

Community Gardens Network



2010 Overview of Community Gardens Starter Fund

Green Spaces Alliance (GSA) encourages the development of community gardens throughout South Texas. The keystone of our program is sustainability - creating gardens that will benefit neighbors and neighborhoods for years to come.

- Gardens may join the network and receive guidance and access to resources whether or not they receive funding from GSA.
- 5 - 12 gardens may be selected each year to receive guidance, resources, and some funding.
- Dates for Round 7 selections are set. Dates for Round 8 will be posted as funding becomes available.
- As many as six (6) gardens may be selected in each round.
- Gardens may request as much as \$7,000 for eligible costs to construct the garden.
- Applicants not selected during initial rounds may update and submit their application for subsequent rounds.

Eligibility:

Organized neighborhood associations, non-profit organizations, and unincorporated groups of neighbors may apply.

1. Site located within San Antonio, Texas.
2. Minimum of five (5) unrelated (by family or employment) core members.
3. Possession of land suitable for a community garden established by deed, lease or use agreement for a minimum of five (5) years. Deeds and 10-year agreements preferred.
4. Land located within a neighborhood and within walking distance from residences of participants.
5. On-site access to water.

Important Dates:

	<u>Round 7</u>
Applications Open:	March 20, 2010
Informational Meeting*:	June 2, 2010 at 6pm*
Interest Forms Due**:	June 11, 2010 at 5pm**
Applications Deadline***:	July 2, 2010 at 5pm***
Selections Announced:	July 30, 2010
Complete Paperwork:	August 11, 2010
Annual Report:	December 15, 2010-2014

* New groups are required to attend, learn about the program and get advice on application/garden components.

** Interest forms may be submitted by new groups when they first conceive of starting a garden.

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

Application Instructions:

1. Submit one copy of application with all support materials.
2. Submit a proposed budget using the Excel spreadsheet provided by GREEN SPACES ALLIANCE.
3. Send application materials in a flat (any size) envelope/box without folds or via email.

Rules of Participation:

1. Applications will be evaluated by Green Spaces Alliance staff and selected by its Community Gardens 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. All funds awarded will only be disbursed in accordance with the approved budget and agreed upon draw procedures.
6. Potential awardees will be notified by email to the address provided during the application process and will be required to sign funding agreements. All funding is 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, soil amendments, bed form materials, path materials, plants and seeds, tools, fencing, lighting, irrigation, furniture, garden signage, and shelters.
2. Labor or administrative activities performed by employees of a garden or its affiliates are not eligible costs.

Funding Requirements:

Awardees must...

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

For Application Forms and Information:

www.greenspacesalliance.org

Angela Hartsell, Community Gardens Program Manager
(210) 222-8430 or angela@greenspacesalliance.org

Application Mailing Address:

Green Spaces Alliance
Attn: Community Gardens Manager
PO Box 6250
San Antonio, TX 78209

Location for Hand-delivery:

Green Spaces Alliance
Attn: Community Gardens Manager
4901 Broadway, Ste. 211
San Antonio, TX 78209