



**YOUNGSTOWN
NEIGHBORHOOD**
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION



www.yndc.org



330.480.0423



820 Canfield Road, Youngstown, Ohio 44511

2017 Lots of Green Youth Greening Grant Program

*****Application Deadline: March 17th, 2017*****

About This Grant Opportunity – Please Read Carefully!

This special grant opportunity was funded through the Centers for Disease Control. The University of Michigan is leading this project, a 5 year, 3 city study of vacant land reuse and youth violence prevention. Flint, Michigan and Camden, New Jersey are also participating in the project. This grant will help groups clean up vacant lots and work with youth in city neighborhoods. Youth involvement (ages 10 – 24) must be at the core of proposed projects for this opportunity. As this is a study, project grantees will be contacted by researchers periodically, and will need to keep basic records of work performed on the vacant lots that are being improved. These procedures will be provided to project grantees and will not be time-intensive, but are critical to the success of the study. Awardees **MUST** participate in study activities and turn in reports monthly or will risk becoming ineligible for future funding opportunities or losing unspent funds. 2016 grantees who did not turn in reports in a timely manner will not be eligible for funding in 2017.

Use of Funds

Funds awarded can be used to reward youth (ages 10-24) with gift cards or other incentives for their participation in the project as well as for project installation costs for 2017. Adult salaries or incentives will not be approved. Funds can be used for supplies, materials, and small equipment needed for project installation. Professional maintenance cannot be paid for through this grant, though contractors can be hired to do some initial cleanup or installation tasks that cannot be completed by volunteers, such as grading or tree removal. Funding awards will average \$1,700 per vacant lot the project is planning to green and maintain for the season. Organizations will not receive funding for maintenance beyond 2017 for improved lots, so maintenance plans should be completed for future years of the project. Projects will be owned and operated by the project grantees, and YNDC cannot provide project maintenance or grasscutting. This funding will be awarded to improve currently vacant and unused lots – they cannot be used for improvements to existing projects. If awarded, funds will be transferred directly to groups with 501c(3) status or a significant history with YNDC. Groups who do not meet these qualifications will need to identify a project sponsor or work directly with YNDC for purchasing.



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Youngstown Neighborhood
Development Corporation



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Eligible Sites

As this study is examining the effects of new greening projects on neighborhoods, lots chosen in 2017 must be at least 100 meters from past Youth Greening Grant project sites and other lots that were chosen as controls. A map of eligible areas is provided with this application (see last page), but groups should contact Liberty Merrill at YNDC to request a review of their site for eligibility or to help them identify eligible sites. In addition, all groups **MUST** attend a scheduled Technical Assistance training.

Eligible Applicants and Criteria for Selection

Eligible applicants are located in the city of Youngstown and include groups of residents, neighborhood associations, businesses, non-profit organizations, and local faith-based organizations. All applicants should be committed to working with youth to install and maintain awarded projects. Once applications are submitted, they will be reviewed by YNDC staff and the project review committee. Applications will be judged by the following criteria:

- Does the project involve and benefit city youth?
- Is the project or proposed phase of the project feasible during the grant timeline?
- Is the project location impactful to your neighborhood?
- Does the project have a clear long-term maintenance plan?
- Does the project have community support from the neighborhood?

Grant Timeline

Technical Assistance: Technical Assistance Sessions will be held at YNDC's Demonstration Kitchen, located at 822 Billingsgate Avenue. A representative from each group applying for project assistance **MUST** attend one of these sessions. Please call Liberty Merrill at (330)480-0423 to RSVP and schedule an appointment time. Please have as much of the project application filled out as possible before the session.

- Tuesday, February 21st, 4pm – 7pm
- Monday, February 27th: 4pm – 7pm
- Saturday, March 4th: 1pm – 4pm

Friday, March 17th: Applications received (not postmarked) at YNDC by 5pm

Week of March 28th: Grantees notified by phone and project plans are refined.

Late April: Projects can begin

November 1st: Projects end and final reports are due.

**** Application should be mailed or hand-delivered to the YNDC offices, located at 820 Canfield Road, Youngstown Ohio, 44511. Applications must be received (not postmarked) in the office by 5pm on March 17th, 2017. ****

Youth Greening Grant Program Application

Title of Project: _____

Name of Organization or Group: _____

Has your group been awarded a Youth Greening Grant in the Past? Yes _____ No _____

Primary Contact Person

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Contact Person

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Project Summary

Site Information

How many lots are involved in this project, and what are their addresses and/or parcel numbers?
(Applicants MUST call Liberty at YNDC for site eligibility review).

Why did your group/organization choose this site? Are there alternative sites within your neighborhood where this project could be implemented if your first choice is not feasible?

What is the ownership status of the property on which your proposed project sits? Has the owner been contacted for permission or have reasonable attempts to do so been made?

If the property is abandoned, has the Mahoning County Land Bank been contacted about property acquisition? While the group is not required to own the property at the start of the project, it is highly recommended that ownership is pursued for the long-term stability of the project. Unfortunately, these funds cannot be used for land acquisition unless the Land Bank is already in possession of the property. The Land Bank can be contacted at (330)259-1040.

Project Information

Provide a description of your project. What would you like to do?

How will your project benefit the community? What problem are you trying to solve with this project?

How will youth participating in the project be chosen? Are they already involved in a group, or will they need to be recruited? How will project leaders recruit youth? The majority of youth engaged in the project should reside or go to school in the project neighborhood.

What is your history working with youth?

Will any other organizations or entities be involved in this project?

What long term maintenance will be needed for this project after 2017? Who will complete this maintenance, and how will the project be sustained?

Project Budget

Please propose your budget on this sheet (the final budget may be adjusted in collaboration with program staff). The maximum budget is \$1,700 per lot to be improved.

How many lots are you proposing to improve? _____

Item	Description	Cost
Total Project Cost		

Community Support Petition

Project Name: _____

By signing this petition, I agree that I understand and support the proposed vacant lot reuse project in my neighborhood.

Name	Address	Signature

Please collect as many signatures as possible, especially from neighbors who own property directly adjacent to the proposed project site. Ten signatures will be considered a minimum number – applications with fewer than 10 signatures will not be reviewed.

