honor deadlines** – Try to get your proposal completed and turned in ahead of the deadline to avoid any last-minute complications.
5. **Keep it clear and concise** – Only answer the questions asked, and do not include any additional information or attachments if the grant application does not request it.
6. **Submit your reports** – Be sure to follow the guidelines and submit any and all follow-up reports on time.
7. **Passion must be evident** – If possible, be sure to convey how important your project is to your students, the school, and the community as a whole.
8. **Do not use a shotgun approach** – Stay focused and do not include any other projects in your proposal. Also, be sure to demonstrate how your specific project meets their grant program’s goals.
9. **It all starts with a good idea** – Before applying for grants, put your thoughts and ideas on paper using the Alabama Outdoor Classroom Program’s Master Plan worksheet and Individual Project Plan worksheets.
10. **Be correct** – Do the necessary research before filling out any grant applications to ensure that you have a true picture of the scope and details of your project.