

# **Community Enhancement Grants**

Financial assistance for natural resource conservation projects that benefit our communities.

The Uinta County Conservation District is offering grants of up to \$5,000 per application for natural resource conservation projects and education. Grant recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Signed applications must be submitted by mail, email, or delivered to the Conservation District office by the end of business on the second Monday in April.
- Applicant must make the case that the project meets the program criteria and has public benefit.
- Selected projects must be initiated after July 1<sup>st</sup> of the year awarded and completed by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year, unless otherwise approved.
- Progress reports will be required by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following months: September, December and March.
- A final, written report, photos of the project, and presentation to the Uinta County Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be due within 30 days after project completion.

If you have any question regarding this application or need technical assistance for your project please call the Uinta County Conservation District at 307-288-0214, or stop by the office located at 204 East Sage Street in Lyman.

Uinta County Conservation District P.O. Box 370 204 East Sage Street Lyman, WY 82937 307-288-0214 Email: ksabey.uccd@gmail.com www.uintacountycd.com



# **Purpose**

The Uinta County Conservation District created the Community Enhancement Grant program to encourage projects throughout Uinta County that promote natural resources and provide beautification of public spaces. For several years, UCCD has offered grants for these projects with an overwhelming response from community members and as a result, many great projects have been completed. UCCD would like to continue to offer an opportunity for our constituents to complete projects that benefit the public and promote sound resource stewardship.

Projects that address soil erosion, water quality and quantity, vegetation resources, energy conservation, wildlife habitat or that beautify the natural landscape along public corridors will be given priority. All projects must be completed within the boundaries of Uinta County.

<u>The grants can be written for any amount up to \$5,000.</u> The amount applying for must be clearly stated on the application.

# **Eligible Participants**

These grants are open to any groups, teams, clubs, schools, partnering agencies, businesses, church groups, scouts or other civic organizations with an interest in conservation and improving our communities. Applicants are free to partner with other organizations for the proposed project. The main responsibility for reporting will lie with the applying organization. UCCD will select well thought out projects that serve a wide variety of environmental stewardship goals and show public benefit.

# Key Information

The following are some basic concepts that will guide the funding:

- 1. Projects may be done on Public or Private Land providing proper permission is submitted and public benefit is shown.
- 2. Only one grant may be awarded per group per year.
- 3. Recipients must provide a progress report by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, December and March (or until project is completed). Failure to provide these reports is cause for grant cancellation and ineligibility to apply the next year.
- 4. Recipients will report to the Board of Supervisors and submit a written one-page final report within 30 days of project completion. Before, during and after pictures are required, videos are also acceptable if applicable.
- 5. Applicants who are awarded a grant but fail to complete the project will not be eligible to apply for grant funding the following year, and will be given a lower priority when re-applying in subsequent years.
- 6. Projects must benefit natural resources such as water, soil, air, plants and/or animals and the public.
- 7. Projects cannot improve property for personal monetary gain.
- 8. Project costs will be reimbursed up to the amount of the grant received, based on actual receipts submitted and documentation of required match contributions. Unused budget money may not be claimed or kept for personal use.
- 9. Project must show at least 20% in-kind and/or cash match. Please note what the match is and the amount on the project budget/cost estimate summary section of the application.
- 10. All projects must be pre-approved before being initiated and must be evaluated upon completion.
- 11. If possible, reimbursable purchases should be made within Uinta County.
- 12. Projects must be initiated after July 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the grant was awarded and completed by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year, unless otherwise approved by the board.

# **Potential Projects**

There are many opportunities out there for natural resource conservation making it impossible to cover every type of project that may come forward. The following are suggestions, other projects may also be considered:

- 1. Scout projects that benefit the community and the environment, including Eagle Scout projects
- 2. Community enhancement projects
- 3. Windbreaks or living snow fence plantings
- 4. Irrigation systems (e.g., installation of efficient drip systems for trees and shrubs)
- 5. Watershed improvement projects such as improving riparian vegetation
- 6. Projects to improve habitat for wildlife and livestock
- 7. Noxious weed management
- 8. Community beautification
- 9. Purchase of educational materials related to natural resources and/or agriculture
- 10. Projects that provide opportunities for outdoor learning experiences such as outdoor classrooms, nature trails, orienteering, etc.
- 11. Projects that help maintain energy savings and efficiency
- 12. Projects that encourage recycling

**Eligible Expenses\*** (suggestive list only; others may be considered upon discussion)

- Seed, trees, shrubs, and soil (project specific)
- Support or materials used for irrigation systems or water/riparian enhancements
- Signs, benches, informational structures relating to environmental education
- Equipment rental related to the project
- Natural Resource related educational materials
- Fencing, posts, and wire
- Miscellaneous materials such as garbage bags, tape, or other supplies directly related to the project.

