

Green Partners Environmental Action information meeting



Introduce yourself in the chat

What organization do you represent?

What NEW action have you taken recently for the environment?





Agenda

- Environmental funding opportunities
- Environmental education resources
- Green Partners grant program
 - Environmental action grants
 - Project ideas
 - Criteria and application questions
- Grant selection process
- Applying through the Supplier Portal



Project Sweetie Pie and partners planting trees with residents





Waste prevention grants

For schools, multifamily buildings, nonprofits and businesses

- Bins, supplies, reusable items, and equipment
- Free signage
- Free educational literature

https://www.hennepin.us/recycling



Free recycling bins and signs

Natural resources grants

Protect water. Plant trees.

- Natural resources grants
- Aquatic invasive species grants
- Healthy tree canopy grants

www.hennepin.us and search



Supplier Portal Help Desk

Supplier Portal questions

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

612-543-5412

supplierportal@hennepin.us

Supplier Portal help

On the Supplier Portal, vendors can:

- · Register to get notifications of solicitations
- · Update profile information
- · Review current solicitations
- Submit responses to solicitations

Vendors don't have to register to view open solicitations, but must register to submit a response.

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supplierportal@hennepin.us

Ouestions?

Phone: 612-543-5412 M-F, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Close all

- Training materials

Registration

- Register with the portal (PDF)
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- We can't seem to find your account error (YouTube)
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- Edit your bid or proposal (PDF)
- Edit your bid or proposal (YouTube)





Environmental education resources

Search: Hennepin County environmental education

www.hennepin.us/environmentaleducation

Environmental education

A wide variety of free environmental education resources, project support and funding are available to organizations working with residents and youth in Hennepin County.

Get the latest updates on environmental education programs and resources, learn about events and training opportunities, and read what others in the field are doing:

- · Subscribe to our Environmental education news monthly update email. See the most recent edition for an example of the content.
- · Join our Environmental education network Facebook group to collaborate about environmental education and connect with others.

Environment and Energy environment@hennepin.us

Phone: 612-348-3777

Open all

- + Communication resources and print materials
- ♣ Environmental education network
- + Educational kits, supplies and event displays
- + Curriculum ideas and activity guides
- + Training, volunteer, certification and citizen science opportunities
- ♣ Tours, field trip transportation and presentations
- + Environmental education programs
- Grants





Through the Green Partners grant program, Hennepin County contracts with organizations to help the county educate, engage, and motivate residents to become environmental stewards and make positive behavior changes, such as taking action to prevent waste, separate organic waste and recycle, reduce household hazardous waste, care for trees, protect birds, bats, and pollinators, and improve water quality.



Two types youth programs



Youth environmental leadership

Supporting environmental leadership and access to green job opportunities for young people in high school to age 24.

Youth environmental education

Inspiring youth in elementary and middle school to develop an interest in the environment and environmental stewardship.



One opportunity for projects working with adults

Environmental action grants

Motivate adults to make environmental behavior change at home and on-the-go.



Lao Center of MN teaching residents about recycling

Green Partners award budget

In 2025, approximately \$145,000 is available for grants in the Green Partners Environmental Action grant category. Approximately \$200,000 is available for grants in the Green Partners Youth Environmental Leadership grant category and \$210,000 is available in the Green Partners Youth Environmental Education grant category.

Application	Audience	Project focus
Environmental action grant application	Adults (18+)	Motivating individuals to make environmental behavior changes at home and on-the-go.
Youth environmental leadership grant application	Youth and young adults in high school to age 24	Supporting environmental leadership and access to green job opportunities for young people in Hennepin County.
Youth environmental education grant application	Youth in elementary, middle, and junior high school	Developing awareness of environmental issues and interest in environmental stewardship with youth in junior high, middle school, and elementary school.



Eligible applicants

- State registered non-profit organizations
- Schools
- Park districts

Non-profit applicants are not required to be registered federally as a 501(c)3 organization but must be registered as a non-profit with the Minnesota Secretary of State.



Hennepin County Environment and Energy

Awards for Environmental Action

If you have never had a Green Partners award before (new grantees), you are eligible for:

- Up to \$12,000 award
- 1-year project

If you have received a Green Partners award before (returning grantees), you are eligible for:

- Up to \$25,000 (1-year project)
- Up to \$50,000 (2-year project)



Green Partners program What you receive

- Grant advisor support
- An opportunity for a project update in Environmental Education News
- Grant funding: payments depend on length of your grant
 - 1-year grants
 - 60% paid after grant agreement signed (Sep/Oct 2025)
 - 40% or spent funds after final report received (Oct/Nov 2026)
 - 2-year grants
 - 50% paid after grant agreement signed (Sep/Oct 2025)
 - 20% paid after annual report received (Sep/Oct 2026)
 - 30% or spent funds after final report received (Oct/Nov 2027)

County staff train students from North Hennepin Community College to conduct a waste sort



Hennepin County Environment and Energy

Green Partners program What you will do

- Submit required documents and sign the contract
- Attend orientation meetings
- Implement your project
- Meet with and communicate with your grant advisor (and in some cases other Green Partners groups) to share updates
- Share photos and updates for our newsletter
- Recognize Hennepin County as a funder
- Complete reports on time and submit proof of expenses
- Have fun!

