GRANT OPPORTUNITIES
FOR ALABAMA OUTDOOR CLASSROOM SCHOOLS
For more details including specific deadlines, visit the websites listed below along with the Alabama Wildlife Federation’s website at www.alabamawildlife.org.
Last updated: February 2023

Agriculture in the Classroom
Deadline in October
The Alabama Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation Educational Grant makes grants available for classroom projects that integrate agriculture into curriculum areas during the school year.
Grant amount: $25-$500
https://www.alabamaaitc.org/app-mini-grant/

Alabama RC&D Council Grants
“RC&D” is short for Resource Conservation and Development, a unique process that helps people protect and develop their economic, natural, and social resources in ways that improve their area's economy, environment, and quality of life. There are 9 RC&D Councils across Alabama, and many provide funding for conservation education projects such as Outdoor Classroom development at area schools. Contact your local RC&D Council to see if they are currently accepting grant requests.
Grant amount: varies greatly from $250 to $2,500 or more
https://alabamarcd.org/find-your-rcd/

American Association of Educators Classroom Grant Foundation
Deadlines in March and October
Classroom grants are competitive awards available to all educators for professional development or classroom materials.
Grant amount: up to $500
https://www.aaeteachers.org/index.php/classroom-grant-application

American Academy of Dermatology Association
Deadline in December
The AAD’s Shade Structure Program awards funds to schools, day-cares, parks, and other non-profit organizations for installing permanent shade structures where children learn and play. In addition to the grant, the AAD also provides a permanent sign to be placed near the shade structure featuring sun-safety tips.
Grant amount: up to $8,000

American Honda Foundation
Deadlines: February and August for new organizations; May for returning organizations
The American Honda Foundation Grant is available for projects that reflect the basic tenets, beliefs and philosophies of Honda companies, including imaginative, creative, youthful, forward-thinking, scientific, humanistic and innovative. We support youth education with a specific focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects in addition to the environment.
Grant amount: average grant range is $20,000 to $75,000
https://www.honda.com/community/applying-for-a-grant

The Bee Cause Grant
Deadline in October
These grant programs allow for schools and non-profit organizations to receive support for educational beehives and bee programming so students can observe bees up close and learn about the vital role these pollinators play in our food system.

**Grant amount: a hive or $1,500**

[https://www.thebeecause.org/the-bee-grant/](https://www.thebeecause.org/the-bee-grant/)

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**The Bee Conservancy: Sponsor-a-Hive**

*Deadline in March*

Sponsor-A-Hive places native bee houses and honey bee hives across the U.S. and Canada to empower underserved communities to grow food, bolster local ecology, and protect vital keystone species. Each year, they provide bee homes, ongoing support, and educational materials to schools, gardens, and other community groups to help foster local native bee resilience.

[https://www.thebeecause.org/sponsor-a-hive-eligibility/](https://www.thebeecause.org/sponsor-a-hive-eligibility/)

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**Birmingham Audubon**

*Deadline in October*

Birmingham Audubon Education MiniGrants provide financial support for educators and educational non-profits working to connect students with birds, their habitats, and the next generation of responsible stewardship.

**Grant amount: up to $1,000**

[https://birminghamaudubon.org/minigrants/](https://birminghamaudubon.org/minigrants/)

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**Bonnie Plants 3rd Grade Cabbage Program**

*Deadline varies regionally, must register for info*

The 3rd Grade Cabbage Program is FREE to all 3rd graders. In spring, students will receive plants that produce "oversized" cabbages. Teachers choose a class winner and submit a nomination form to Bonnie Plant Farm. One lucky third grader in each state will win a $1000 scholarship. Once you enroll the class in the program, Bonnie Plant Farm will contact you and deliver the number of plants you request.

**Grant amount: A cabbage for each student, possible $1,000 scholarship**

[https://bonniecabbageprogram.com/participate/](https://bonniecabbageprogram.com/participate/)

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**Budding Botanist Grant**

*Deadline in October*

The Klorane Botanical Foundation is committed to supporting programs to teach respect for the environment and protect nature through the preservation of plant species and biodiversity. Applicants for the Budding Botanist Grant must demonstrate that at least 40% of their student population would qualify for free or reduced-price meals, and must be planning a new or expanding an existing school garden program designed to teach students about environmental sustainability and the importance of biodiversity.

**Grant amount: $1,200**

[https://kidsgardening.org/2021-budding-botanist-grant/](https://kidsgardening.org/2021-budding-botanist-grant/)

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**Captain Planet Foundation**

*Deadlines typically in January and July - 2021-22 on hold due to Covid-19*

Captain Planet Foundation has developed four ecoSTEM Resource Kits (Earth, Pollination, Water, and Renewable Energy). These custom-curated and designed collections of lessons and materials facilitate ecoSTEM learning and using the environment as a context for applying knowledge.

