



2023 FALL GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Collaborative Foundation for Dane County Parks and Dane County Parks Friends Grant Program

The Foundation for Dane County Parks and Dane County Parks are pleased to announce available grant funding for Dane County Parks Friend Groups and partner organizations to lead educational programs, implement small projects, and purchase equipment for volunteer workdays.

History:

The Foundation for Dane County Parks has now raised more than \$800,000 establishing an endowment fund to support Dane County Parks. Beginning in 2019, funds from the endowment distribution have been awarded to friend groups and other partner organizations to enhance Dane County Parks through volunteerism, education, and interpretation.

In the summer of 2022, the Dane County Environmental Council was sunset, and the Environmental Council's Community Partners grant program funding was transferred to Dane County Parks. In the spring of 2023, Dane County Parks used this funding to set-up the mini-grant program.

To provide more impactful funding to benefit the parks and to improve efficiencies for organizations applying for funding, the Foundation for Dane County Parks and Dane County Parks have combined available funds to offer a collaborative annual grant program for friend groups and partner organizations.

Who can apply:

To apply for a grant, the entity must:

- Abide by all county rules, policies, and guidelines
- Have previously worked with Dane County Parks
- Have a project/program that will occur on Dane County Park property and is consistent with the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan, park master plan and/or park work plan

Grant Eligibility:

Grants will be awarded for projects or programs on county parkland. Projects meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for funding:

- Total grant request for projects/programs must be between \$250-\$2,000
- Projects must be pre-approved by Dane County Park staff
- Organization must have the capacity to manage and implement the project/program
- Only one (1) grant application can be submitted per organization per grant cycle
- A current 501(c)3 status is not required
- Applicant cannot be a private, for-profit business

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Public Educational Programming
 - Program supplies or materials
 - Transportation to make parks and park events more accessible
 - Advertising flyers or handouts
 - Honorariums
- Tools and equipment to be used for volunteer workdays
- Creation or printing of organizational materials, such as membership brochures
- Capacity building projects, such as website development

Projects that are not eligible:

- Park map/park brochure design, creation or printing
- Projects on non-Dane County parkland
- Staff salaries
- Memorial bench installation
- Projects for private use or benefit
- Acquisition of land or easements
- Other projects may be deemed ineligible upon review

Application Process:

- The grant applications is available online at www.danecountyparks.com/friendsgrants
- Discuss project eligibility with the appropriate Dane County Park staff and receive an email or letter of confirmation of eligibility to include with the application.
- Complete the cover page, project narrative and budget. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- A map that shows the location of the project is not required, but may be beneficial depending on the project.
- Submit applications by email to: dane-parks@countyofdane.com or mail to: Dane County Parks 4318 Robertson Rd, Madison, WI 53714.
- If a grant is awarded, the grant recipient must submit a brief grant report to close the grant.

Grant Timeline:

The grant application period will run from September 1, 2023 to October 15, 2023. Grant awards will be announced in December 2023 and funds will be distributed shortly after the award letters are sent out.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Are matching funds required?

- There is no match required for this grant. This grant may be used as partial funding for an activity or project that fits the criteria.

How much funding is available?

- \$13,000 is available for the fall 2023 application period.

What if I'm not sure if my project is eligible?

- Dane County Parks and Foundation for Dane County Parks staff will be available to organizations interested in applying for a grant to answer questions at any point during the year.

How will grants be evaluated?

- Project clearly meets eligibility guidelines
- Project budget shows sound financial planning
- Application communicates the ability to successfully complete the project
- Clarity of the proposal and the expected outcomes
- Consistency with the Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan, park master plan and/or park work plan
- Consultation with park staff on the substance and effectiveness of the project



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COVER SHEET

APPLICATION DATE _____

PROJECT TITLE _____

ORGANIZATION _____

CONTACT PERSON/TITLE _____

CONTACT PERSON EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CONTACT PERSON PHONE _____

ORGANIZATION MAILING ADDRESS _____

GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT _____

ARE YOU A 501(C)3 CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION? YES NO
 IF NO, WOULD YOU LIKE TO REQUEST THE FOUNDATION
 FOR DANE COUNTY PARKS TO SERVE AS YOUR FISCAL AGENT? YES NO

WILL YOU ACCEPT PARTIAL FUNDING? YES NO

WILL THIS PROJECT MOVE FORWARD WITHOUT THIS FUNDING? YES NO

PROPERTY/PROPERTIES THIS PROJECT TAKES PLACE _____

DANE COUNTY PARKS STAFF MEMBER CONSULTED _____

PROJECT TIMELINE _____



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PROJECT NARRATIVE

Concisely describe the project. Please include the purpose, park(s) impacted, partners, activities, population served, expected outcomes, consistency with a park master plan or work plan.



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PROJECT BUDGET

Concisely describe the project budget. Please list item(s) to be purchased, quantities and cost estimates. Please note if there are matching or in-kind funds contributing to the project. Documentation of each item cost or quotes for services are not required.

TASK or ITEM	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET		
GRANT REQUEST AMOUNT		