Urban Bird Collective took folks out to bird watch



- Link to the Supplier Portal
- Information about Green Partners
- How to apply for a grant
- Resources to help complete your application

www.hennepin.us/greenpartners

Green Partners grants

Engage, educate, act and collaborate for the environment

Hennepin County provides funding and support to organizations to actively educate, engage and motivate residents to become environmental stewards and make positive behavior changes.

Through the Green Partners grant program, Hennepin County supports organizations doing projects that help residents take action to prevent waste, separate organic waste and recycle, reduce household hazardous waste, combat climate change, care for trees, protect birds, bats, and pollinators, and improve air and water quality.

Sign up for our Environmental education news monthly update email.

View the most recent Environmental education news email.

Environment and Energy environment@hennepin.us

Phone: 612-348-3777

Open all

- + Green Partners grant information
- ♣ Information for current grantees
- + Recently awarded grants
- Grantee stories
- Resources created by grantees

- Link to the Supplier Portal
- Information about Green Partners
- How to apply for a grant
- Resources to help complete your application

www.hennepin.us/greenpartners

- Green Partners information

The application period for the 2025 round of Green Partners is open.

Applications for the Environmental Action program are due by 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 3 in the Hennepin County Supplier Portal.

Applications for Youth Environmental Education and Youth Environmental Leadership programs will open in mid-March and will be due in mid-April. Check back for updates.

About Green Partners

Hennepin County has three Green Partners programs.

Environmental Action program

Environmental action projects must primarily engage adults. These projects focus on motivating adults to make environmental changes at home and on-the-go, focusing on one or two environmentally friendly actions. Applicants must incorporate research-based behavior change strategies into project plans to motivate people to take specific environmental actions and incorporate environmental changes into their lifestyle. Learn more about behavior change strategies at Fostering Sustainable Behavior (PDF). Read the Green Partners Environmental Action program guidelines (PDF) and environmental action potential projects (PDF) for more information.

Youth Environmental Leadership program

Youth environmental leadership projects encourage environmental leadership and/or exposure to green jobs for young people in high school up to age 24. Project activities should encourage an environmental stewardship mindset that lasts beyond the program. Projects may provide opportunities for youth leadership in their school or community and exposure to green jobs or investigation into the green aspects of jobs they are interested in pursuing.

Youth Environmental Education program

Youth environmental education projects engage youth in elementary and middle school in environmental education and outdoor nature experiences. Project activities engage youth in learning about the environment to develop their awareness and increase their knowledge of environmental issues and solutions. Strong projects are inquiry driven, incorporate hands-on and experiential environmental learning, provide outdoor nature experiences, and promote environmental stewardship.

- Link to the Supplier Portal
- Information about Green Partners
- How to apply for a grant
- Resources to help complete your application

www.hennepin.us/greenpartners

Application process

The application period for the 2025 round of Green Partners is open.

Find the program guidelines and application materials on the <u>Hennepin County Supplier Portal</u>. Visit the <u>Supplier Portal help website</u> for information on how to register and submit an application.

Applications for the Environmental Action program are due by 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 3 in the Hennepin County Supplier Portal.

Applications for Youth Environmental Education and Youth Environmental Leadership programs will open in mid-March and will be due in mid-April. Check back for updates.

Applications must be submitted through the <u>Hennepin County Supplier Portal</u>, and pre-registration is required to apply. Register early as the process may take time. For assistance registering or submitting your application documents in the <u>Hennepin County Supplier Portal</u>, contact the Supplier Portal Help Desk at 612-543-5412 or <u>supplierportal@hennepin.us</u>, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

<u>Subscribe to the monthly email Environmental education news</u> to be notified of future opportunities and updates.

Information meetings

Virtual information meetings are held each spring. These information meetings are a chance to find out more about the Green Partners program, understand the county application process, and get your questions answered.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend or watch the information meeting recording before applying.

Upcoming information meetings

Green Partners Environmental Action program

A virtual information meeting will be held on Monday, March 17, 2025, from noon to 1 p.m. Register to attend the Zoom meeting.

Green Partners Youth Environmental Leadership and Youth Environmental Education programs

A virtual information meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, from 4 to 5 p.m. Register to attend the Zoom meeting.

- Link to the Supplier Portal
- Information about Green Partners
- How to apply for a grant
- Resources to help complete your application

www.hennepin.us/greenpartners

Resources to help you complete your application

Best practices and frequently asked questions

To help organizations develop successful applications and projects, we've compiled the <u>best practices</u> for Green Partners projects (PDF). These were developed based on input received from past Green Partners community partners about how they define success and their advice for other project managers. Review the <u>frequently asked questions about Green Partners programs (PDF)</u> for answers to some of the most common questions about completing your application.

Environmental action behavior change resources

The following resources will help with planning environmental action projects focused on encouraging environmental behaviors:

Journey map planning worksheet (PDF)

Consider your audience's journey in taking action and plan engagement at each step to support them in making change.

Barriers discussion guide (PDF)

Conduct interviews to research your audience's barriers and motivations related to the actions you are focusing on.

Motivating behavior change checklist (PDF)

Tips and steps for planning an environmental action project.

