



RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908-5767

February 28, 2014

The RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) and the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) are pleased to announce the availability of funding for Earth Day cleanup projects. Funding for these grants is a result of a community service payment made by Southern Union pursuant to a court order dated November 12, 2013 as a penalty for a mercury spill at the Tidewater site in Pawtucket in 2004.

For Earth Day 2014 we will be disbursing a total of \$25,000 to Rhode Island organizations to support Earth Day clean-up events. Support will be provided in the form of grants with a value of \$250 or \$500 each for supplies such as paper bags and gloves, and other eligible expenses such as hauling fees. Additionally, RIRRC also offers tipping fee waivers to eligible cleanups who apply at rirrc.org/earth-day.

We are accepting applications from organizations that will be hosting volunteer Earth Day cleanups projects which will be completed between April 1 and May 17, 2014. Applications can be submitted through either traditional mail or in PDF format via e-mail. Applications will be accepted by RIDEM through March 14, 2014. This grant can be used to completely fund an event, or to fund a portion of a larger event. There is no match requirement. An organization may also request, or RIDEM may elect to provide, support in the form of supplies such as gloves and paper bags rather than a monetary award. In an effort to spread the grants throughout the state, RIDEM strongly encourages potential applicants to partner with other organizations within their community. All applications need to demonstrate how the event will promote environmental education.

This is a competitive process; applicants are encouraged to read the application carefully and provide all requested information about their proposed project. Applications that do not meet the criteria will be rejected. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Awards will be announced on the RIDEM website no later than March 21, and successful applicants will be notified via email. Please see the attached frequently asked questions sheet for additional information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact RIDEM's Earth Day grant program manager Andrew Manca at 222-6822 Ext. 2022 or by e-mail at andrew.manca@dem.ri.gov.



2014 EARTH DAY CLEANUP GRANT INFORMATION



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

The goal of the 2014 RIDEM/RIRRC Earth Day Cleanup Grant program is to highlight Earth Day 2014 and the value of the environment, and to recognize the importance of people improving the quality of life in their communities. Improving the appearance of our neighborhoods and our scenic and recreation areas improves our quality of life and our business climate as well. Environmental stewardship is an important component of a healthy business climate.

The grants must be used for local Earth Day volunteer cleanup projects and must include an educational component. All sections of the application form must be completed; incomplete forms will not be considered. Only 1 application per clean-up site will be considered. Organizations conducting clean-ups at multiple locations may submit a separate application for each location. Projects must be completed during April 1-May 17, 2014. Grant funds will be awarded in advance of the event by RIRRC. Following completion of the event, RIDEM will require confirmation that the event was held as proposed and that funding was used appropriately. Additional copies of this application packet may be found on the RIDEM website: www.dem.ri.gov.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- The event must provide an education component related to Earth Day.
- The event must include a clean up component.
- What is the long term environmental impact of the project?
- What is the demonstrated need for this project?

EXPENSES NOT FUNDED:

- Personnel expenses (i.e. salary, overtime, professional landscapers, etc).
- Fuel or travel costs related to purchasing items for the event/project.
- Expenses incurred prior to grant award date.

The completed application form **must be received at RIDEM by 4pm on March 14, 2014**. Please submit to:

RI DEM
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
ATTN: EARTH DAY 2014, ANDREW MANCA
235 PROMENADE ST.
PROVIDENCE, RI 02908

SCANNED APPLICATIONS MAY BE SUBMITTED BY E-MAIL TO: andrew.manca@dem.ri.gov
***BE SURE TO TYPE "EARTH DAY 2014 GRANT APPLICATION" IN THE SUBJECT LINE.

(APPLICATIONS CAN NOT BE SUBMITTED BY FAX)

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are the answers to some of the frequently asked questions we received in recent years about grant opportunities such as this.

1. Q: *Where can I find an application?*

A: The application form is attached to this packet, however if you need an additional copy the application can also be found on the DEM website at www.dem.ri.gov.

2. Q: *Can schools apply?*

A: Schools, municipal organizations (for example, town department of public works, parks and recreation, conservation commission), and non-profit organizations are all eligible to apply.

3. Q: *Do we have to be a 501c3 non-profit to be considered?*

A: This year we are not specifying that non-profits be a 501c3 because we recognize that there are community-based non-profit organizations that have other federally recognized non-profit designations.

