2020 Educational Horticulture Grant Guidelines

The Piedmont Master Gardener Association, a volunteer organization within the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE), is offering grants dedicated exclusively to youth education related to horticulture and/or gardening.

1. The Piedmont Master Gardener’s Association (PMGA) will award educational horticulture grants that promote youth education. Grants will not be less than $100 or exceed $250 each. The number of grants will be determined based upon monies available and eligible grant applications received. All requests for grants must be made on the PMG “Educational Horticulture Grant Application” form. The form is available online at PiedmontMasterGardeners.org or from the Albemarle County Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) office at 434-872-4580.

2. Any public or private educator or school assigned project coordinator (e.g., a City Schoolyard Garden Coordinator) within Albemarle County and the city of Charlottesville is eligible to apply for a 2020 grant. A school may qualify for more than one grant; however these grants must be for different projects.

3. The grants should involve youth in gardening activities (e.g., growing, caring for and harvesting vegetables, herbs, flowers or native plants and teach gardening concepts (e.g., plant life cycle, role of beneficial insects and pollinators, companion planting, composting). Funds may be used to purchase garden related items, not labor. Examples might be books, tools, soil tests, fertilizer, compost, mulch, seeds, plants, instructional kits. If you need some horticulture expertise, you may access a Piedmont Master Gardener by calling the VCE at 434-872-4580 and selecting “1” and then “1” again to contact the Piedmont Master Gardener Coordinator.

4. The application form is to be completed in its entirety. Typing is preferred but not required; however, if writing is illegible, the application will not be considered.

5. The applications are due in the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Albemarle County Extension Office by February 28, 2020. Grant winners will be notified in early March.

6. A final report summarizing the funded project’s benefits and accomplishments will be due by June 1, 2020. A report form will be emailed to grant recipients.

7. In the event that there are no qualified applicants, the PMG will not award grants for 2020. If the requests for funding from qualified applicants exceed the available monies, then priority for funding will go to the schools or projects that reach an underserved or minority population or a “high needs” school. Partial funding may also be made rather than full funding.

8. Any grant recipient must be willing to allow the PMG and VCE to publicize the grant award in media outlets as well as PMG and VCE publications.

8. Decisions of the PMG are final.