

Please read through the following guidelines carefully before submitting your application. Questions about your application and the application process can be sent to the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association (MMGA) Grants Committee at grants@massmastergardeners.org. We will do our best to respond to your questions as quickly as possible.

The objective of the MMGA grant program is to encourage and sponsor horticultural education and outreach aimed at increasing the public's awareness of environmental issues and the practice of sustainable horticulture. Grants will be awarded to start, maintain or upgrade public spaces as well as to produce or promote educational programming.

Grants will not be awarded to for profit organizations.

All grant applications must be submitted no later than midnight on January 30, 2017. Each application will be reviewed by the MMGA Grants Committee in the order in which they are received. Awards will be announced by April 1, 2017.

All applications must be completed in full. Incomplete applications will be returned for completion.

All applicants must identify a horticultural consultant or resource as a reference for their project. This reference could be a consultant trained in horticulture or a well-known published resource. The MMGA reserves the right to deny consultants without appropriate knowledge or experience for the proposed project. Please contact us with questions about resources.

The Massachusetts Master Gardener Association (MMGA) grant is for horticultural purposes only. Grants awarded are **not** intended for use as salary, administrative staff, utilities or fund-raising.

MMGA Grants are to be used within one year of award and must be used for the purpose stated in the application. Grant money that is unused by April 1, 2018 is to be returned to the MMGA.

All funded projects must provide at least a single date opportunity for Massachusetts Master Gardener participation. This participation can be in the form of education, outreach, or gardening and must meet the approval of the MMGA Grants Committee. Master Gardeners are experienced and trained volunteers who provide horticultural information and educational resources to the gardening public, offer technical support for horticulture projects and contribute outreach programs for community events. We will

work with applicants to determine the best opportunities for the benefit of both organizations.

Grant awardees may not reapply for an MMGA grant for two grant cycles after an award is granted.

If you are interested in having master gardeners participate in your project please indicate this in your application. If your project is not currently an approved MMGA project and it meets the requirements for grant approval, the Grants Committee and the Outreach Committee will work with you to try to find a project liaison within the organization and to achieve approval. This is not guaranteed.

All projects receiving awards must submit an update to the grants committee within six months after the award is granted and upon completion of the project.

Each application will be assigned a liaison from the grants committee. This liaison will contact the applicant and will need to meet with and have access to the organization receiving the grant and to any committee or governing body overseeing the project.

Please contact the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association Grants Committee at grants@massmastergardeners.org with any questions about your application or the application process.

We look forward to working with all applicants to continue a collaborative effort in supporting horticulture in your communities.