Outcomes report document (DOCX)

Find ideas for outcomes you can track and measure to demonstrate participants have made environmentally friendly changes on the topic you are focusing on.

Youth project resources

The resources on the <u>environmental education resources</u> page will will help with planning Youth Environmental Education and Youth Environmental Leadership projects.

Insurance requirements

Hennepin County requires organizations to have insurance in order to conduct Green Partners projects. See the insurance requirements (PDF) to learn what is required.

Resources to help you complete your application

Best practices and frequently asked questions

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- General liability insurance
- Employer's liability
- Auto liability
- Workers' compensation coverage



Environmental action application: FAQs

Attachment 4

Green Partners Frequently Asked Questions

2025 Green Partners

Attachment 4 – Green Partners Environmental Action Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Most frequently asked questions

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	How do I get help with the Supplier Portal?
	Do you have any advice about planning our project or feedback on our project ideas?
	Do you have sample applications that we can view?
G	rant program questions
	How often are the Green Partners grant opportunities offered?
	How many grants or dollars will be issued this year?
	How competitive has it been the past few years?
	How many applications were received and how many awards were given in 2024?
	Should we apply for a two-year grant?
	Is it possible to extend the Green Partners grant deadline?
	Can organizations submit more than one application?
	Can organizations submit an application for their own organization, and apply on behalf of another organization as their fiscal agent?
	When will applicants be notified if they are approved?
	When do grant funds become available if we are awarded a grant?
	What kind of reporting is required?
A	pplication form questions 6
	Do I need to answer the questions about activities in year two if I'm not applying for a two-year grant project?.
	When I click on the gray box in the application it doesn't allow me to insert anything. Is it ok to delete the gray boxes?
	The guidelines say we can eliminate text from the application to make our application fit on fewer pages. Is that correct?
	Is there a limit on the number of supplemental documents we can submit?
	I have not yet received Partnership Letters from our project partners, and I missed the deadline to submit these

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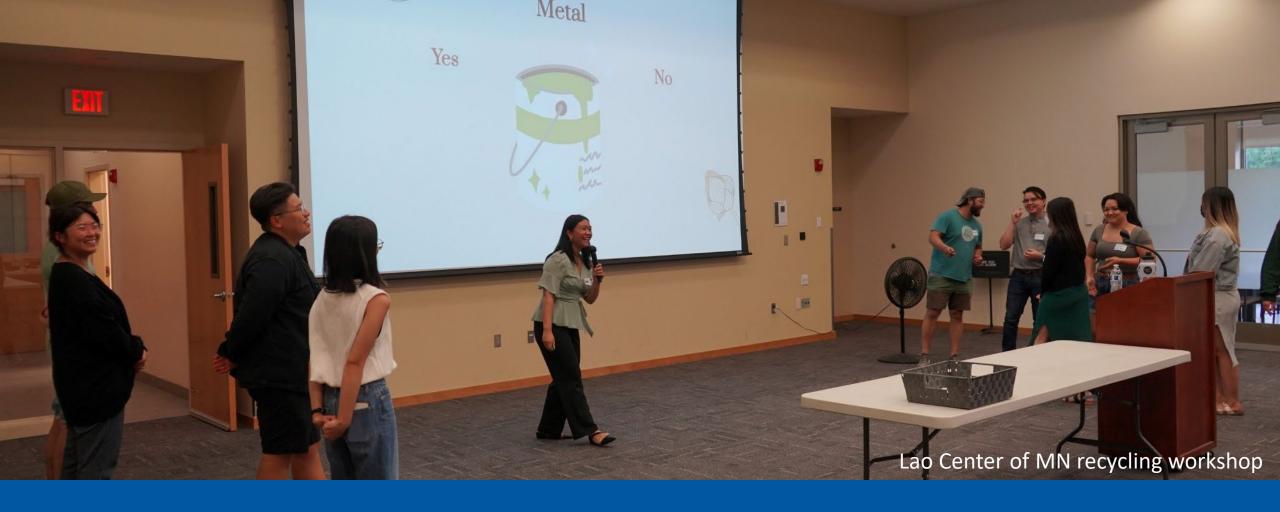
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Environmental action program



Environmental action program

Environmental action projects

Motivate individuals (adults) to make environmental behavior changes at home and on-the-go.

Choose one or two environmental actions to focus on and use behavior change strategies to motivate your participants.



Off the Blue Couch sets up home recycling with Rusty and the Crew

Environmental action topics

Preventing waste

- Recycling
- Preventing waste
- Organics
- Backyard composting
- Reducing household hazardous waste

Protecting natural resources



- Caring for trees
- Protecting water
- Sustainable landscaping
- Exploring nature and protecting habitat for bird, bats, and pollinators



