

FY2024 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant Report

Organization Name:	RiverLink	
Project Name:	Stormwater Mitigation in Black Mountain	
Reporting Quarter: (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)
		Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)
	X	Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)

Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 1500 characters). You may attach supplemental documents if needed.

Quarter 1	On September 27, 2023, we held the first stormwater education workshop on bioswales. RiverLink and Town of Black Mountain staff partnered with garden design company Yummy Yards to lead the workshop. The half-day workshop consisted of a classroom presentation on bioswale design & construction followed by a hands-on demonstration where participants helped construct a bioswale at Black Mountain Montessorri School. Eleven participants attended the workshop and two residents have requested site consultations in late October to discuss stormwater runoff issues on their property.
Quarter 2	Our focus in Q2 was planning for the next workshop that will be offered on 2/10/24 in Black Mountain. This will be our live staking workshop where participants learn how to address streambank erosion by planting live stake cuttings. Participants will receive free live stakes to install on their property.
Quarter 3	We hosted a live staking workshop in Black Mountain on Saturday, February 10th at the Lakeview Center. 18 people attended the event and we gave away 500 live stakes for participants to take home and plant on their streambanks. Our Watershed Resources Manager did a follow-up consultation with residents at the Llama View Court development in Black Mountain. They wanted advice on where to plant their live stakes and other methods for protecting the stream that flows through their community.
Quarter 4	We had an impactful spring, hosting two workshops and numerous site consultations. In May, we gave away 24 rain barrels at a rain barrel workshop. There was a huge demand for the rain barrels and once the workshop filled, we added residents to a wait list for future workshops. Our rain garden workshop in June was also very popular with 32 residents filling the community room at Black Mountain Library. After the classroom portion, we gave a tour of an on-site rain garden that was installed by the Town of Black Mountain a few years ago. Workshop participants took home RiverLink's Rain Garden Design & Construction Guide along with five species of native plants suitable for rain gardens. There was enough funding leftover after the workshops to purchase four additional rain barrel kits. We distributed those to four lucky residents on our rain barrel waitlist. Thank you for supporting 'Clean Water for Buncombe'!

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Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data) Please only include new data for the specific quarter				Progress
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of Black Mountain workshop participants	45	11		18	56	85
# of rain barrels distributed	20				24	24
# of live stake plants distributed	500			500		500
# of native plants distributed	500				450	450
# of consultations conducted	15			1	5	6

Comments:

We exceeded our goal of 45 workshop participants by nearly double. The number of site consultations requested by workshop participants was less than expected. The # of native plants distributed was less than our goal due to very limited availability from the wholesale nursery. We pivoted and spent the plant funds on additional rain barrels.

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Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 250	\$ 2,083	\$ 2,917.00	\$ -
Travel	\$ 656	\$ 186.00		\$ 252	\$ 218.00	\$ 0
Supplies/Materials	\$ 3,000	\$ 287.65		\$ 320	\$ 2,392.13	\$ 0
Contracts	\$ 500	\$ 500.00				\$ -
Total	\$ 11,156	\$ 2,723.65	\$ 250	\$ 2,655	\$ 5,527.13	\$ 0

Comments:

