

# Green Spaces Alliance Community Garden Network



## 2009 Community Garden Starter Grant Overview:

Green Spaces Alliance works to encourage the development of community gardens throughout San Antonio. The keystone of our program is sustainability, creating gardens that will benefit neighbors and neighborhoods for years to come. The Green Spaces Alliance Community Gardens Program began in 2006. In 2009 Green Spaces Alliance plans to assist eight to twelve gardens to organize, plan, develop and maintain a neighborhood garden. Your garden could be one of them. This grant jump-starts garden efforts with guidance, resources, and some funding.

There will be two (2) rounds of selection for funding. Four (4) to six (6) grant award winners will be selected in each round. Selected gardens may be funded with up to \$7,000 for eligible costs to construct the garden. Selected gardens will also receive the benefits of membership in the Green Spaces Alliance Community Garden Network. All funds awarded will only be disbursed in accordance with the approved budget and agreed upon draw procedures. Applicants not selected during initial rounds may update and resend their application for subsequent rounds.

### **Eligibility:**

Organized neighborhood associations, non-profit corporations, public institutions, and unincorporated associations may apply.

1. Minimum of five (5) unrelated (by family or employment) core members.
2. Possession of land suitable for a community garden must be established by deed, or lease or use agreement for a minimum of five (5) years.
3. Land should be located within a neighborhood and be within walking distance from residences.
4. Land must have access to water.
5. The community lacks adequate parkland or open space.

### **Important Dates:**

	<u>Round Four</u>	<u>Round Five</u>
<b>Applications Open:</b>	January 1, 2009	May 20, 2009
<b>Informational Meeting:</b>	January 7, 2009*	June 24, 2009*
<b>Interest Forms** Due:</b>	January 16, 2009	July 3, 2009
<b>Applications Deadline:</b>	January 30, 2009***	July 17, 2009***
<b>Winners Notified:</b>	February 20, 2009	August 7, 2009
<b>Annual Report:</b>	December 15, 2009 - 2013	December 15, 2009 - 2013
<b>Finalize Paperwork:</b>	By March 4, 2009	By August 19, 2009

\* Groups are encouraged to attend, learn about the program and get advice on application/garden components.

\*\* Interest Forms may be submitted by any group at any time.

\*\*\* Applications must be hand-delivered or postmarked by this date. – Faxed applications will not be accepted.

## **Application Instructions:**

1. Submit one copy of application and support materials. Only hard copies will be accepted.
2. Please send application materials in a flat (any size) envelope/box without folds.
3. Application materials will not be returned – and become the sole property of Green Spaces Alliance.

## **Rules of Participation:**

1. Applications will be evaluated by Green Spaces Alliance Staff and selected by its Community Garden Committee.
2. Applicants must satisfy all application requirements.
3. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
4. All entries become the sole property of Green Spaces Alliance and will not be returned. Green Spaces Alliance reserves the right to publish submitted materials.
5. Open to any group desiring a garden in San Antonio, Texas.
6. Potential winners will be notified by email to the email address provided during the registration process, and will be required to sign a Community Garden Network Member Agreement, Affiliation Agreement, and Disbursement Policies Agreement. All grants are subject to verification of eligibility and compliance with the terms of these Agreements.

## **Eligible Garden Costs:**

1. Eligible costs for construction of the garden include site preparation, soils, amendments, mulch, bed form materials, path materials, plant materials, tools, fencing, lighting, irrigation, furniture, garden signage, and shelters.
2. Labor or administrative activities performed by employees of Garden or affiliates are not eligible costs.
3. The proposed budget shall be submitted using the Excel spreadsheet provided by GREEN SPACES ALLIANCE.

## **Grant Award Requirements:**

### **Grant recipients must...**

1. construct the garden in accordance with the approved plan and budget
2. sign and adhere to a Community Garden Network Member Agreement, Affiliation Agreement, and Disbursement Policies Agreement;
3. participate as full members of the Green Spaces Alliance Community Garden Network;
4. provide a service to the community and/or share resources with another garden;
5. prepare and deliver an annual report to Green Spaces Alliance by December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year that the agreement is in effect;
6. place a sign at Location that acknowledges funders and indicates that the garden is part of Green Spaces Alliance Community Garden Network; and
7. send at least one representative to a minimum of three (3) GREEN SPACES ALLIANCE community garden workshops, or other garden-related workshops.

## **For Application Forms and Information:**

**[www.greenspacesalliance.org](http://www.greenspacesalliance.org)**

Angela Hartsell, Community Gardens Coordinator  
(210) 222-8430 or [angela@greenspacesalliance.org](mailto:angela@greenspacesalliance.org)

## **Application Mailing Address:**

### **Green Spaces Alliance**

Attn: Community Gardens Coordinator  
PO Box 15677  
San Antonio, TX 78212