

Buncombe County Clean and Green

FY 2017 Buncombe County Community Funding

Asheville GreenWorks

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Application Form

Project Name*

Name of Project

Buncombe County Clean and Green

Amount Requested*

Amount Requested

\$70,000.00

Service Area***Which Commissioner Districts are served by this program?**Access a map of Buncombe County Commissioner districts [here](#).

District 1

District 2

District 3

Which county sustainability goal aligns best with the goals of this project?*Based on the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan, select a Category, Goal & Objective that align with the focus of the project and the specific results that will be achieved.Access the Buncombe County Sustainability Plan [here](#).

Environment > Pollution and Waste Prevention > Manage waste - reduce, reuse, recycle

If applicable, select a second sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.**Result 2 is optional** - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

Economy > Sustainable Local Food Systems > Promote sustainable agricultural production and personal and community gardening

If applicable, select a third sustainability goal that aligns with project goals.**Result 3 is optional** - Select if project aligns with more than one Sustainability Category, Goal & Objective.

Community > Healthy Environments > Improve and increase opportunities for safe, active living

Project Description

Project Description*

Description of Project

In 2016-17, Asheville GreenWorks' "Buncombe County Clean and Green" program will expand upon our successful efforts to reduce waste and increase the number of fruit and shade trees throughout the county, particularly in high-need areas. Three key activities will be implemented to accomplish our goals: 1) Engaging community volunteers in recycling events and roadside litter and river cleanups; 2) Educating county residents, especially children and youth, on the benefits of waste reduction, recycling and composting; and 3) Planting shade trees and fruit producing trees in public spaces, including establishing additional community orchards as part of our Food Tree Project. Through hundreds of volunteer projects, thousands of county residents will experience firsthand where their food comes from, enjoy access to a clean and healthy environment and play an active role in keeping "Buncombe County Clean and Green." Through the efforts of our volunteers and paid staff members, GreenWorks will clean up hundreds of miles of rivers and roadways, plant more than 500 edible and shade trees and divert over 20 tons of waste materials from the County landfill during the 12 month grant period.

How many people will this project serve?*

State the number of individuals or households in Buncombe County that will be served by this project. Also state the number of people that will experience the desired result. For example, if dropout prevention services are being delivered to 100 students, how many will successfully graduate from high school?

Buncombe County Clean and Green will serve the entire county and all 244,490 residents. The results of our cleaning and greening projects will be of benefit to not only to residents of the county, but also to the thousands of individuals who visit our county each year. Specifically, the projects carried out as part of Buncombe County Clean and Green will engage 2,500 volunteers in 200 conservation, planting and cleanup projects in the county; deliver environmental education programming to 3,500 students in 25 schools; and coordinate 10 public recycling events, drawing more than 150 individuals to each event throughout the year.

Describe the people this project will serve.*

Characterize the demographics of the project's target population in terms such as age, gender, income, race, ethnicity, geographic area, etc. Include information about method of referral/recruitment of the target population.

We intend to serve the entire County population. The demographics are as follows:

Black or African American alone, percent, 2012 : 6.5%

Asian alone, percent, 2012 :1.1%

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2012 : 0.1%

Two or More Races, percent, 2012: 1.9%

Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2012 : 6.3%

White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2012 : 84.1%

Persons under 18 years, percent, 2012 : 20.1%

Persons between 18-65 years, percent, 2012 : 62.9%

Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2012 : 17.0%

What key steps will you take to achieve the results of this project?*

Describe the core elements of your implementation plan, including milestones that will take place within the funding timeframe.

- Host ten “Hard 2 Recycle” events for the public to bring their TVs, electronics, batteries, Styrofoam, cardboard and books (five times a year with a satellite event at each)
- Hold four Tire Amnesty Days where County residents can recycle tires without a charge, where we expect to collect at least 1,000 tires at each event (November 2016 and May 2017)
- Provide recycling and composting education to 3,600 students at 25 schools (August 2016-May 2017).
- Plant at least 500 trees and edible plants in public spaces (August-November 2016 and February-May 2017)
- Engage a minimum of 2,500 volunteers in 200 environmental projects across the County (July 2016-June 2017).
- Hire twenty-five teenagers and young adults to participate in the Youth Environmental Leadership Program interns (June -August 2017).
- Establish two additional Community Orchards established to provide access to fresh, healthy food in low- to moderate-income communities in Buncombe County. (Fall 2016 and Spring 2017).