Environmental action: strategies to address barriers

What you might hear	Strategy	Why it works
"I've been meaning to do that." "That sounds interesting."	Build commitment	We want to be consistent Helps nudge people into action
"That sounds hard." "I'm not interested." "People like me don't do that."	Cultivate social norms Encourage social diffusion and modeling	We want to be socially accepted We make decisions based on the actions and recommendations of others Helps make your actions relevant
"I always forget to do that." "I can't remember how to take action."	Use prompts	Breaks our routines and helps us remember what we intend to do
"I'm afraid I'm going to do it wrong." "I don't know how to do that."	Develop skills	We're more likely to act if we feel competent and confident
"I can't take that action." "I don't have that service."	Make it easy to act with infrastructure, tools, supplies	We're more likely to act if it's easy and convenient
"Tell me what to do and why." "I need to know more."	Create effective communication	We're more likely to act when we know why it's important and what to do
"I have this big change coming up (moving, new job, baby, etc.)." "I already do that, I'm ready to take the next step."	Celebrate successes Use momentum and disruption Associate actions	We're more ready to adopt new actions during big life changes We start to associate actions as part of our identity and are more likely to take further action





Environmental action project ideas

Update on climate change topics

Green Partners Environmental Action grants will focus on zero waste and natural resources actions to address climate goals in the Hennepin County Climate Action Plan Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Minneapolis helps residents change their light bulbs to LEDs



Environmental action project ideas

Preventing waste and recycling

- Reduce food waste
- Replace disposables, packaging waste, and single use plastics
- Reuse and repair
- Make buying used cool
- Recycling and organics recycling
- Recycle or reuse bulky waste



Tangletown Neighborhood hosts a clothing swap

Environmental action project ideas

Household hazardous waste

- Identify and choose the least hazardous options
- Properly dispose of household hazardous waste and other special wastes

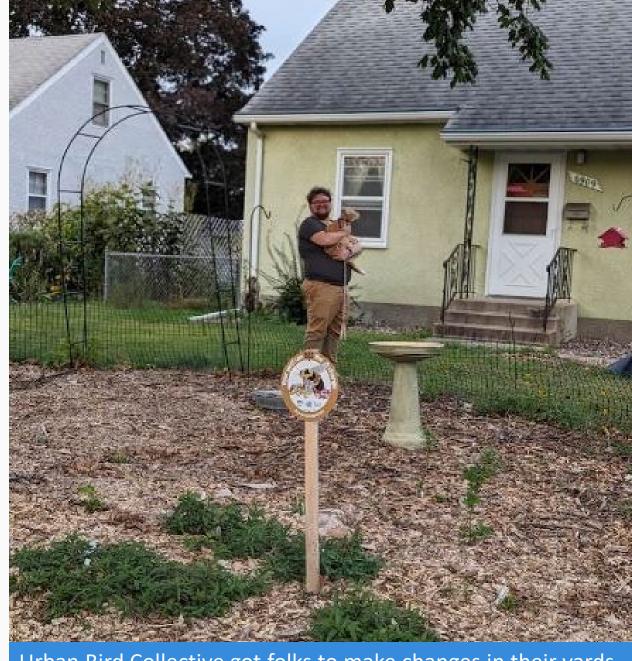
Minnesota African Women's Association (MAWA) makes green cleaners with residents



Environmental action project ideas

Protecting natural resources

- Care for trees
- Protect water
 - Adopt a storm drain
 - Reduce salt use
- Support homeowners in making changes to their yard for water and pollinators
- Explore and protect habitat for birds, bats, and pollinators



Urban Bird Collective got folks to make changes in their yards to support birds and pollinators

Project summary

Applicant name	
Project title	
Number of people you will directly engage in project activities (projects should directly engage at least 150 people)	
Number of people you will reach through communications like newsletters and social media	
Geographic location(s) in Hennepin County where your project will take place	
Type of applicant	Returning Green Partners grantee
(In Microsoft Word, double click the check box and select "checked", or otherwise indicate your selection)	New applicant
Budget request:	Year 1: \$
(Returning grantees qualify for a 2-year grant)	Year 2: \$

Topics: What topics will you address during this project? (Double box to select "check" for each topic that applies.)

Preventing waste and recycling	Protecting natural resources	
Recycling Preventing waste Organics recycling Backyard composting Reducing household hazardous waste	Caring for trees Protecting water Sustainable landscaping Exploring nature and protecting wildlife	



Environmental action criteria and application Section 1: Applicant and project team

- The organization's mission makes this project a **good fit for the program**.
- A project manager and back-up project manager are identified in the application.
- Applicant and project partners have the capacity to implement the project and meet contract obligations.
- Partnership letters are submitted by significant project partners, indicating they are a partner in the project
- Applicant and project partners have demonstrated efforts to increase cultural competency of project staff.
- Applicant has a track record of successfully completing projects for previous Hennepin County contracts or grants, if applicable.
- Applicant has policies and practices in place to prevent volunteers from working unsupervised with youth unless background checks are completed.
- Applicant would benefit from Hennepin County resources and the support requested is appropriate for the project. Hennepin County has resources and subject matter experts to advise or engage your community: <u>Environmental programs and initiatives | Hennepin County</u>



Section 1: Applicant and project team

Applicant information
Applicant legal name, mailing address, email, and phone number:
Provide the mission of the applicant organization and tell us how this project fits with your organization's mission and goals:
Organizational resources Your application will not be evaluated on your responses to these questions. This is for informational purposes to provide more equitable access to low-resourced organizations. Your response will determine which review team will assess your application during the grant review.
What is your organization's annual operational budget? Under \$99,999 \$100,000 to 499,999 \$500,000 to \$999,999 More than \$1 million
What is your program budget?
Does your organization own a building or property? No Yes. Please explain:
Does your organization have a paid grant writer or fundraising development staff? No. Please explain who does your grant writing, fundraising, and grant reporting:

