



CHAPP Seeds for Education (SFE) Fund

Dear Friend of Nature:

1. For years Wild Ones members and chapters have worked with schools and nature centers to plant and maintain natural landscapes in these centers of learning. Starting in 2017, the Wild Ones Tennessee Valley Chapter is adding local support to eligible organizations in the Chattanooga area through the Chattanooga Area Pollinator Partnership initiative.

2. Eligible Applicants: Schools, nature centers, and other non-profit and not-for-profit places of learning that focus on educating elementary through high school students (E1—HS12) located within the Chattanooga metropolitan area, including houses of worship are eligible. These grassroots projects must have a site available for this stewardship project. Grassroots is defined as: developed at the local level with support of volunteers from the community.

3. Eligible Projects: Project goals should focus on the Chattanooga Area Pollinator Partnership (CHAPP) goal of pollinator protection through the restoration of pollinator habitat. Projects must emphasize involvement of students and volunteers in all phases of development, and increase the educational value of the site.

4. Creativity in design is encouraged, but applicants must show complete and thoughtful planning. The use of, and teaching about, native plants and the native plant community is mandatory, and the native plants must be appropriate to the local ecoregion and the site conditions (soil, water, sunlight). For further information on selection of local ecotype, go to <http://www.wildones.org/learn/local-ecotype-guidelines/> on the Wild Ones web site. The USDA plant database lists native plants down to county level, and may prove helpful, at <https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/java/>. We must add an emphasis that **all plant material used should be free of systemic pesticides. Pesticides should be avoided in all phases of installation and maintenance.**

5. The Project Coordinator should be knowledgeable and committed. An appropriate project for the Chattanooga Area Pollinator Partnership Seeds for Education grant is the design, establishment and maintenance of a native plant pollinator garden in an educational setting such as an outdoor classroom. We encourage youth involvement (specifically listed) in deriving the garden design, plant lists, and implementation, and/or maintenance. We also recommend adult volunteer recruitment (PTO, garden clubs, etc.) to help ensure long term success. Please not those with native plant expertise directly associated with the project.

6. Eligible Costs:

a. Funds will be provided **only for the purchase of native plants and seeds** for the grant award year. A project budget should list how monies are to be spent. Cash awards range from \$100 to \$500.

b. Applicants should list other costs (materials, tools, etc), but clearly delineate between the seed/plant costs which this grant will fund separately from the entire garden's budget.

7. Successful grants are eligible for partnership with SFE native-plant-nursery partners for discounts on seed, plants, etc.

8. Application Form: A CHAPP SFE application form is available on the CHAPP website.

a. Applicants should submit the completed application form with supporting design/photo attachments by email or by mail by the SFE deadline to be considered for funding.

b. In your garden's diagram, include directional orientation (to include cartoons or photos), soil type, soil, moisture, height changes if needed, scale, and water point.

7. Resources: The Wild Ones web site provides information and links to related resources from government agencies, universities, and environmental organizations.

9. Publicity: Grant recipients will be required to acknowledge CHAPP and Wild Ones as a funding source in project publicity and printed materials. More details on information required will be included in a grant award letter.

9. Project Report: Grant recipients agree to submit a project report to Wild Ones within one year of the date of the award letter. Students and volunteers should be involved with development of the report.

10. Judging Process: SFE judges will evaluate qualified proposals, and Wild Ones will provide cash awards to as many projects as available funds allow, based on the overall rating of all applications.

11. Annual Calendar of Events:

- Midnight, March 15: Submit completed proposal.
- April 1: Grant applications reviewed.
- April 15: Notification to all applicants by e-mail with check and award letter to follow.
- April 15 one year after award of grant: Submission of final report from grant recipients.
- Midnight, September 15: Submit completed proposal.
- October 1: Grant applications reviewed
- October 15: Notification to all applicants by e-mail with check and award letter to follow
- October 15 one year after award of grant: Submission of final report from grant recipients

12. Wild Ones is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the use of natural landscaping with native plant species as an ecologically better alternative to traditional landscaping practices. Founded in the late 1970s, Wild Ones has members in forty-three states and five provinces of Canada and more than forty chapters. Wild One chapters like Tennessee Valley sponsor seminars and field trips, and rescue native plants from destruction brought about by the development of roads and buildings. We thank you for your interest.

Naturally yours,

CHAPP SFE Committee