#### **Ineligible Expenses**\*

- Printed material such as brochures for distribution
- Tools
- Food for project participants and volunteers
- Paid Labor

\*if an expense is not on either of these lists, please contact UCCD to determine whether or not it is an eligible expense.

#### **Application**

Applications are due to the Uinta County Conservation District by the second Monday in April. Selected projects must be initiated by July 1<sup>st</sup> of the year the project is approved and completed by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. The Uinta County Conservation District Board of Supervisors will review each application and determine which proposals will best meet the natural resource goals of this grant program. *Appropriate permission requests must accompany applications where private or public lands are involved*. Applicants will be notified by the end of April as to whether or not their project was selected by the Board of Supervisors. See the enclosed Application Form.

## Final Report and Presentation

A final report is due within 30 days of project completion. The report must include a brief description of your project, the goals and objectives met, site location and methods used, results and discussion, including any additional outcomes, if any, a final budget report, pictures and any news coverage of the project. Pictures of the project before, during and after are required; pictures in .jpeg format are preferred. Videos are also acceptable and encouraged if applicable. Applicant will also be required to attend a Board of Supervisors meeting to give a brief presentation of the completed project. Scheduling of the presentation will be done through the UCCD office. Grant funds will not be dispersed until after the presentation to the board and the submittal of the final report and receipts. Applicants who are awarded a grant but fail to complete the project will not be eligible to apply for grant funding the following year, and will be given a lower priority when re-applying in subsequent years.

# Please submit the enclosed application form using the following information as a guideline to help you complete the application:

**1. Project Description-** All applications must include a project narrative. Decisions regarding the project funding will be based in large part upon your project description. The Board of Supervisors may make recommendations to revise portions of the plan before the project is approved. Some sections may also require more detail upon request from the Board of Supervisors prior to final decision. The following points should be addressed in your narrative:

- A. Current Problems that exist and how your project will improve conditions.
- B. Primary goals: concise statement explaining the benefits of the project and what you will accomplish.
- C. Describe the public benefit your project provides.
- D. How will you implement your project? Include a timeline of activities.

E. Monitoring your project, who will be the accountable contact that will provide the reporting and other requirements of the grant?

**2. Project Location and Site Description**- a map and GPS coordinates or legal description are required. For assistance with the project location, contact UCCD. Site description such as land cover, wildlife communities, existing conditions, current land use, current threats to the natural values of the site must be listed. Pictures are highly recommended.

**3. Group Affiliation:** briefly describe your group's interest and commitment to natural resources.

# **Uinta County Conservation District Community Enhancement Grant**

**Application** (must fill out completely)

Applicant Name and Group Affiliation_	
Primary Contact Name:	Phone #:
Email:	Mailing Address:
Project Title	
Project location & site description (pleas	se include map with GPS coordinates and/or legal description)
needed). Decisions regarding the project fu Board of Supervisors may make recommend	a plan to do in detail (attach plans, use another sheet of paper if anding will be based in large part upon your project description. The dations to revise portions of the plan before the project is approved. upon request from the Board of Supervisors prior to final decision.
public.	e project meets the program objectives and how it benefits the
<b>Project design life &amp; maintenance</b> : De maintained.	escribe the projected life-span of the project and how it will be
Estimated Project Cost:	\$
Amount of grant applying for:	\$
* *	st be received by the second Monday in April at the April Board of Supervisors Meeting

\*Please fill out the attached Budget Sheet

#### Uinta County Conservation District Community Enhancement Grant Budget Sheet

Please provide a detailed cost breakdown and attach cost/bid estimates if applicable.

Material Description	Estimated Cost	Applicant Contribution (please note if it is in-kind or cash)	Anticipated Conservation District Contribution
Totals	\$	\$	\$

Amount of grant applying for:

\$

Signature of Applicant	J	Date

\*all sections of grant application must be filled out <u>completely</u> to be eligible for funding.