Yes. Are they staff or a consultant? Full-time or part-time? Please explain their position and role:



experience the		nager and the back-	up project manager (rec	ect. Describe their role and the quired). Please have key project
Name	Email / phone	Organization	Background and experience	Role in the project
			experience	Overall project manager (required)
				Back-up project manager (required)
				Financial reporting
				Authorized to sign the cont
Yes. If y	m members reflect the com res, please explain.	and project team de	monstrated efforts to in	crease their cultural competency



County support

Some projects benefit from county staff support in project planning or programming, while others simply need funding or troubleshooting support. Reference the list below, the Request for Applications (RFA) guidelines, and the Hennepin County website for environmental topics the county works on: Environmental topics programs and initiatives | Hennepin County

- Access to Hennepin County environmental education resources: Environmental education kits, environmental
 education activity guides, Adopt-a-Drain program for schools, Watershed Connections for grades 6 to 12, school
 waste reduction and recycling grants.
- Communications support: Educational brochures, pre-written social media posts. pre-written newsletter articles, translated materials, recycling and organics signage and bin stickers, publish our project story in the county's Environmental Education News e-newsletter, like and share our project posts on social media.
- Contracting support: Assistance in understanding insurance requirements, contract requirements, W9 form
 requirements, or signing up for electronic deposit of grant funds.
- Event support: Tabling at event(s), presentation at event(s), communicate your support to participants at our event(s), attend/be present at our event(s), cosponsor our event(s), publicize our event(s).
- General project support: Assistance with project planning, access to curriculum and resources, grant funding, reporting support, assistance with budgeting and expense reports, or connection to subject matter experts.
- Presentation(s) on environmental topics: Solid Waste, Natural Resources, and Climate Change.
- Tours of Hennepin County waste and recycling facilities: Tour(s) of Brooklyn Park recycling and household hazardous waste drop-off facility and Tour(s) of Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC)
- Other.

How can Hennepin County best support your project? Indicate the type of assistance you need and the topic(s) for which you are seeking support.



Links to resources

General grant project support

- Project planning, <u>Green Partners grant program</u> and Hennepin County <u>environmental education resources</u>
- Assistance with reporting requirements, <u>Green Partners grant</u> <u>program</u>
- Assistance with budgeting and expense reports, <u>Green Partners</u> <u>grant program</u>

Contracting, insurance, W9s, invoices, electronic deposit

- Green Partners grant program
- Purchasing and Contract Services
- Office of Budget and Finance

Waste topics

Recycling, composting, and waste disposal

- Backyard composting
- Community Recycling Ambassador training
- Green Disposal options
- <u>....</u>

Land and water topics

Ecosystems and land

- Supporting birds and bats and their habitat
- Conservation resources
- Land protection and restoration in rural areas
- · <u>..</u>

Trees

• Trees and forestry

Water

- Adopt-a-Drain
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Lakes and rivers
- <u>...</u>

Climate change topics

• Climate action



Environmental action criteria and application Section 2: Project goals and activities

- Projects focus on topics allowed in the grant guidelines.
- Projects **focus on one or two specific environmental behaviors/actions** that participants will take to benefit the environment.
- Project activities **address the topic in a way that is relevant to the audience**. Activities align with participants current state of action, see the Green Partners <u>Journey map and planning worksheet</u>.
- The project **incorporates** <u>behavior change strategies</u> to motivate action on environmental topics.
- Applicant will provide information on the curriculum and lesson plans they will use.
- Applicant will report outcomes from the project. The project plan includes ways to track participant behavior changes, see the Green Partners <u>Environmental action outcomes tracking guide (PDF)</u>.
- **Timeline of activities** is logical and realistic.
- Applicant will provide safety training to participants if applicable to the project.



Section 2: Project goals and activities

Describe the environmental goals, activities, and outcomes of your project below, including but not limited to A) the environmental focus of the project, B) the environmental behaviors will you work to change and the activities you will do and have participants engage in, C) the environmental outcomes you expect to see from your efforts, and D) how you will share your project story.

- A) Environmental action goals and project summary: Briefly summarize your project. This is how your project will be shared and described to others. What are your environmental project goals and what are the one or two specific environmental behaviors/actions will you focus on changing for this project? (100-word limit)
- B) Project narrative: List and describe your project activities and the activities participants will engage in, and provide a timeline by month, quarter, or season. What education resources do you plan to use? Link to or submit the educational resources or curriculum you plan to use and share what environmental lessons you will implement.

C) Outcomes

Hennepin County requires grantees to track actions that demonstrate changes in participants' behaviors (DOCX).

