



Funding Research Memo: Environmental Education

Last updated: August 2018

THIS MEMO WILL BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING RESOURCES, PLEASE CONTACT THE SNC FUND DEVELOPMENT TEAM AT sncfundingteam@sierranevada.ca.gov.

CAVEAT – Grant guidelines and deadlines are subject to periodic change. Please note the last date this memo was updated and check the program web sites for new information. The deadlines listed are projected from previous funding rounds and may not be accurate. Check the web sites!

Funding Summary Table

(*Hyperlinks to more complete information below, including links to program websites.)

Grant	Funding Range	Funding Focus	Estimated Deadline (most recent deadline)	Eligible Costs
<p>Note: The passage of Prop 68 in June 2018 and the potential passage of Prop 3 in November 2018 will add funding resources to some of these grant programs and may also result in additional funding opportunities. At the time of publication these opportunities have not yet been released. Please check the websites of relevant California state agencies for updates. The SNC funding opportunities newsletter will also have the latest information. You can subscribe by adding yourself to the funding listserv here.</p>				
CA State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Fee Grant Program	\$200,000 for planning, \$400,000 for implementation. No match required	Prevent infestation of Quagga and Zebra mussels in un-infested reservoirs which are open to the public for recreational activities.	Varies (March 1, 2017)	Planning and implementation programs to prevent infestation of Quagga and Zebra mussels in un-infested reservoirs. Can include development and improvement of plans and vulnerability assessments, evaluation of existing prevention programs, monitoring, and public education signage.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Environmental Literacy Grants Program	\$250,000 – 500,000	To increase the understanding and use of environmental information to promote stewardship and increase informed decision-making by U.S. educators, students, and the public.	April (Pre-applications December 19, 2017 – Full applications April 6, 2018) No solicitations anticipated in 2018-19.	Staff costs, travel, materials, evaluation, contractors, etc.
EPA/National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 5 Star Restoration	\$20,000 to \$50,000. Substantial match (at least 1:1) required.	Environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams.	January (Jan 31, 2018)	Acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Includes on-the-ground activities, integrated education, community involvement, and partnership development.

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Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Education Local Grants	\$50,000 - \$100,000. 25% non-federal match required.	Projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques that will serve to increase environmental literacy and encourage behavior that will benefit the environment in local communities.	April <i>(April 11, 2018)</i>	Environmental education funds <u>cannot</u> be used for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical training of environmental management professionals • Environmental “information” and/or “outreach” projects that have no additional educational component • Advocacy promoting a particular point of view or course of action • Lobbying or political activities • Non-educational research and development • Construction projects Grant recipients are required to award exactly 25% of the funds received from EPA to eligible sub-recipients in the form of sub-grants of \$5,000 or less.
Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Youth Opportunities on Public Lands	Funding range varies by specific competitions. The last maximum was \$350,000. A 25% match is required.	Provide youth with hands-on learning opportunities throughout California in the fields of natural resources management, conservation, preservation, and protection.	Competitions are released periodically. <i>(August 17, 2018)</i>	Internships, mentoring, environmental education, interpretive educational opportunities, and other opportunities providing professional training to youth in the areas of public land conservation. Must relate to BLM land in California.
AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps	Funding is per participant. Match is necessary	AmeriCorps participants assist with service projects in various areas, one of which is environmental stewardship and conservation. This includes environmental education.	January <i>(January 17, 2018)</i>	Federal funding pays small stipend and educational benefits for AmeriCorps participants.

