

# South Carolina Native Plant Society Lowcountry Chapter Grant Program



The Lowcountry Chapter of the South Carolina Native Plant Society (SCNPS) is pleased to offer our Lowcountry Chapter Grant Program. Part of our mission is to promote native plants through planting, outreach, education, and the removal of invasive, exotic species. Our Lowcountry Chapter Grants Program gives us the ability to support local projects that align with this mission. There are two separate funding opportunities: one for School Projects and one for Community Projects. If your organization, community group, or school is interested in working with native plants in any capacity, we invite you to consider applying for one of our grants! Please read below for details about this funding opportunity, as well as application details and due dates.

## **Community and School Grant Requirements**

Projects must be directed at protecting, restoring, and/or educating the public or students about native plants or plant communities in the Lowcountry of South Carolina. We are currently only considering projects in Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dorchester, Georgetown, and Horry counties.

Additional requirements for grants are as follows:

- For community projects, if applicants do not own the property, they must provide documentation that permission has been granted by the property owner for the project. *Community project funds are not to be used on personal property or for personal gain.*
- For school projects, applicants must provide documentation that permission has been granted by the school for the project.
- Funds must be used within one year of issuance. After completion, a tour of the project site, presentation about the project during a monthly chapter meeting, or final project report (with photos) is required. Grantees are encouraged to share project updates with the Grants Coordinator ([lowcountry.grants@scnps.org](mailto:lowcountry.grants@scnps.org)).
- Applicants may only apply for one project per fiscal year.

## **Application Details for Community & School Grants**

To apply, applicants must **submit an application by e-mail (maximum of 4 pages) between January 1<sup>st</sup>- February 10<sup>th</sup> for Spring grants or between August 1<sup>st</sup>-September 10<sup>th</sup> for Fall grants.** Each application should consist of the following sections:

- Project Title
- Project Location
- Project Contact (including name, phone number and e-mail address)
- Project Description, including:
  - Specific details of proposed project
  - How the project will promote native plants, either through planting, restoring, and/or educating about native plants, or through the removal of invasive, exotic species.
  - Why is the project needed (who will the project impact and how?)
  - *Priority will be given to those projects involving cultural significance, rare species, the removal of invasive/exotic species, and/or have high audience engagement (e.g. – the project has high public visibility [community projects] or involves more than one class [school projects].)*
- Detailed Budget
- Timeline for completion, including:
  - Applicant should demonstrate that they have the capacity to complete the project; describe who will complete the project and approximate project schedule

- If the project involves a native plant installation, please include a description of how the project will be sustained/maintained once the grant period ends (one year)
- Letters of support from identified partners, schools and/or landowners.

### **Bonus Points**

Bonus points will be awarded for projects that include matching funds and/or involve partnerships with other schools/organizations.

### **Award Amounts**

Individual award amounts will not exceed \$1,000 for Community Grants and \$500 for School Grants. Awards will be given at the discretion of the Board of the Lowcountry Chapter of the SCNPS.

### **Application Deadlines**

- Spring
  - Grant period opens January 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Grant applications due by February 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Grant awardees notified by March 10<sup>th</sup>
- Fall
  - Grant period opens August 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Grant applications due by September 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Grant awardees notified by October 10<sup>th</sup>

**Contact:** We encourage you to reach out if you have ideas/questions about potential grant applications, or if you would like clarification on any of the information in this announcement. **For inquiries, or to submit your application, please reach out to our Grants Coordinator, Matt Johnson, at [lowcountry.grants@scnps.org](mailto:lowcountry.grants@scnps.org).**