- What environmental actions that people take will you track during this project?
- How will you collect this data or track participants' environmental actions for this project? If you are relying on participants to self-report, how will you get participants to report their actions?
- D) Communicating your story: Green Partners grant applicants should have a clear plan for how they will publicize and share the story of their project. Please provide details here about how you would do this. (250-word limit)



Environmental action criteria and application Section 2: Project goals and activities

Tracking outcomes

Examples from the Green Partners Environmental action outcomes tracking guide (PDF)

Pollinators

- Square feet of lawn converted to pollinator plants
- Number of pollinators counted (before/after)
- Number people who planted pollinator plants
- Number of pollinator friendly yards certified
- Number of residents reducing pesticide use

Water in the yard

- Number of people reducing salt use in winter
- Number of people adopting storm drains

Recycling and organics composting

- Number of people that started recycling at home
- Number of residents signed up to recycle organic waste



Year 1 timeline of activities

Quarter	Activities
Fall: September – December 2025	
Winter: January – March 2026	
Spring: April - June 2026	
Summer: July - August 2026	Annual expense report due September 30, 2026 Annual report due September 30, 2026

Year 2 timeline of activities (Optional and only available to returning Green Partners grantees)

Quarter	Activities
Fall: September –	
December 2026	
Winter: January –	
March 2027	
Spring: April –	
June 2027	
Summer: July –	Annual expense report due September 30, 2027
August 2027	Annual report due September 30, 2027



Environmental action criteria and application Section 3: Participant information

- Participants must live, work, go to school, or recreate in Hennepin County.
- Applicant will engage at least 150 participants, primarily adults, in project activities.
- Applicant has a well-defined audience that they plan to engage, and they can engage their audience because of relationships, partnerships, and/or previous experience with the audience.
- Applicant understands how aware their participants are already and their motivations and barriers to making changes that benefit the environment. Participants are likely to try or adopt new environmental behaviors after participating in this project.
- Age group: Participants should primarily be adults over the age of 18. Families and youth are
 welcome to be involved in project activities.
- Disparities: Special consideration will be given to projects that engage participants who face one
 or more <u>disparities identified by Hennepin County</u>, disparities in employment, income, education,
 health, housing, transportation, and justice.

Environmental action application Section 3: Participant information

Reducing disparities in Hennepin County is a priority







Section 3: Participant information

Describe your participants. Who is your primary audience that you will engage in project activities? Who is the broader audience you will reach? What is their relationship to Hennepin County - do they live, work, or recreate in the County? (250-word limit)
Do your participants face <u>disparities</u> in relation to education, employment, income, housing, transportation, justice, or health? Tes No If yes, describe the disparities they face.
Participant recruitment: Describe how you will recruit and engage this audience. How will you recruit participants? Have you worked with this audience before? Will you partner with another organization to reach your desired audience. (250-word limit)
Audience engagement: Will activities build knowledge over time with the same participants, or will you continually engage new participants in the same activities? (Reference the <u>Journey map and planning worksheet</u>).
For this project, we are planning to engage the following audiences. [Select all that apply] Innovators (2.5% of the population): seek novelty and need to be different Early adopters (13.5% of the population): drawn to "products" intrinsic value Early majority (34% of the population): perceive spread of a product and decide to go along with it out of need to match and imitate Late majority (34% of the population): jump on bandwagon once they see most people are doing it Laggards (16% of the population): finally follow suit once product gains broad acceptance
Safety: Do you have policies and practices in place to prevent volunteers from working with youth unsupervised, or do you conduct background checks for staff/volunteers working directly with youth, unsupervised? Tyes No Not applicable; we do not plan to work with youth or engage youth without their parent/guardian present.
If applicable to the project, what type of safety training and safety practices do you provide to participants?



Environmental action criteria and application Section 4: Budget

- Budget includes eligible expenses.
- Staff time listed includes estimated hours, hourly rates, or relevant pay details.
- Details about items to be purchased and cost per item are provided, estimates are acceptable.
- Budget includes adequate personnel time for the project and/or project supplies that are appropriate for the project.
- Budget matches project activities and it is clear how the items will be used for the project.
- **If you are seeking funding for two years**, submit a separate spreadsheet for each year's budget a sheet for year one activities and a separate spreadsheet for year two project activities.



Section 4: Budget

Confirm that your requests are eligible expenses. Only include items that would be covered by this grant. We do not require a match, but please provide information about how the program is funded by other sources.

Provide a detailed budget so the grant reviewers can understand how funds will be used. Provide details regarding number and cost per item for proposed expenses. For personnel, provide hours and hourly rates, stipend amounts, relevant pay details. It's helpful to break the budget down to explain how much time will be used for different aspects of the project. We recommend including at least 10 hours for meetings with county staff and project reporting.

If you are requesting a two-year grant (returning grantees only), submit a separate spreadsheet for each year's budget – a sheet for year one activities and a separate spreadsheet for year two project activities. The budget document includes tabs for each year's budget.

Budget spreadsheet: Find the Green Partners Budget Form (Attachment 2 – Budget form 2025) on the Hennepin County Supplier Portal and submit it with your application.

Budget narrative: Is there anything we should know about your budget request that may not be apparent in the application or spreadsheet(s)? (250-word limit)



Overall program funding: Complete the table below to show <u>any and all</u> other funds that the project has identified for completing the project. Indicate "n/a" if you have not applied for or secured additional funding for this project or program. Your application will not be evaluated on your responses to these questions. This will provide the grant review team with a frame of reference and context for your funding request.