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National Environmental Education Foundation: Every Day Event Grants	\$8,000 maximum. No stated match requirement.	To support restoration and/or resilience-focused volunteer events on public lands.	September (September 28, 2018)	The grant funds service events that either restore public lands and/or make those lands more resilient to future natural disasters. Projects must educate and engage the public on practices they can apply to mitigate the impact of natural disasters All award recipients must host two to three volunteer event days that focus on the restoration of public land/space recently impacted by natural disasters and/or address the general resilience of a public land/space.
The Joseph and Vera Long Foundation	\$10,000 - \$200,000 Match preferred	Habitat preservation, access to public lands, environmental protection, and scientific research.	February and July (July 23, 2018)	Land acquisition, conservation easements, internship programs, scientific work product, on-line platforms, etc.
The American Honda Foundation	\$20,000 - \$75,000	Youth education with a specific focus on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects in addition to the environment, job training, and literacy.	February, May, and August (August 1, 2018)	No specifics are provided as to the types of costs that are covered.
Captain Planet Foundation	\$500 - \$2,500. Match is preferred.	Project-based activities performed by youth with real environmental outcomes.	July and January (July 15, 2018)	Materials and other expenses needed to implement the project.
Waste Management Corporate Giving Program	Not stated	Environmental education targeted at middle and high school students, including environmental and science-related projects, science fairs, Earth Day projects, and others.	Rolling	The agency prefers not to support operating costs, capital campaigns, or multiyear requests, and will definitely not fund travel or endowments.
Rose Foundation for the Community and the Environment	Usually around \$5,000	Supporting small-scale organizations in conducting environmental improvements in Northern California.	Multiple (Aug 1, 2018)	Community-based advocacy, technical assistance, litigation, restoration projects, organizing expenses, grassroots campaigns, and environmental education.

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The Strong Foundation for Environmental Values	\$3,000 - \$5,000. No match required.	Programs and education supporting ecological ethics in individuals and communities, and grassroots environmental action.	February and September (September 15, 2018)	Program planning, implementation, education, training, capacity building, citizen participation, and land acquisition.
New Belgium Brewing Company	\$500 - \$5,000	Youth environmental education projects (K-12) which apply an interdisciplinary approach, influence positive behavior change, experientially engage students in the outdoors, and incorporate a comprehensive curriculum tied to national and state learning standards.	February through March (March 31, 2018)	Funds may <u>not</u> be used for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conferences, conventions, or workshops • Fundraising events, music festivals, film festivals, or cultural events • Production of films or other media-related projects • General operations
The Cedar Tree Foundation	\$35,000 - \$50,000	Summer professional development programs for teachers in the area of environmental education	September (Sept 30, 2017)	Summer teacher educational programs.
Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation	\$5,000 - \$50,000	Advancing environmental and arts education	May and November (February 1, 2018)	Programs for teachers to advance their skills in teaching environmental education.
American Forest Foundation: Project Learning Tree: GreenWorks!	\$1,000 1:1 match required, can be in-kind.	Environmental service-learning projects that link classroom learning to the real world.	September (Sept 30, 2018)	Environmental action project funds for student service-learning projects.
The Campbell Foundation	Wide range of funding.	Environmental education, outreach regarding water quality.	March and June (March 19, 2019)	Outreach, education, and action programs related to water quality.
Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation	\$5,000 to \$25,000. No match required.	Organizations that actively engage youth and/or volunteers in projects providing measurable benefit to the environment and/or the community.	Rolling	Grants can be directed to specific programs or to general operating expenses.

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California Inland Fisheries Foundation (CIFFI)	Not stated, probably small grants	Education of children and the public of the importance of inland preserving fisheries.	Rolling	Events or other costs that advance the purpose of the CIFFI program.
The Nature Conservancy Nature Works Everywhere Grants	\$2,000	Promote environmental education by supporting school garden projects that model conservation science on a relatable scale.	November <i>(November 3, 2017)</i>	Projects may build, amend, or revitalize a school garden, and must use a school garden space and curriculum to promote mindfulness about conservation.
Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Grant Program	\$100 - \$500 for plants and seeds. No match required.	Projects that will enhance and develop youth appreciation for nature.	October <i>(Oct 15, 2018)</i>	Purchase of native seeds and plants for projects that provide education about native plants and the native plant community.