**Grant amount: One kit**

[https://captainplanetfoundation.org/grants/ecostem/](https://captainplanetfoundation.org/grants/ecostem/)

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**Carton 2 Garden Contest**

*Deadline in December*
Tap into your students’ creativity by re-purposing milk and juice cartons to either build or enhance your school garden! Make carton planters, garden art, scarecrows, irrigation systems, and everything in between...the more creative, the better! The best use of cartons gives your schools the chance to win one of 15 prizes, with a grand prize valued at $5,000!
Grant amount: $1,000 - $5,000 value
https://carton2garden.com/contest-details/spring-2019-2020-contest/

Clif Bar Family Foundation
Deadlines in February, June, and October
The Clif bar Family Foundation offers grants for general organizational support or to fund specific projects that protect the Earth, create a healthy food system, increase opportunities for outdoor activity, reduce environmental health hazards, and build stronger communities.
Grant amount: average is $7,000
http://clifbarfamilyfoundation.org/Grants-Programs/Small-Grants

Costco Wholesale
Deadline: year-round
Costco Wholesale’s Warehouse donation program is intended to meet the needs of organizations which are focused on children, education, or health and human services and serve a local neighborhood and organizations with a similar scope of service. Requests should be submitted 4-6 weeks before event.
Grant amount: $25-$50
https://www.costco.com/charitable-giving.html

Georgia-Pacific
Deadline: year-round, but early submission in October is encouraged
The Georgia-Pacific Foundation supports organizations that improve the quality of life in communities where Georgia-Pacific operates (must be within 30 miles of GP location). Grants are awarded for educational efforts, community enrichment, environmental programs, and entrepreneurship initiatives.
Grant amount: open
https://www.gp.com/community

HATS STEDTRAIN
Deadline in April
STEDTRAIN is a Committee of the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies (HATS) that administers a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Seed Grant program that provides funding to an educator for innovative hands-on classroom projects that will stimulate children’s interest in science and technology. Grants are available for K-12 Alabama schools in Jackson, Madison, Marshall, Morgan, and Limestone Counties.
Grant amount: up to $1,000
http://www.stedtrain.org/

Karma for Cara Student Microgrant
Deadline in January, April, July, and October
The K4C Microgrant Program is the bridge between ideas and action. K4C helps young citizen leaders execute and magnify their initiatives to help repair our world. Students 18 years of age and under may apply to complete service projects in their communities throughout the United States - turn a vacant lot into a community garden, rebuild a school playground or help senior citizens ready their homes for the winter, for example.
Grant amount: $250 to $1,000
https://karmaforcara.org/microgrant
Kid’s Gardening Gro More Good Grassroots Grant
Deadline in February
The 2021 GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant is designed to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens to communities across the United States. Awards provide funding for the development of new and expansion of existing youth garden programs and greenspaces serving 15 or more youth.
Grant amount: $500 to $1,000
https://kidsgardening.org/2021-gromoregood-grassroots-grant/

Legacy
Deadline in March
Legacy funds Education Grants annually to assist with helping to create environmentally responsible citizens through education. Any Alabama organization (including schools) planning a community based environmental program is encouraged to apply.
Grant amount: up to $2,500
https://legacyenved.org/legacy-grants/

Little Seeds Pollinator Pals Grant
Deadline in July
The Little Seeds Pollinator Pals Grant presented by Little Seeds and KidsGardening is designed to support youth garden programs interested in preserving and creating pollinator habitat to help rebuild declining pollinator populations.
Grant amount: $500
https://kidsgardening.org/2021-little-seeds-pollinator-pals-grant/

Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund
Deadline in October
The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund supports projects whose goals focus on developing an awareness for nature by growing native plants in a garden or landscape. Projects must be hands-on, emphasize involvement by students and volunteers in most phases of development, and increase the site’s educational value.
Grant amount: $150-$500 (for native plants and seeds)
https://www.wildones.org/seeds-for-education/

Monarch Watch: Free Milkweed for Schools and Non-Profits
Year-round
Monarch Watch provides free Milkweed plugs for schools and nonprofits to help create habitats for monarchs and pollinators.