Describe the evidence of success that backs this project's approach.*

What evidence of success (i.e. evidence-based research, practice model, accreditation, industry standards, and/or other framework) are you using as a basis for your project design?

We have a long history (42 years!) of successfully organizing environmental projects that have a large impact on our community. Our county-wide recycling events – Hard 2 Recycle (H2R) and Tire Amnesty Days – continue to grow in popularity. Having run H2R events five times a year for the past five years, we expertly manage the event and even added five satellite collection sites with partners. In 2015, we collected record amounts of materials, including batteries, electronics, Styrofoam and tires, diverting more than 20 tons of waste from the county landfill. The more frequent convenient opportunities we provide, the more people will recycle. Our Food Tree Project is meeting with similar success. While planting 20 fruit trees is a major undertaking, ensuring the sustainability of that orchard is even more challenging. GreenWorks maximizes participation and ownership by engaging community members in every step of the process -- from design to planting to ongoing stewardship.

Describe your data collection, tracking, and reporting procedures.*

Explain your methods for documenting project, service and client information. Include a description of any software or other tools utilized.

With the largest, most active group of volunteers working on environmental projects in the region, GreenWorks utilizes best practices in volunteer management to recruit, coordinate, track and appreciate these model citizens. Our consistently high volunteerism rates are evidence of our outstanding capabilities in this area. We utilize a software program called Giftworks to track our volunteer information and hours served. Our Volunteer Coordinator maintains a record of how many volunteer hours we log annually, thus we can provide a monetary representation of the benefits our volunteers have contributed to Buncombe County.

Explain your technological resources and capacity.*

Explain your current technological strengths and barriers and how this impacts your ability to track data and report outcomes. Who is responsible for adaptation and use of technology within your organization?

We have fully functional technology and all staff members keep records up to date on project metrics. Our Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for adaptation and use of technology within our organization, assisted by the Executive Director and the Office Manager.

Organizational Profile**How does the proposed project support your mission and strategic plan?***

State your mission and the date of your most recent strategic plan, and explain how the proposed project helps advance your organizational goals.

GreenWorks enhances the environment and quality of life for residents in Asheville and Buncombe County through volunteer-led, community-based environmental conservation projects and educational programs. Our most recent strategic plan was created in 2014, and our organization is about to embark on a strategic planning process with our new executive director.

The proposed project is core to our mission and advances our organizational goal of keeping Buncombe County “clean and green.” To reduce waste in our county, we offer convenient, accessible opportunities throughout the year for residents to recycle materials responsibly. We hold community public education and school-based education programming to inform people of the impact of waste and steps they can take to reduce waste production. GreenWorks organizes cleanups to collect litter and prevent pollution and plants community orchards to provide access to fresh, healthy fruit, increased stewardship of this shared resource.

What expertise/accomplishments do you have that are relevant to the proposed project?*

List your organization's strengths as well as accomplishments from the past 3 years that position the organization to be successful with the proposed project.

With more than 400 members and thousands of volunteers, we engage the community in grassroots projects such as edible and shade tree plantings, environmental cleanups, anti-litter and waste reduction education and the care and preservation of Asheville's rivers and trees.

Annual accomplishments to date include:

Mobilizing 2,769 volunteers to complete 11,621 hours of volunteer service at a value of \$244,041.

Planting 783 edible and shade trees throughout Buncombe County, including the establishment of two new community orchards in Hillcrest Apartments and Deaverview Apartments – public housing developments in Asheville.

Picked up 1,643 tires and 1,554 bags of trash through river and roadside cleanups.

Diverted more than 20 tons of material from the County landfill through seven Hard 2 Recycle collections.

Collected a record number of tires (2,455 tires!) at Tire Amnesty Days in May and November 2015.

Describe partners that are critical to the success of your organization.*

List any external partners, intermediaries or advisors important to your success, and describe their role and evidence of their commitment. Describe successful collaborations with these people or groups.