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CA State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways Quagga and Zebra Mussel

http://www.dbw.ca.gov/?page_id=28715

http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=28822

Since 2013 the Department of Parks and Recreation Division of Boating and Waterways has been collecting a “quagga and zebra mussel infestation prevention fee.” These funds are available to eligible managers and owners of reservoirs that are open to the public and NOT infested with these mussels. Grants can cover planning/assessment projects or implementation/construction projects. Outreach and educational materials and signage are eligible costs.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Environmental Literacy Grants (ELG) Program

<http://www.noaa.gov/office-education/elp/grants>

NOAA’s Environmental Literacy Program supports education projects that strengthen the public’s and/or K-12 students’ fundamental understanding of the systems of the natural world and their ability to use scientific evidence to make informed decisions for building community resilience. For the last three years the program has focused on building the environmental literacy necessary for community resilience to extreme weather events and other environmental hazards by fostering geographic awareness and an understanding of Earth systems and the risks that are associated with a community’s location.

The Program supports formal and informal education projects implemented on regional to national scales. All projects must actively engage participants in learning and addressing real-world issues. Applications should clearly demonstrate how target audiences will be actively engaged in project activities. All projects emphasize partnerships that facilitate network building, integrate NOAA data and other resources into education programs, and encourage participation by audiences traditionally underserved and underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

Eligible applicants for this funding opportunity are institutions of higher education; other nonprofits, including informal education institutions such as museums, zoos, and aquariums; K-12 public and independent schools and school systems; and state, local, and Indian tribal governments in the United States. The funding limit is \$250,000 to \$500,000. No match is required.

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Please note that there is no solicitation anticipated in 2018/19. Rather, applications from the 2017/18 competition that did not receive funding may be held over for possible funding from fiscal year 2019 funds.

EPA Five Star Restoration Grant Program

<http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/home.aspx>

The Five Star Restoration Program brings together students, conservation corps, other youth groups, citizen groups, corporations, landowners, and government agencies to provide environmental education and training through projects that restore wetlands and streams. The program focuses on the stewardship and restoration of coastal, wetland, and riparian ecosystems across the country. Its goal is to meet the conservation needs of important species and habitats, providing measurable and meaningful conservation and educational outcomes.

The program provides challenge grants, technical support, and opportunities for information exchange to enable community-based restoration projects. Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Native American tribes, and educational institutions.

Competitive proposals should address each of the five priorities:

- On-the-ground restoration and planning
- Partnerships
- Environmental outreach, education, and training
- Measurable results
- Sustainability

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Environmental Education Local Grants

<http://www2.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>

The purpose of this program is to support environmental education projects that promote environmental awareness and stewardship and help provide people with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment. Projects that receive awards must design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, and techniques.

All proposals must address at least one of the following education priorities: agricultural education, community projects, or career development. All proposals must also address at least one of the following environmental priorities: improving air quality; ensuring clean and safe water; ensuring the safety of chemicals; or increasing transparency, public participation, and collaboration with communities.

Eligible applicants include any local education agency, college or university, state education or environmental agency, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tribal education

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entity, or a noncommercial educational broadcasting entity. The maximum award is \$100,000. A 25 percent match is required. Grant recipients are required to award exactly 25 percent (no more and no less) of the funds received from EPA to eligible sub-recipients in the form of sub-grants of \$5,000 or less.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Youth Opportunities on Public Lands

No program website, competitions are announced on: www.grants.gov, search by keyword.

The purpose of this program is to provide hands-on learning opportunities throughout California for U.S. citizens and legal residents between 16 and 30 in the fields of natural resources management, conservation, preservation, and protection. These environmental education programs must take place on BLM land. Eligible learning opportunities may be in the form of internships, mentoring, environmental education, interpretive educational opportunities, and other opportunities designed to provide professional training to youth in the areas of public land conservation and public land management processes and policies. The goal of this program is to expose youth to the principles of natural resources management in order to instill a strong conservation ethic and to create the next generation of stewards for public lands.

This opportunity is open any qualified Youth Conservation Corps established by a State or local government, by the governing body of any Indian tribe, or by a nonprofit organization interested in working cooperatively with the BLM to develop and administer projects focused on providing employment, educational, and public-service.

AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)

<https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ Americorps/ Americorps-nccc>

AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, residential, team-based program for young adults age 18-24. Members develop leadership skills and strengthen communities by completing service projects and gaining life experience. Non-profit, tribal, and local government organizations can apply for funding which covers stipends for participants, but are expected to provide low-cost housing and transportation, as well as supervision, as their contributions. Applicants generally apply for 20-50 participants at a time, however smaller organizations can sometimes obtain the services of one or two AmeriCorps participants through regional agencies that have on-going programs.

National Environmental Education Foundation: Every Day Event Grants

<https://www.neefusa.org/grants>

The purpose of this program is to support restoration and/or resilience-focused volunteer events on public lands. Award recipients will lead service events that either restore public lands and/or make those lands more resilient to future natural disasters.

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Projects will mobilize community volunteers and educate participants on their role in protecting the long-term sustainability of their public lands. Specifically, projects will:

- Restore public lands
- Make lands more resilient to future threats
- Educate and engage the general public on practices they can apply to mitigate the impact of natural disasters

Exemplary applicants will show how funds will be used to get people out in nature as part of restoration and/or resilience efforts. In addition to involving individual community members, award recipients will also target specific segments of the population, such as young adults and military veterans, through local community partnerships.

All award recipients must host two to three volunteer event days that focus on the restoration of public land/space recently impacted by natural disasters and/or address the general resilience of a public land/space.

The Joseph and Vera Long Foundation

<https://www.jvlf.org/conservation>

The Joseph & Vera Long Foundation seeks to conserve the natural environment of Northern California by supporting efforts in the areas of habitat preservation, access to public lands, environmental education, and scientific research. The Foundation supports projects that have realistic goals and benefits, and that are responsive to the needs of the local economy and community. The Foundation prefers projects that will demonstrate innovation, have tangible results, and will catalyze additional activities. The foundation has two grant cycles per year.

The American Honda Foundation

<http://www.honda.com/community/applying-for-a-grant>

American Honda Foundation was established by American Honda Motor Co., Inc. to help meet the needs of American society in the areas of youth and scientific education by awarding grants to nonprofits while strategically assisting communities in deriving long-term benefits. The funding priority is youth education, specifically in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, the environment, job training, and literacy.

The foundation is interested in programs and organizations with a well-defined sense of purpose, demonstrated commitment to making the best use of available resources, and a reputation for accomplishing their objectives.

Grants range from \$20,000 to \$75,000. Deadlines for new organizations are February 1 and August 1. For returning organizations, the deadline is May 1.

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Captain Planet Foundation

<http://captainplanetfoundation.org/apply-for-grants/>

Grants from the Captain Planet Foundation are intended to:

- Provide hands-on environmental stewardship opportunities for youth
- Serve as a catalyst to getting environment-based education in schools
- Inspire youth and communities to participate in community service through environmental stewardship activities

Grants are made for activities that conform to the mission of the Captain Planet Foundation and MUST have all three of the following to be considered for funding:

- Be project-based
- Projects must be performed by youth.
- Projects must have real environmental outcomes.

Captain Planet Foundation will accept small grant requests for amounts between \$500 and \$2,500 for purchase of materials and other expenses required to implement the project. The Foundation primarily makes grants to U.S.-based schools and organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million. Preferential consideration is given to requests from organizations that have secured matching or in-kind funding for their projects.

Waste Management Corporate Giving Program

<http://www.wm.com/about/community/charitable-giving.jsp>

The purpose of this program is to support causes that promote civic pride, economic development, and revitalization. The funding agency focuses support on specific projects or programs that enhance the scope of services offered by an organization. Environmental education projects should target middle and high school students, including environmental and science-related projects, science fairs, Earth Day projects, and others.

