Coaches Meeting
Anoka County Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Questions asked during the meeting are answered below:

Will these hours count toward Master Gardener volunteer hours?

Based on my most recent communication with Jamie Spanks (Anoka County Master Gardener Interim Program Coordinator), I was advised that all hours Master Gardeners spend on this project can count toward your volunteer hours. I have reached out again to Jamie to clarify this.

Do we fill out the consultation form WITH the homeowner, or FOR them?

Please fill out the consultation form with the resident during your site visit. The goal of the Onsite Consultation form is to talk through the options with the resident so they have all the information they need to complete the application.

What if a resident already started the project before we meet with them?

If the resident has receipts for their purchases made in 2020, those receipts may be eligible for reimbursement through this grant. In general related to projects that the resident has already started, this grant source can augment and enhance their projects through the purchase of additional plants etc, but may not be used to reimburse work that has already been completed prior to 2020.

Do we need to report our BlueThumb hours with this?

No. BlueThumb is coordinating the Individual grants while ACD is coordinating the Demonstration Neighborhood grants. These programs should be viewed as parallel to each other working to achieve the same goal, but completely separate in their reporting.

Are resident hours only physical "hands in the dirt" time or does planning and shopping time count?

Yes, planning and shopping time does count as resident matching time.

What if we meet with our assigned person(s) and want to help with other site visits?

If you complete your site visits with your assigned residents and are interested in helping coach additional residents, please let us know! There may be opportunities to coach additional residents either in this round of funding, or future rounds of funding.

When do residents receive their grant funds?

Residents will be asked to report their expenses once per quarter. After sending in their receipts, they will be reimbursed from ACD in the amount agreed upon in the cost-share contract between the resident and ACD.

But they'll be limited to the amount they requested?

Yes, residents will be limited to being reimbursed what they ask for in their initial budget. This number will be reflected in their cost-share contract. However, in a circumstance where there are funds remaining after every resident has been reimbursed their agreed upon amount, there may be the opportunity to increase the reimbursement to residents who went over their initial budget request. This is probably not likely to happen, and so should not be relied upon. Residents should request the budget they need to complete their project.

Lawns to Legumes Coaches Meeting – Questions and Answers

What type of education has been provided to the residents by ACD?

All residents have been in regular communication with ACD staff from the time they initially indicated their interest in the program. However, they have not received any special education related to plant choice, garden design, etc. ACD is excited about being able to partner with so many knowledgeable coaches because your donated time enables us to put most of the funding directly into installing projects. This increases the number of projects we are able to do as well as the number of residents we are able to work with. As coaches, we are relying on you to share your wealth of knowledge with the residents you work with and help get them excited to install pollinator plants.

What are the hours we can pick up the packets?

Resource Packets will be available to pick up outside the ACD office (1318 McKay Dr. NE, Suite 300, Ham Lake, MN, 55304) between June 29th and July 7th. The packets will be labeled with your name and will remain outside in a container for you to pick up at any hour of the day or night.