Buncombe County supports our Hard 2 Recycle events, Tire Amnesty Days and establishing community orchards; City of Asheville ensures the success of projects implemented within City limits. The Housing Authority and its residents have been integral to our success in planting and maintaining community orchards, developing our youth internship program and introducing recycling to public housing. Buncombe County & Asheville City Schools are strong partners who go beyond classroom instruction to get students involved in tree planting, cleanups, composting and recycling. Hard 2 Recycle sponsors such as BIMCO, Open Box Moving Company, Curbside Recycling and Habitat for Humanity, partner with us multiple times a year by collecting materials and hauling it away to recycling facilities. Interns from UNCA and Warren Wilson College volunteer on GreenWorks projects. TD Bank and Green Opportunities have shared their time, effort and expertise to support community orchard development.

Financial Information

Nonprofit financial assurance requirements:

Financial statements, prepared using a recognizable basis of accounting (i.e., modified accrual) and IRS Form 990s must be submitted to Buncombe County annually.

- Organizations with annual revenues of \$300,000 or greater must submit financial statements audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
- Those with revenues between \$100,000 and \$300,000 must submit financial statements reviewed in accordance with SSARS 19.
- Those with revenues of less than \$100,000 must submit non-disclosure financial statements compiled in accordance with SSARS 19.

All financial statements must be reported on by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

These requirements are considered minimum requirements. Organizations may submit a higher level of assurance than is required.

IRS Form 990 - Upload Here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the 990 form you most recently completed.

990 FY2014.pdf

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

Our 990 for 2014-15 is being completed and submitted as of the date of this application.

Financial Statements - Upload here

Click Choose File to upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements (audit, compilation or review).

Audit FY2014.pdf

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

Include a statement of intent to comply with nonprofit financial assurance requirements as listed above.

Our audited financial statements for 2014-15 are being completed and submitted as of the date of this application.

Complete Budget Worksheet - Upload Here*

Download the budget form [Here](#).

Complete the budget form for this project/program and the overall agency. Save it to your computer, then upload it by clicking Choose File.

BC2017 - community-funding-budget-form.xlsx

Budget Narrative*

Describe all differences between current year and proposed year. List all pending funding sources with expected date of notification. Please detail any other information that may help clarify the budget.

Our proposed year budget includes increases in Salaries due to additional staff and in the Professional and Contract Fees related to the increase in the number of paid youth internships we expect to have in the coming year. With program expansion we expect greater expenses related to materials, supplies and marketing. We also have opened a second office and have additional rent and related expenses

Pending Funding Sources (Expected Date of Notification)

Pigeon River Fund: \$27,000 for Youth Internship & Water Stewardship (received December 2015)

Duke Energy Foundation: \$50,000 for Education Program (January 2016)

Duke Energy Foundation: \$100,000 for Clean Communities Program (January 2016)

New Belgium Brewing Company: \$10,000 for Water Stewardship (February 2016)

TD Green Streets: \$20,000 for Community Orchards (January 2016)

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation: \$50,000 for Youth Internship (March 2016)

National Park Service Challenge Grant: \$25,000 for Youth Internship (January 2016)

What (if any) portion of requested funds will be used to support capital expenses?*

Capital projects are defined as those used to acquire or upgrade physical assets such as property, buildings, or equipment. Please detail.

None of the requested funds will be used to support capital expenses.

Employee Wages

Please provide information about the wage breakdowns of your employees. Living wage for Buncombe County has been identified as \$11.00 per hour for employees with employer-provided health insurance and \$12.50 per hour for employees without.

Employees with employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization with employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$10.99 per hour

\$11.00 - \$14.99 per hour

\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour

\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour

\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour

\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour

\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour

\$40.00+ per hour

4 full-time employees fall within the \$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour range. We do not provide health insurance, however, we provide a supplemental stipend of \$300/month to each employee towards health insurance premiums.

1 full-time employee earns \$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour plus a monthly health insurance stipend.

Employees without employer-provided health insurance*

List the number of employees in your organization without employer-provided health insurance in each wage category. For salaried employees, use hourly wage equivalents.

\$7.25 - \$12.49 per hour
\$12.50 - \$14.99 per hour
\$15.00 - \$19.99 per hour
\$20.00 - \$24.99 per hour
\$25.00 - \$29.99 per hour
\$30.00 - \$34.99 per hour
\$35.00 - \$39.99 per hour
\$40.00+ per hour

None