Nature’s Path Gardens for Good
Deadline in March
The Gardens for Good grant program supports community gardens across North America that are growing organic food and making a difference in their communities. Open to community and school gardens for non-profits.
Grant Amount: Up to $5,000

National Weather Association Foundation
Deadline in June
The NWAF’s Sol Hirsch Education Fund Grants are awarded annually to teachers/educators of grades K-12 to help improve the education of their students, their school, and/or their community in the science of meteorology.
Grant Amount: Up to $750
Papoose Conservation Wildlife Foundation
Deadline in October
Papoose Conservation Wildlife Foundation grants are awarded to programs aimed at providing opportunities for children to explore Nature or expanding children’s appreciation of Nature.
Grant amount: up to $5,000
https://www.papoosewildlife.org/grant-applications/

Seed Savers Exchange
Deadline: year-round
The Herman's Garden Seed Donation Program donates seeds to non-profit organizations in need.
Grant amount: variety of 50 seed packets
https://www.seedsavers.org/seed-donation-program

State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Company
Deadline in October
State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship Education Grant education funds initiatives that support academic performance improvement programs that impact K-12 students.
Grant amount: $5,000 or more
https://www.statefarm.com/about-us/community-involvement/community-grants/good-neighbor-citizenship-grants

Tennessee Valley Authority STEM
Deadline TBD (opens Sept. 1)
The TVA STEM classroom grant program, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority in partnership with Bicentennial Volunteers Incorporated (BVI, a TVA retiree organization), funds STEM learning projects in classrooms and schools in the TVA service area. Educators at K-12 public and private schools served by TVA’s local power company partners can apply for grants up to $5000.
Grant amount: up to $5,000
https://www.tva.com/stem

Tomberg Family Philanthropies
Deadline in September
The Tomberg Family Philanthropies Grant funds projects in the areas of education, the environment, health, and poverty alleviation.
Grant amount: $5,000 - $15,000
https://www.tombergphilanthropies.org/about-our-grants/

Toshiba America Foundation (for Grades 6-12)
Deadlines in March, June, September, and December for grants up to $5,000
Deadlines in May and November for grants over $5,000
The Toshiba America Foundation encourages teacher-led, K-12 classroom-based programs, projects, and activities that have the potential to improve classroom experiences in science, mathematics, and technology. These specific grants are for grades 6-12.
Grant amount: up to $5,000 and over $5,000
https://www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp

Toshiba America Foundation (for Grades K-5)
Deadline in October
The Toshiba America Foundation encourages teacher-led, K-12 classroom-based programs, projects, and activities that have the potential to improve classroom experiences in science, mathematics, and technology. This specific grant is for grades K-5.
Grant amount: up to $1,000
https://www.toshiba.com/taf/k5.jsp

**Walmart Local Community Grant**
**Deadline in December**
The Walmart Community Grant Program provides grants to local nonprofit organizations and agencies. Walmart believes that strengthening local communities creates value.
Grant amount: $250 – $5,000
https://walmart.org/how-we-give/local-community-grants

**Whole Kids Foundation Garden Grant**
**Deadline in March**
Through their Garden Grant program, schools and non-profit organizations turn outdoor spaces into powerful hands-on learning gardens that connect kids with food, spark their curiosity and support classroom curriculum.
Grant amount: $3,000
https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/programs/school-gardens-grant

**Youth Garden Grant**
**Deadline in December**
Since 1982, the Youth Garden Grant has supported school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities. Schools planning a new garden program or expanding an established one that serves at least 15 youth between the ages of 3 and 18 is eligible to apply.
Grant amount: Packages valued $750 - $1,750
https://kidsgardening.org/2021-youth-garden-grant/
Local Fundraising Opportunities & Support

- School System “Partners-in-Education” Businesses
- Parent-Teacher Associations or Organizations
- Local County Commissioners
- Local Garden Centers
- Plant Rescue Groups
- Local Soil & Water Conservation Offices
- Student-Lead Fundraiser
- Local Master Gardener Groups
- Local Churches

GRANT WRITING TIPS: TOP TEN LIST

1. Know your audience – Make sure your project’s goals match the goals of the grant you are applying for.

2. Follow the guidelines listed – Read and reread the guidelines provided, and follow them to the letter.

3. Proof your application – Have someone who is not involved in your project review your proposal to make sure that it makes sense and answers the questions appropriately.

4. Honor deadlines – Try to get your proposal completed and turned in ahead of the deadline to avoid any last minute complications.

5. Keep it clear and concise – Only answer the questions asked, and do not include any additional information or attachments if the grant application does not request it.

6. Submit your reports – Be sure to follow the guidelines and submit any and all follow-up reports on time.

7. Passion must be evident – If possible, be sure to convey how important your project is to your students, the school, and the community as a whole.

8. Do not use a shotgun approach – Stay focused and do not include any other projects in your proposal. Also, be sure to demonstrate how your specific project meets their grant program’s goals.

9. It all starts with a good idea – Before applying for grants, put your thoughts and ideas on paper using the Alabama Outdoor Classroom Program’s Master Plan worksheet and Individual Project Plan worksheets.

10. Be correct – Do the necessary research before filling out any grant applications to ensure that you have a true picture of the scope and details of your project.