	Amount	Secure or Pending? (check one)	Source & Use
Green Partners Funding Request	\$	⊠ Pending □ Secure	Hennepin County Green Partners grant
		☐ Pending ☐ Secure	
Other Dollars		□ Pending □ Secure	
Leveraged		□ Pending □ Secure	
Including Cash Match and In-kind		□ Pending □ Secure	
contributions		□ Pending □ Secure	
		□ Pending □ Secure	



Environmental action application Section 4: Budget

TYPE APPLICANTS NAME HERE

Year 1 (9/1/2025-8/31/2026)

Directions: If you are requesting a two-year grant, submit two budgets spreadsheets - one for year 1 and one for year 2. Add or remove rows as necessary. This form has formulas; double check to be sure your totals are accurate. For a list of eligible expenses, see the Green Partners grant guidelines published with the most current solicitation. If you have questions, contact Green Partners staff at 612-596-6856 or

GreenPartn	ers@hennepin.u	5.				_
A. Staff and	Personnel - Applie	ants must follow applicable U.	S. labor laws. Cont	act an att	orney for ad	Grand total
Indicate: Staff, partner, or contractor	Name	Description of role and responsibilities	Hourly rate / cost per service	Hours / number of services	Total	\$ -
					0.00	•
					0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
SUB-TOTAL			/////X////////////////////////////////		0.00	
B. Project Su	ipplies - List the s	upplies you seek to purchase w	ith this grant and	briefly des	scribe.	
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total	
	Expense	Description	аррисавіе)	services	0.00	
		+			0.00	
					0.00	
SUB-TOTAL					0.00	
	***************************************	how many people are expected	d to attend and es	timated co	/-	t.
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total	
	LAPEIISE	Description	аррисавіе)	SCIVICES	0.00	
		+			0.00	
					0.00	

D. Commun	Expense	motions - printing, advertising, or Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
	1				0.00
SUB-TOTAL					0.00
E. Other Exp	oenses				
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
SUB-TOTAL					0.00
Year 1 E	Budget reque	st Year 2 B dget rqst- if	eligible +		



Environmental action application Section 4: Budget

TYPE APPLICANTS NAME HERE

Year 1 (9/1/2025-8/31/2026)

Directions: If you are requesting a two-year grant, submit two budgets spreadsheets - one for year 1 and one for year 2. Add or remove rows as necessary. This form has formulas; double check to be sure your totals are accurate. For a list of eligible expenses, see the Green Partners grant guidelines published with the most current solicitation. If you have questions, contact Green Partners staff at 612-596-6856 or

GreenPartr	ners@hennepin	i.us.				
A. Staff and	Personnel - App	licants must follow applicable U	.S. labor laws. Cont	tact an att	orney for ad	Grand total
Indicate: Staff, partner, or contractor	Name	Description of role and responsibilities	Hourly rate / cost per service	Hours / number of services	Total	\$ -
					0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
SUB-TOTAL		<u> </u>	//////X///////////////////////////////		0.00	
B. Project S	upplies - List the	supplies you seek to purchase v	vith this grant and		scribe.	
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total	
					0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
SUB-TOTAL					0.00	
C. Food and	I venues - Indica	te how many people are expecte	d to attend and es	timated co	ost per even	t.
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total	
					0.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	

D. Commun.	Expense	omotions - printing, advertising, Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
SUB-TOTAL					0.00
E. Other Exp	enses				
	Expense	Description	Cost per item (if applicable)	Number of items or services	Total
					0.00
					0.00
					0.00
SUB-TOTAL			//////////////////////////////////////		0.00
Year 1 B	udget req	est Year 2 Budget rqst-	· if eligible (+)		



Environmental action application Section 4: Budget

Eligible expenses

- Staff time, intern pay, experts or consultants
- Supplies for participants to take home to take action
- Project and activity supplies
- Educational speakers



Altlawns Richfield-Bloomington prepared rain barrels for residents

Environmental action application Section 4: Budget

Eligible expenses

- Communications
- Art supplies
- Supplies for green events
- Food (Follow the County's healthy eating guidelines)
- Transportation

Longfellow Neighborhood partners to build and paint benches for bird watching in the community



Environmental action application Section 4: Budget

Eligible expenses

- Educational signs and stickers
- Event supplies
- T-shirts
- Field trips
- Safety equipment
- Plants



Rusty teaches recycling with Off the Blue Couch



Rethos teaches homeowners window repair

Not eligible

seneral operating

No fees

No overnights outside of Hennepin County











No bottled water



No Styrofo



No single-use, disposable items



No recycling bir tion props ok)



No rain gardens

Environmental action application Section 5: Supplemental documents

- Curriculum shared, if applicable.
- o Partner letters submitted, if applicable



Section 5: Supplemental documents

List and describe the supplemental documents you have submitted with this application.
Supplemental materials are limited to: Partner letters (not recommendation letters), curriculum, past program/project reports (photos should be embedded into a word or pdf document).
Optional: How did you hear about the Green Partners grant program?
Former/current grantee
Coworker/colleague
Hennepin County commissioner
Hennepin County e-newsletter or social media
Hennepin County staff
Other (please list):



Green Partners 2-year project criteria

Returning Green Partners grantees are eligible for a two-year grant after receiving at least one previous award for a Green Partners grant. Additional criteria are considered for two-year environmental action projects.

