



2022 Franklin Parker Community Conservation Grants

8 Projects; Total Awards \$30,000

(Applicants listed in alphabetical order)

Appel Farm Arts and Music Center

\$2,350

Environmental Arts and Wellness

Appel Farm's new Environmental Arts and Wellness program engages community members from Salem, Gloucester, and Cumberland counties. During Make and Take events, participants will learn to tend to and harvest from the Appel Farm garden, using the yield both for healthy meals prepared and enjoyed on-site and for innovative art projects using sustainable, non-traditional materials. Grant funding will support three free Make and Take events at the 115-acre farm.

Branch Brook Park Alliance

\$4,000

Park Ambassador Program – Invasive Species Eradication

Through the youth workforce development program, Park Ambassadors will work with subject-matter experts to design a thoughtful plan to address the invasive species, Japanese Knotweed. Together, the young adults will remove this invasive species and plant native species to control re-infestation. Grant funding will support the purchase of equipment and supplies for the Park Ambassadors.

CATA (Comité de Apoyo a los Trabajadores Agrícolas)

\$5,000

CATA's Bridgeton Organic Community Garden

CATA's Bridgeton Organic Community Garden was established by farmworkers and low-wage immigrant workers to provide access to organic produce and engage children and community members to learn about sustainable agriculture through traditional organic farming practices. High school interns will learn about the food system, agro-ecological farming practices, nutrition, and the intersection of this work with broader issues like labor rights, immigration, and the environment. Grant funds will be used for intern stipends.

Foodshed Alliance

\$3,500

Shared Farm Equipment to Facilitate Conservation Practices

At the Sustainable Agriculture Enterprise (SAGe) farm in Andover, 71 acres of farmland are leased to nine organic farms that support regenerative/organic enterprises using conservation methods to protect the integrity and health of the land and waters. Many of the farmers are from underrepresented communities. Grant funding will be used for shared equipment/tools to facilitate climate-smart conservation methods specifically for small-scale organic growers.

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space

\$5,000

The Outdoor Equity Alliance Agrihood Internship

The Outdoor Equity Alliance Agrihood Internship project will provide 20 students from underserved communities with an opportunity to get hands-on experience and to critically think about environmental stewardship, agriculture, and social welfare, guided by Leah Penniman's book entitled *Farming While Black*. Grant funds will be used toward intern stipends.

Great Swamp Watershed Association

\$4,200

Paterson Adopt a Catch Basin Program

GWSA is working with the Paterson Green Team to implement an Adopt a Catch Basin program, which will help reduce waste going into the sewers and eventually rivers, reduce site specific flooding related to blocked catch basins, and educate residents about the importance of reducing pollution and flooding. Grant funds will be used to purchase supplies for residents removing debris from catch basins.

Grow It Green Morristown

\$4,950

Farm Apprentice Program

The Farm Apprentice Program provides opportunities for underrepresented populations to pursue a career in agriculture and its associated pathways. In addition to learning skills such as starting seeds, transplanting seedlings, pruning, harvesting, and crop rotations, apprentices will work directly with community organizations such as local food distribution organizations to widen their perspective of a just food system. Apprentices will also learn to be leaders as they guide the high school interns and volunteers during the summer. Grant funds will be used for apprentice stipends.

Monmouth Conservation

\$1,000

DEI Training to Achieve Equitable Outcomes throughout Monmouth County

Monmouth Conservation Foundation will enlist the expertise of a professional consultant to undergo intensive analysis and training to initiate comprehensive strategies around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) across all functions of the organization including recruitment, acquisition and park development efforts, programming, and community engagement activities to better serve its diverse, evolving community. Grant funding will be used toward hiring a DEI consultant.

**Thanks to Victoria Foundation
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*If you have any questions, please contact Heidi (908-997-0722;
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