4. Q: *Inadvertently my co-worker and I both submitted applications for the same event. Can you please consider both?*

A: No. We will only consider one application per event. If we receive multiple applications for a single event we will only consider the first application that arrives. Before you submit an application be sure to coordinate with other members of your organization and other organizations participating in the event with you. We will consider multiple applications from a single organization if that organization is holding multiple clean-up events at different locations throughout the state.

5. Q: *What are the criteria that are used to consider which applicants will receive an Earth Day grant?*

A: The evaluation criteria are listed on the application form. The criteria includes education component, clean up component, long term environmental impact, and demonstrated need. Applicants must address these criteria on the application form to be considered for a grant.

6. Q: *Is the deadline a firm deadline? Does the application have to be postmarked by the deadline or received at DEM by the deadline?*

A: The application must be received at DEM by 4pm on March 14, 2014. Applications can be mailed or hand-delivered to 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI, 02908. Applications can also be sent in PDF format via e-mail to andrew.manca@dem.ri.gov. Specific instructions can be found on the application form.

7. Q: *Who reviews the applications and determines which applicants will receive an Earth Day grant?*

A: The review committee consists of staff representing several programs within RIDEM.

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION
2014 EARTH DAY GRANT APPLICATION**

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) is offering \$250 and \$500 grants for local Earth Day cleanup projects. Organizations may also request support in the form of supplies only; this would include paper bags and gloves which would need to be picked up from DEM at a date and location to be determined.

Eligible Applicants: Rhode Island municipalities (for example, schools, Parks & Recreation Departments, Public Works Departments, Conservation Commissions, etc) and non-profit organizations who organize local cleanup projects/beautification projects in conjunction with Earth Day 2014.

<p>Grant Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The grants must be used for Earth Day related outreach activities including local Earth Day celebrations that educate residents about environmental issues and attract volunteers to help cleanup. Application must demonstrate how the project addresses these four EVALUATION CRITERIA: Education component, Clean up component, Long term environmental impact, and Demonstrated need. Upon completion of the event, grant recipients must submit confirmation that the event was carried out as proposed. Failure to do so will impact future grant opportunities and will be the subject of an inquiry by RIDEM. 		<p>Grant Award Process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Grant application must be received by March 14, 2014. All requests will be reviewed for eligibility. Decisions will be made by March 21, 2014 and checks will be mailed prior to the event. Grant projects must be completed during April 1-May 17, 2014. Within 1 week of the completion of the event, grant awardees must submit confirmation that the event was successfully held and the funds were spent in accordance with the grant proposal. 	
Organization Name:		Contact Person:	
Street Address:		Telephone Number: ()	
		Email:	
City, State and Zip Code:		If awarded the grant, checks will be made out to the name listed under "Organization Name" and mailed to the organization's address unless otherwise specified. If another name and/or address is required for the check, please enter that information in the empty space directly below.	
Amount Requested (\$250 or \$500 or Supplies Only):			
<u>Project Location:</u>		If partnering with other organizations in your community, please list those organizations here:	
<p><u>Project Description:</u> Please be as specific as possible & include details on how this project addresses the four evaluation criteria listed above. <i>(Attach separate sheet(s) if needed)</i></p>			

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
RHODE ISLAND RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION
2014 EARTH DAY GRANT APPLICATION**

Will your proposed project require written permission from the municipality? (*Attach separate sheet(s) if needed*)
 Yes No Permission Pending Other – please explain

Project Budget: Please explain how the grant will be utilized. (*Attach separate sheet(s) if needed*)

CLEANUP DATE:

RAIN DATE:

APPROX. TIME CLEANUP BEGINS:

APPROX. TIME CLEANUP ENDS:

EXPECTED NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS:

If you plan to post information about your clean up on a website, please provide the URL:

REMINDER: By accepting the funding from RIDEM/RIRRC, you will be required to provide proof that the activity was carried out as proposed. Proof can be in the form of pictures, newsletters, copies of or links to media coverage. As the event is planned and executed, please keep this in mind.

NOTE: If the date/location or any other important specifics of your planned event change after submittal of this form to RIDEM, please submit a corrected/updated form ASAP.

SIGNATURE

DATE

The completed application form **must be received at RIDEM by 4pm on March 14, 2014.** Please submit to:

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