



February 1, 2009

Extension Grants e-News

Winter 2009

Cherokee County ANR Program Development Team Grant Awarded

The 2007 drought that affected Georgia most severely affected Cherokee and surrounding counties in Northwest Georgia. Less than half the average annual rainfall was recorded in 2007 for most of Cherokee County and drought conditions continued well into 2008. To address the severe nature of this drought situation and ongoing state water restrictions, the Cherokee Extension ANR Program Development Team recognized a critical need to create an education and outreach program to teach local citizens ways to conserve residential water use.

Grant funding from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals Water Wise Council was awarded to the Program Development Team to implement a program to address local needs for education on water conservation.



The "40 Gallon Challenge" was initiated on March 15, 2008 upon receiving a grant award of \$1,250.00.

Grant funds were utilized to build 50 rain barrels to save a minimum of 40 gallons of water per day. The pledge cards and rain barrel give away served as incentive based educational tools which complemented our local Cherokee County Master Gardener Speaker's Bureau for 2008, teaching through 21 local seminars and plant clinics.

Program Impact: To date, over 300 people have completed the 40 gallon challenge and total pledges currently exceed saving 12,000 gallons per day, which is equivalent to 4.4 million gallons per year. Also, the 50 rain barrels given away as door prizes to pledge participants will result in immediate measurable water savings based on the annual number of local rain events. A conservative estimate of 2,000 gallons of water could be captured and saved per rain barrel per year. This could potentially save over 100,000 gallons of water per year used for outdoor water use in Cherokee County. A follow up evaluation survey was conducted and 100% of the respondents said "yes" when asked if they would continue to follow any water conservation practices that they had pledged.

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Grant Websites

- www.grants.gov
- Egrants.ed.gov
- Servenet.org
- Grantsalert.com
- Genv.net
- Channing-bete.com
- Foundationcenter.org



Grant Announcements

NEW Lemelson-MIT InvenTeams

Organization: Lemelson-MIT Program

Eligibility: Science, mathematics, and technology teachers at public, private, and vocational high schools

Value: Up to \$10,000

Deadline: March 20, 2009

This grant aims to excite high school students about science, math, engineering, entrepreneurship, and invention; empower students through problem solving; and encourage a sustainable culture of invention in schools and communities.

We Can Change the World Challenge

Organization: Siemens, Discovery Education, and NSTA

Eligibility: Middle school students

Value: Regional and national recognition, and cash

Deadline: March 15, 2009

Teams will be judged by a panel of environmental experts and science educators on their ability to create a positive, measurable solution to a local environmental problem or issue using scientific methodology and how well they explain how the solution can be replicated by other communities.

Haralson Youth Leadership Receives \$500 Grant

The Haralson County Youth Leadership Program received a \$500 grant from the Warren P. and Ava Sewell Foundation. The program implemented is Youth Leadership in Action: A Community Focus.

This curriculum from the Fanning Institute of the University of Georgia will guide and encourage young people to be leaders in their community. The Haralson County Extension Office collaborated with Haralson County Family Connections and Haralson County Chamber of Commerce on this program.

The objective was to provide Haralson County youth an opportunity to be leaders at their school and in the community. These high school students will be our future leaders of Haralson County. This leadership curriculum will be used for 11th graders at both Haralson County High School and Bremen High School. Counselors selected 8 participants from each school. From the 16 students selected 12 participated in the program. All 12 will participate in a graduation breakfast to complete the program. A recommendation from the students will be presented to one of the school systems from which the students represent.

RGK Foundation Grants

Organization: RGK Foundation

Eligibility: Nonprofits

Value: \$25,000 per award

Deadline: March 6, 2009

The foundation's primary interests within Education include programs that focus on formal K-12 education, teacher development, literacy, and higher education.

\$1 billion in the next 5 years to teach computer skills

Organization: Microsoft Corp.

Eligibility: Non-profit organizations

Value: More than \$1 billion

Designed to encourage innovation and provide the funding necessary to help the best technology solutions scale for broader use.

\$20,000 for researchers to fund conservation

Organization: The Conservation Trust

Eligibility: must provide a record of prior research or conservation action as it pertains to the proposed project

Value: Grants ranging from \$15,000-\$20,000

The trust will fund projects that contribute significantly to the preservation and sustainable use of the Earth's biological, cultural, and historical resources.

\$250,000 for nonprofits to strengthen education

Organization: Wachovia Foundation

Eligibility: Nonprofits dedicated to improving education in their communities

Value: Awards range from \$100,000 - \$250,000

The program ultimately seeks to increase student achievement in pre-K-12 public education by building and supporting teachers and the teaching profession in scalable and sustainable ways.

Comcast Foundation Grants Program

Organization: Comcast Foundation

Eligibility: Programs addressing literacy, volunteerism, and youth leadership

Value: Awards range from \$1,000-\$570,000

The goal of the Comcast Foundation is to maximize the impact of community investments so they yield tangible, measurable benefits to the neighborhoods Comcast serves and the people who live there. Community partners are proactively identified by local Comcasters in the field.

