Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund

To promote knowledge and appreciation of healthy land, water and wildlife in the Yamhill Region P.O. Box 1497 McMinnville Oregon 97128

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The Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund (YWSF) is seeking applications from teachers and students that will address local environmental needs. YWSF will award up to 7 minigrants of \$250 to teachers and students for a community project that addresses the following educational priorities:

Community Projects must address environmental stewardship in a local formal or informal educational context in rural, suburban or urban settings, and use outdoor, place-based, experiential, service learning and/or community-focused stewardship activities as the primary teaching tool(s).

Educational Achievement: Project embeds the study of environmental issues within specific academic content areas that students are required to study and links the project to the YWSF mission: To promote knowledge and appreciation of healthy land, water and wildlife in the Yamhill Region.

Submission Requirements

The application consists of three parts. Please fill each out completely and accurately.

- 1. Application Data Sheet and Signature Page
- 2. Project Description and Curricular Links
- 3. Budget Explanation

Applications must be submitted in PDF format to <u>ywsf08@yahoo.com</u>.

Time frames:

- 1. Projects must begin and end in the current school year.
- 2. Projects may occur during anytime during the school year.



Yamhill Watershed Stewardship Fund Mini Grant Application

1. Data Sheet and Signature Page

- 1. Date:
- 2. Name of Project:
- 3. Name and Complete Address of School:
- 4. Phone:
- 5. Fax:
- 6. Number of Student Participants and Corresponding Grade(s):
- 7. Main teacher contact:
- 8. Phone:
- 9. Email:
- 10. Names of other teachers/community members/community organizations who will participate in project:
- 11. If this is a student initiated project: Names and emails of up to three students who will lead the project.
- 12. Projected start date and concluding date.

*Applicant Signature_____

*Building Principal Signature_____

*If student initiated project, Student Signature_____

*Signatures assure that funds will be used as described in the grant application.

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2. Project Description and Curricular Links

Using no more than a page and a half, summarize the project. Some questions for consideration: Describe what students will do. How will the project enhance student learning and link to classroom objectives? Describe the leadership role of students in the project selection and completion. How will this project promote knowledge and appreciation of healthy lands, water and/or wildlife in the Yamhill Region? Describe the site where the project will take place. What community resources and partnerships will be used? How will the greater community be involved and/or benefit from the project? Will students be sharing their work with others?

The YWSF is particularly interested in funding activities on school grounds or within close proximity to the school so that students can visit their project site on an ongoing basis.

Proposed project start date:

Proposed project completion date:

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3. Budget Explanation

1. Explain by dollar amount and item, how YWSF mini-grant monies will be spent.

Goods/Services/Materials**	Amount	Notes
Total	250.00	

2. If there are other funds, either matching or in-kind, being used to support this project, please document sources, amounts, and/or materials.

Goods/Services/Materials	Amount	Source

Notification: Successful applicants will be notified by phone and/or email within the month it is submitted.

Disbursement: Prior to the project start date, YWSF will send a check for the project made out to the school. The signatures on the front page of the grant application provide the assurance that funds will be used as described in this application.

Upon receipt of the grant funds, recipients agree to

- 1. Provide YWSF with a report on the challenges and accomplishments of the project.
- 2. The report will include a project poster to be presented at the YWSF annual *Celebrate Our Watersheds* fundraising event on Saturday, November 9, 2013.
- 3. Recognize YWSF as the grant funder when showcasing the project for the community.

^{**}YWSF mini-grants may not be used for substitute teachers, transportation, or parties. YWSF mini-grant funds may be used for supplies, materials, tools, etc. (If in doubt, ask.)

Examples of projects

Although fictional, these examples are based on real students doing real things in real life.

Butterfly & Bee Garden

Students and teachers are going to plant a garden and document the butterflies and native bees that are attracted. Information will go to the National Bee Project. Funds are used for plants and tools.

Adopt a Creek

5th grade students study the ecology of a creek that runs alongside the school boundary. They survey the plant species and learn to identify some native and invasive plants. They learn how plants are distributed. They plant some donated native plants. They make a coloring book for the kindergarteners and first graders for the coming year. YWSF monies are used for art supplies, classroom books about stream life, and materials for the coloring book. The printing for the coloring book is donated by a local printer. Their final poster is titled, "Don't Plant That Ivy!"

Where does that radish come from?

Middle school students learn about hunger in Oregon. They do research on small garden plots and container gardening. They learn about composting, plant growth and nutrients. They plant a small garden. They divert plant and left-over cafeteria food materials from the local landfill to their own worm bin, as they learn to grow their own food. Seeds are donated from local nursery. Gloves are donated from SOLV. YWSF monies buy lumber for raised beds, soil, worms, and tools.

What's a Watershed?

High school science students learn about the Yamhill watershed and what it means to "restore" a watershed. They adopt the portion of the watershed closest to their school and begin to map and document run-off, bank degradation, water temperature, pesticide and herbicide occurrences. With the help of the Soil and Water Conservation District, they create a restoration plan that includes the elimination of Himalayan blackberries, the removal of garbage, and planting native plants. They host a series of community work days, and teach the 5th graders (see above) how to identify certain invasive plants. YWSF funds are used for two digital cameras to document their work over time.