Alan D. Mcknight, Director

Landscape Enhancement and Beautification in Public Spaces
Guidelines and Requirements

Columbus Recreation and Parks invites qualified and interested community groups to submit landscape enhancement and beautification proposals.

Information about the Landscape Enhancement and Beautification in Public Spaces Program

It has been acknowledged that the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department formerly designed, planted and maintained flower beds and other landscaped areas at various sites around the city. Absent the resources to support beautification projects, Recreation and Parks has received generous support from volunteers to maintain these landscaped areas for the benefit of Columbus residents and visitors. It is also acknowledged that volunteer groups will need external resources to continue the current level of support.

Purpose: To provide funding assistance to organizations / associations / groups within the City of Columbus that are currently planting and maintaining flowers, trees and other landscaped areas in parks controlled by Recreation and Parks.

- Created in 2008 by Columbus City Councilmember Priscilla Tyson.
- A competitive grant program available to community based organizations/associations including non profits, service clubs, garden clubs, neighborhood associations, civic associations, Friends of Parks who are currently maintaining flower gardens or other landscaped areas in parks and public spaces controlled by Columbus Recreation and Parks; each organization is eligible to receive one grant but may consider collaborating with other organizations to maximize impact.
- Grant funds are to support existing landscape / beautification projects and cannot be used for start-up projects.
- A maximum of $1,000 may be awarded to each eligible organization and each grant requires a 1:1 dollar match from the grantee; the value of in-kind services may be considered.
- Emphasis placed on support for planting and maintaining landscapes in public spaces; sustainable landscapes are encouraged, e.g. native grasses, perennial wildflowers etc.
- Administered by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, Forestry and Horticulture Section staff.
- A Columbus Recreation and Parks committee comprised of Forestry/Horticulture staff members will review proposals and awards grants.
• All grant funds awarded must be expended for the intended purpose and documentation of such expenditures including original receipts and contracts must be submitted to Columbus Recreation and Parks.
• Columbus Recreation and Parks reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals.

Grant proposals will be evaluated and projects must be approved by Columbus Recreation and Parks. Funds can only be used for projects in parks and public spaces controlled by Columbus Recreation and Parks and for the following purposes:

➢ Purchase of plant materials and mulch.
➢ Tree and shrub planting.
➢ Maintenance including watering, mulching, fertilizing and weed control.
➢ Equipment purchases, e.g. hand tools and equipment for planting, watering and weeding.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

➢ Applications will be available to eligible organizations by February 25, 2008
➢ Applications due by March 15, 2008
➢ Awards announced by March 31, 2008

Note: Any organization receiving a grant will enter into a contract with the City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department that will define terms and conditions and the responsibilities of each party as part of the Landscape Enhancement and Beautification grant program.

APPLICATION FORMAT:

Grant proposals must be typed on the Grant Application Form and may be submitted by electronic mail or in hard copy and include the following information:

➢ Name of organization, contact person and daytime phone number.
➢ Description of landscape / beautification project including site location.
➢ Partnership / collaboration with other organizations to accomplish project.
➢ Level of volunteer support
➢ Dollar amount and the type of support you are requesting.

Landscape Enhancement and Beautification grant proposals should be submitted to:
Columbus Recreation and Parks
Forestry and Horticulture Section
Attn: Landscape Enhancement and Beautification Grant Program
1111 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43205
E-mail: mayoung@columbus.gov