Organization: The Tellabs Foundation

Value: \$10,000 or more

The deadline for letters of inquiry or invited proposals is four weeks prior to every Tellabs Foundation Board meeting, which are held quarterly, usually in January, April, July and October.



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Grant Announcements

40-percent discounts on Linux-based software

Organization: SUSE LINUX

Schools and nonprofit education organizations

Value: Discounts on software

40-percent discounts on open-source Linux software through SUSE's partners CCV Software and RICIS Inc. This new program helps schools provide flexible, cost-efficient software solutions at a fraction of the cost of proprietary software. Applications available range from server software to text processing, spreadsheets, eMail clients, internet browsers, and more.

Community Commitment Grants

Organization: The Allstate Foundation

Eligibility: See web site

Value: Varies

The Allstate Foundation supports national and local programs that fit within three focus areas. Safe and vital communities programs, Economic empowerment, and Tolerance, inclusion and diversity programs.

Free Adobe software for improving K-12 student performance

Organization: Adobe Systems Inc.

Eligibility: Schools and nonprofits

Value: Software

Adobe Systems Inc. supports K-12 schools and nonprofits by donating up to four packages of its latest software. Eligible organizations have a core mission that focus on at least one of the following: improving K-12 student performance; developing curriculum for K-12 classrooms; developing and providing K-12 teacher training and development; and working to prevent hunger and homelessness. Organizations may only apply once in a 12-month period.

Free Google.com ads to raise awareness, funds

Organization: Google Inc.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations

Value: Free advertising space

The Google Grants program supports nonprofit organizations focused in areas such as science and technology, education, global public health, the environment, youth advocacy, and the arts. Google Grants harnesses the power of its flagship advertising product, Google AdWords, to nonprofits seeking to inform and engage their constituents online. Google Grant recipients use their award of three months of free AdWords advertising on Google.com to raise awareness and increase traffic. Google Grants has awarded AdWords advertising to hundreds of nonprofit groups whose missions range from animal welfare and literacy to supporting homeless children and promoting HIV education.

Free text-to-audio software for learning or hearing impaired students

Organization: Premier Assistive Technology Inc.

Eligibility: Schools and nonprofit organizations

Value: Software

To help meet the accessibility needs of students with learning and/or visual disabilities, the program offers a range of software that reads printed text out loud. Applicants have no obligation to buy, but after the grant period has expired, applicants will have the option to pay a nominal fee to continue the product maintenance, technical support, and upgrades.

Funds to help improve education for children

Organization: The Wallace Foundation

Eligibility: Nonprofits

Value: Varies

The program focuses on three major areas: strengthening educational leadership in ways that significantly improve student achievement, helping selected cities make high-quality out-of-school learning opportunities available to many more children, and making the arts a part of many more people's lives by working with arts organizations, schools and other providers of arts education and experience to build both present and future arts audiences.

Grants for education and community improvement projects

Organization: Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations near Lowe's stores

Value: Varies

Funds large-scale education and community improvement projects that address issues of importance to local communities and are supported by the management of local Lowe's stores. Unsolicited requests and proposals not aligned with Lowe's focus areas will not be funded.

Grants for education from the Ford Motor Co.

Organization: Ford Motor Co. Fund

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations

Value: Varies

The Ford Motor Co. Fund makes awards in six categories: education, environment, public policy, health and social programs, civic affairs and community development, and arts and humanities. Across these areas, Ford Fund grants to nonprofit organizations totaled \$83.8 million in 2002 and \$77.4 million in 2003.



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Grant Announcements

Elbert County 4-H – Grassroots Arts Program Awarded \$1,000 Grant

Elbert County 4-H recently applied for and was awarded a grant from the Grassroots Arts Program of Georgia in the amount of \$1,000. Money from the grant will be used to fund a new special interest opportunity for Elbert County youth, the ABC (Art for a Better Community) Program. Funding from the grant will pay for all supplies and instruction needed for the students to learn a new visual art form.

Elbert County 4-H will be partnering with a local studio, Blue Frog Arts, to host the art classes. Professional artist, Stephanie Astalos-Jones, will be instructing students on Pysanky egg decorating. This particular art form is a great way to combine the rich agricultural history of 4-H with a “new to Elbert County” twist on art and can be created using locally produced eggs.

Volunteer Vickie Cutts is heading up the project with the owner of Blue Frog Arts, Anne Scott Harvard, and will be mentoring the students through the process of instruction and developing their own Pysanky art. At the conclusion of the sessions, Elbert County 4-H will hold a public art exhibit for the created works. The grant runs from January through June of 2009.

This program is supported in part by Grassroots Arts Program of the Georgia Council for the Arts through an appropriation of the Georgia General Assembly in partnership with the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center.

Organization: The Educational Foundation of America

Eligibility: Non-profits

Provides grants for specific projects related to the environment, the crisis of human over-population and reproductive freedom, Native Americans, arts, education, medicine, and human services. Check foundation's the web site for more details.

Locate computers and equipment donations

Organization: Share the Technology

Eligibility: Schools, nonprofit organizations, and individuals

Value: Donated computers

Provides a way for donors and potential recipients to connect no matter where they are in the country.

