School and Community Habitat Grant Application 2026

The application outline is provided below. More information, including the grant overview, example plant selection list, and past awardee info can be found on our website: https://www.washtenawcd.org/residents/schg

Application Submission & Deadlines: All grant applications must be submitted to matt@washtenawcd.org with subject line, "2026 School and Community Habitat Grant Application", by the deadline.

Applications must be submitted in the form of Word documents (.doc, docx) or PDF (.pdf). Please reach out if you need support to edit this document and submit in those formats. If necessary, printed hand-written applications can be submitted by request.

Application Deadline: Friday June 12th, 2026   Award Notification: July/August 2026

Date of Submission: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Organization Type: _____
(School, Community Organization, Nonprofit, HOA, Conservation Organization, Other - please specify)

EIN # _____

Address: _____ **City/Zip:** _____

Primary Applicant Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Please check the following and sign to agree to the requirements and responsibilities:

☐ I agree to submit the application fully to be considered.

☐ If awarded, I agree to meet Grant Awardee Responsibilities outlined in the grant overview.

☐ If unable to follow through with responsibilities, or with change of primary contact person, I agree to notify the WCCD.

Signature: _____

Provide narrative answers to the following application criteria:

Please use this document to answer each section in the spaces provided to the best of your ability. There's no requirement to have a complete plan or every question fully answered yet! It is perfectly acceptable to share your current vision, state of the project, and what you hope to learn. Our goal is to meet all grant awardees at their current knowledge level and for the grant to be accessible and educational for all involved.

- **Mission/Purpose:**
  - In three sentences or less, how does this project align with your organization or community group's mission?

  - Think about who this project will benefit, provide examples of those benefits.

  - Indicate if your organization has previously received this grant award or other or funding for this project, or an ongoing project.

- **Timeline:**
  Select either Spring 2027 (April-June) or Fall 2027 (Sept-Oct) to receive plants and install your habitat. Design consultation will be scheduled in advance of the installation dates. Provide any details of site prep and timing planting installations that may be relevant.

- **Project At A Glance:**
  Describe your organization's vision for the project.

  - Provide a title for your project. Choose something that captures the description and what makes it unique to the space or your community.

  - Describe the type of your project:
    Some examples might include: Butterfly / Pollinator garden, Rain garden, Fruit Forest, Reforestation, Shade Trees, Wildlife habitat restoration, educational garden, Native Plant landscaping. If you need help dreaming up your concept, that is ok! In a few sentences describe your vision in your own words.

  - Describe your project.

- Please share your understanding of the ecological focus and community benefits of your project, if unsure, just let us know what you hope to accomplish from the project.
- (optional) Provide any existing design plans, layout, or sketches of your project.

- **Site Selection:**
  Introduce your proposed site and explain why you selected it.
  - Provide a description of the existing site. Include anything relevant:
    - Who uses the space? How is it used?
    - What are the abiotic natural features? (sunlight, water, soil, topography, etc.)
    - What wildlife exists? (plants, animals, invasive species, etc.)
    - What is the long-term vision for the space?
    - Include photo/s of the space.

  - Provide a description of the layout of planned project. Include a size estimate of the area in square feet.

  - Provide a Google Maps pin location or aerial view screenshot. Insert here or attach with application submission. Outline the planned project location if possible.

- **Coordination:** Provide a list of responsible parties who will maintain the site
  - Outline your maintenance plan.
    - Is water accessible?
    - What is your plan to manage weeds or invasive species?
    - Who will maintain the site and for how long? What about during the summer months?
    - What challenges do you foresee and how will you respond?

  - Include who will coordinate and how they will coordinate. Include their existing relationships to the space and any experience and skills for installing and maintaining this type of project.
    - Include a plan for who will take over coordination if the primary coordinator leaves.

- **Grant Awards requested:** The following are offered to recipients, check the box for each if requested, and if not, demonstrate your plan otherwise. Services will be provided by professional technician or WCCD staff.

    1. ☐ <u>Site assessment & consultation</u>, with optional soil test by request.

    2. ☐ <u>Site design & maintenance plan</u>, including plant species and layout. Indicate if you intend to work with a particular consultant. Otherwise, we'll match the project with a consultant.

    3. ☐ <u>Site materials</u>, including trees, shrubs, other native plants, and supplies. Indicate if you intend to work with a particular nursery. Otherwise, plants lists will be available through our existing plant sale offerings.

    4. ☐ <u>Site installation</u>, including borrowing planting tools and volunteer outreach support

- **Checklist of attachments (required)**
    - ☐ Letter of permission from site administrator or landowner to install project at proposed location.
    - ☐ Photos of the site, just enough for the application review committee to get an idea of what the site looks like.
    - ☐ Site location (google maps pin, address, aerial imagery screenshot with vicinity of project location)

Other: Provide any other relevant material or information. The following are not required but could be included:

- Checklist of attachments (optional)
    - ☐ Provide any existing design plans, layout, or sketches of your project.
    - ☐ Attach an overall estimated budget for your project. Including estimated cost of tree, shrub, and plant material. Include any committed funds provided by your organization.
    - ☐ Community members' letters showing commitment to support the project.
    - ☐ A draft list of tree, shrub, and native plants requested. WCCD plant offerings differ depending on Fall or Spring installation timing. If you need support with plant selection, indicate so on your application.
- How did you hear about the grant?