The agency prefers not to support operating costs, capital campaigns, or multiyear requests, and will definitely not fund travel or endowments. Nonprofit organizations and public agencies are eligible to apply for funds. No minimum or maximum grant amount is stated. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

The Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment: Northern California Environmental Grassroots Fund

<http://rosefdn.org/grassrootsfund/about>

The purpose of this program is to support small-scale organizations conducting environmental improvements in Northern California. Funds may be used to address toxic pollution, urban sprawl, sustainable agriculture, climate change, environmental degradation of rivers and wild places, and the environmental health of communities.

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General support will be provided for organizations with an environmental mission, and project support will be provided for strategies and costs such as community-based advocacy, technical assistance, litigation, restoration projects, organizing expenses, grassroots campaigns, and environmental education. One of the focus areas of the organization is the Sierra Nevada.

The program supports small groups and first-time grant seekers with an annual budget that does not exceed \$100,000. Grants are usually \$5,000 or less, and there are multiple deadlines.

The Strong Foundation for Environmental Values

<http://strongfoundationgrants.org/>

The purpose of this program is to support efforts that instill an ecological ethic in individuals and communities, and that encourage grassroots environmental action based on such an ethic. The program emphasizes awards for:

- Environmental and conservation efforts
- Eco-spirituality
- Grassroots action
- Environmental education
- Capacity building
- Citizen participation
- Collaborative efforts
- Innovative projects
- Land acquisition
- Planning
- Training

Eligible applicants are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and local government. Applicants must have organization budgets of no more than \$1 million. The program is focused on projects located in California, specifically the geographic areas of:

- Northern California, which for the purposes of this program is defined to extend from the Oregon border in the north to the San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino county lines in the south
- The Central Valley
- The Sierra Nevada, including:
 - The entire California-Oregon Klamath River watershed
 - The watersheds that arise in the Sierra Nevada and terminate in Nevada's terminal lakes

Awards range from \$2,000 to \$5,000. There are no stated matching requirements for this program. However, all secured or pending sources of funding must be detailed in the application.

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New Belgium Brewing Company

<https://www.newbelgium.com/sustainability/community/grants/>

The purpose of this program is to improve the quality of life in communities where New Belgium beer is sold by promoting environmental stewardship and inspiring others to embrace sustainable choices. One of the program areas is youth environmental education. The company is interested in programs that foster connectivity between humans and nature, and that engage youth from a variety of backgrounds in the outdoors and prepare them to make knowledgeable choices about the environment.

Youth environmental education projects should:

- Apply an interdisciplinary approach
- Influence positive behavior change
- Experientially engage students in the outdoors
- Incorporate a comprehensive curriculum tied to national and state learning standards

Grants range from \$500 to \$5,000. The environmental education grant program is generally open for applications February through March.

The Cedar Tree Foundation

<http://cedartreefound.org/>

The Foundation is interested in communicating the facts and urgency of environmental issues taught in schools in the United States by supporting organizations that provide summer professional development opportunities for current teachers. They focus on programs which allow teachers to have an engaging hands-on environmental education experience with a cohort of other teachers, include networking and follow-up activities that support teachers in building their skills and bringing innovative and inspiring environmental stewardship education back to their classrooms in the fall.

Eligible grantees are organizations that provide professional development opportunities for teachers who are working in the school systems to communicate urgency and cultivate stewardship around environmental problems. Compelling opportunities for school administrators that translate into impact in the classroom or school community will also be considered.

Funding priorities change each year. Please check the website for the latest information. Grant awards range from \$35,000-\$50,000.

Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation

<http://www.cehcf.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

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The foundation funds programs that provide environmental and arts education opportunities to children and youth. Funding areas include programs for educators and artists to improve and apply their teaching skills in these subjects, as well as general efforts to advance environmental and arts education programs. The application process starts by submitting a Letter of Inquiry. Check the website for details.

American Forest Foundation: Project Learning Tree: GreenWorks!