ING Unsung Heroes

Deadline: April 30, 2009

Maximum Award: \$2000-\$25,000

Purpose: Are you an educator with a class project that is short on funding but long on potential? Do you know a teacher looking for grant dollars? ING Unsung Heroes® could help you turn great ideas into reality for students.

Jenny's Heroes (Talk Show host Jenny Jones)

Provides grants of up to \$25,000 each to fund projects that promise long-term community benefits. The program's focus is primarily on smaller communities where fundraising can be difficult.

The Prudential Foundation

Description: The Prudential Foundation provides grants focusing on education and economic development. The foundation receives and reviews proposals throughout the year.

Project Orange Thumb – For community gardening

Funder: Fiskars.

Eligibility: Community garden groups, schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs and treatment facilities.

Deadline: Feb. 17.

Amount: Each winner will receive up to \$1,500 in Fiskars' garden tools and up to \$800 in gardening-related materials.

Adolescent and Young Adult Health National Centers –

Funder: U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

Deadline: Feb. 11.

Amount: \$1.2 million for four awards.

To elevate national, state and community focus on, and commitment to, the health, safety, positive development, and social and emotional well-being of adolescents and young adults and their families.

Salud America! – For research on environmental and policy solutions to the epidemic of obesity among Latino children.

Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Eligibility: Educational institutions and nonprofits.

Deadline: Feb. 6.

Amount: Twenty grants of up to \$75,000 each.

Organization: The Prudential Foundation

Eligibility: Academic institutions of higher learning, not-for-profit organizations, K-12 education institutions

Value: Up to \$200,000

The Ready to Learn grant program provides support to innovative direct-service education programs that address the needs of communities the company serves—funds initiatives that strengthen public education at the elementary school level.



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Grant Announcements

Community Safety Awards Program

Recognizes Innovative Partnerships

MetLife Foundation: Community-Police Partnerships Awards Identifies innovative partnerships between community groups and police that promote neighborhood safety and revitalization. Six Neighborhood Revitalization Awards, ranging from \$15,000 to \$25,000, will recognize exemplary collaborations that address crime reduction as well as economic development. The preliminary application deadline is February 27, 2009. The RFP and preliminary application form will be available on the LISC website on January 5, 2009.

Funds for Grassroots Women's Projects

Open Meadows Foundation

Supports projects nationwide that are led by and benefit women and girls, particularly those from vulnerable communities; reflect the diversity of the community served by the project; promote building community power; and encourage racial, social, economic, and environmental justice. The Foundation provides grants of up to \$2,000 to cover start-up expenses or to support projects.

Deadline: February 15, 2009

Sprint Character Education Grant Program

Acceptance Period: Feb. 2, 2009 at 9am - Feb. 27 at 6pm

Maximum Award: \$5,000 (Schools) \$25,000 (Districts)

Sprint and the Sprint Foundation are committed to supporting K-12 education initiatives within the focus area of character education.

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities Funder: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Eligibility: Lead agencies are nonprofits or federally recognized tribal groups.

Deadline: Feb. 3.

Amount: 60 grants of up to \$360,000 each.

For healthy eating and active living initiatives that support healthier U.S. communities, with emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income and/or geographic location.

National Forest Foundation: Collaboration Support Program

Provides grants to organizations working to proactively engage local stakeholders in forest management and conservation issues on and around National Forests and Grasslands. The program provides Capacity Grants of up to \$5,000 for organizational development needs in collaborative efforts. Innovation Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for expenses related to the implementation of new strategies that will move the field of collaboration forward and that have the potential to be transferred to other collaborative efforts across the country.

Two Deadlines: March 6, 2009 and August 7, 2009

Cigna Foundation

Description: As part of its overall commitment to support innovative programs addressing the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities, the CIGNA Foundation makes targeted grants to organizations working in five core concern areas. These concerns, and representative activities, are the health of women, children, and families, obesity awareness and prevention, patient/doctor communications and health literacy, elimination of gender and ethnic disparities in health care, and the connection between a healthy mind and a healthy body.

FINRA Investor Education Foundation Announces 2009 Grant Program

The foundation invites nonprofit groups and researchers to apply for funding for projects that support its mission of providing Americans with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary for financial success. The foundation is interested in funding projects that reach and actively engage at-risk audiences such as seniors and first-time investors by offering them access to unbiased information about the markets and fundamental financial issues.

Georgia 4-H Youth Technology Leadership Team Awarded State Farm Grant



This grant award was made to the Georgia 4-H Youth Technology Leadership Team's Cyber Security Initiative (CSI). The Tech Team composed of 22 teens, 6 collegiate advisors, and 3 adult volunteers want to assist underserved youth and families by giving them access to computer technology that will help them graduate high school and reach their dreams for future education. The Tech Team will accomplish this goal through partnering their Need-a-Computer Project and cyber safety education through a traveling mobile lab. The Tech Team, led by State 4-H Specialist, Cheryl Varnadoe, will travel throughout our state to train youth and families, award computers, improving access and information about technology to underserved youth and families throughout our state. A member of the National State Farm Youth Advisory Board will visit the State 4-H Office on February 23, to make a formal check presentation.



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