<https://www.plt.org/resources/greenworks-grants/>

The purpose of this program is to support environmental service-learning projects that link classroom learning to the real world. Students design projects that will green their schools or improve an aspect of their neighborhood's environment. Projects must partner students with their whole school, local businesses, and/or community organizations. The funds can be used by students to implement recycling programs at their school, conserve water and energy, establish school gardens and outdoor classrooms, improve a forest, restore a natural habitat, and more. All projects must involve service learning and exemplify student voices.

Prior to applying, applicants must attend a workshop, either in person or online, that will provide training, lesson plans, and other resources to help integrate projects and environmental education into the curriculum.

The Campbell Foundation

<http://www.campbellfoundation.org/what-we-fund-pacific>

This foundation provides grants for outreach, education, and action programs related to water quality, specifically as it impacts the West Coast. The Campbell Foundation's Healthy Ocean Ecosystems program strives to identify opportunities in the field that

- Are gaining political momentum
- Present a great opportunity to leverage resources of all kinds
- Are innovative from a business and social perspective

Grants range from very small (\$1,500) to very large (over \$1 million), but the normal range is about \$30,000.

Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation

<http://johnsonohana.org/home>

The purpose of this program is to promote positive and lasting change within communities by supporting innovative nonprofit organizations that focus on environmental, arts, and music education. The program supports organizations with strong community involvement, with greatest interest in those that work creatively toward solution-based approaches to environmental or societal problems, and that actively engage youth and/or volunteers in projects that provide measurable benefit to the environment and/or the community.

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Environmental education funding focuses on:

- Oceans/rivers/watersheds
- Plastic-free initiatives
- Renewable energy
- Sustainable living
- Sustainable local food systems
- Farm-to-school programs
- Tree planting/restoration
- Energy, waste, and water conservation programs

Grant amounts range from \$2,500 to \$25,000. The Foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals. If you think your project fits their criteria, send a short e-mail about your program or organization to info@johnsonohana.org.

California Inland Fisheries Foundation (CIFFI)

<http://ciffi.org/grant-programs>

CIFFI is an organization formed for the purpose of inland fisheries enhancement and education. CIFFI considers awards to various groups that are involved with the education of children and the public on the importance of preserving fisheries for now and the future. Funding may be requested for events or other costs that advance the purpose of this program.

The Nature Conservancy - Nature Works Everywhere Grants

<https://www.natureworkseverywhere.org/grants/>

The purpose of this program is to promote environmental education by supporting school garden projects that will model conservation science on a relatable scale. Projects may build, amend, or revitalize a school garden, and must use a school garden space and curriculum to promote mindfulness about conservation. Funding will support projects that engage students in understanding the value of nature, while creating spaces that enhance the natural landscape of the school and city. Projects need not be located on school grounds, but should involve students in design and/or implementation.

Eligible applicants are public and charter elementary, middle, and high schools located in urban areas. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization may apply on behalf of a school and serve as the fiscal agent, as long as students are involved in the project. Preference is given to projects with an emphasis on building urban green infrastructure, however food gardens will also be funded if they address a challenge around access to healthy food. Additionally, preference is given to Title I schools.

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Wild Ones: Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education (SFE) Fund

<http://www.wildones.org/seeds-for-education/sfe/>

The purpose of this program is to support the purchase of native seeds and plants for projects that will enhance and develop youth appreciation for nature. Projects must involve students and volunteers in all phases of development, and increase the educational value of the site. Projects may be at the conceptual or groundbreaking stage, or expand or renovate an existing project. Projects must be hand-on and must utilize and provide education about native plants and the native plant community.

Eligible project activities include:

- Designing, establishing, and maintaining a native plant community in an educational setting, such as prairie, woodland, or wetland, or in an educational setting such as an outdoor classroom
- Developing an interpretive trail landscaped with native plant communities
- Establishing a pollinator habitat garden and citizen science activity
- Developing a wetland area or rain garden to study the effect of native vegetation on water quality improvement

Eligible applicants include schools, nature centers and nonprofit organizations. Eligible applicants may also apply on behalf of a scout, 4-H, or similar youth group; house of worship; summer camp; conservation district; library; nature center; or other nonprofit organization.