- Section 1: Applicant and project team
 - Applicant has been awarded a grant for at least one successful project through the Green Partners grant program.
 - Special consideration will be given to efforts led by people who experience disparities similar to the audience they are engaging.
- Section 2: Participant information
 - o Special consideration will be given to projects that engage participants who face disparities.
- Section 3: Project activities
 - o Project activities in year two are a logical next step.
- Section 4: Budget
 - A detailed budget for year 2 was provided.



Post in the chat

What questions do you have?









Additional criteria

In addition, we will consider the criteria below in our grant award recommendations. If many applications are received, applications may be split up by these criteria to be reviewed by different review committees:

- Applications from "returning" Green Partners grantees and new Applicants (have not received a
 Green Partners grant in the past) to ensure new Applicants will be awarded grants.
- Overall budget and associated staffing to supporting organizational fundraising to ensure large and small organizations are represented.
- Geographic distribution of projects to ensure projects are reaching audiences throughout the county.

For returning grantees, Green Partners grant advisors will be asked to provide their perspectives on previous grant project(s) at the beginning of the grant review process.



The review process

Review and rate applications

 Adjectival ratings for each application (Excellent, Very Good, Good, Marginal, Unsatisfactory)

Review team discussion

- Green Partners Grant Advisors provides information about returning grantee applicants
- Strengths, questions, and concerns for each application
- Review team seeks consensus to rank recommended projects

Follow up and final rankings

- Grant manager sends follow-up questions to applicants (if needed).
- After questions are answered, final rankings are determined



Green Partners timeline

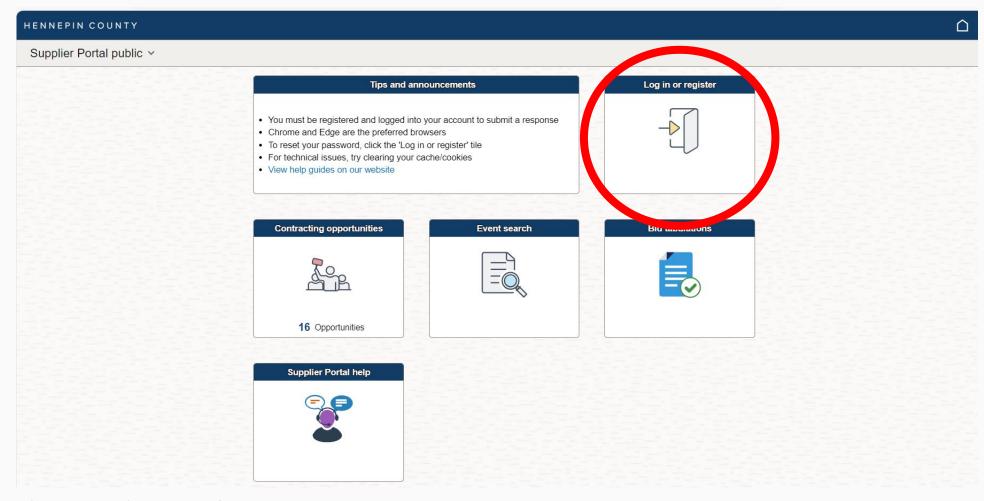
April 3, 2025	Applications due by 3 p.m.
April - May	Application review
July	Department approval Applicants notified
August	Final approvals Contracting begins
September 1, 2025	Projects begin
September 2025	Orientation meetings (Virtual Sep. 9, In-person Sep. 24)
August 31, 2026	One-year grant projects end
August 31, 2027	Two-year grant projects end





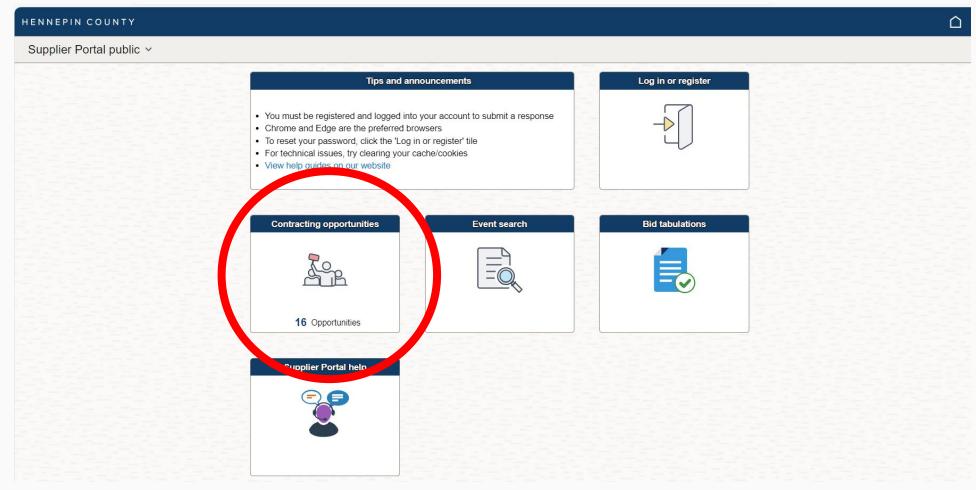


Supplier Portal – Log in or register



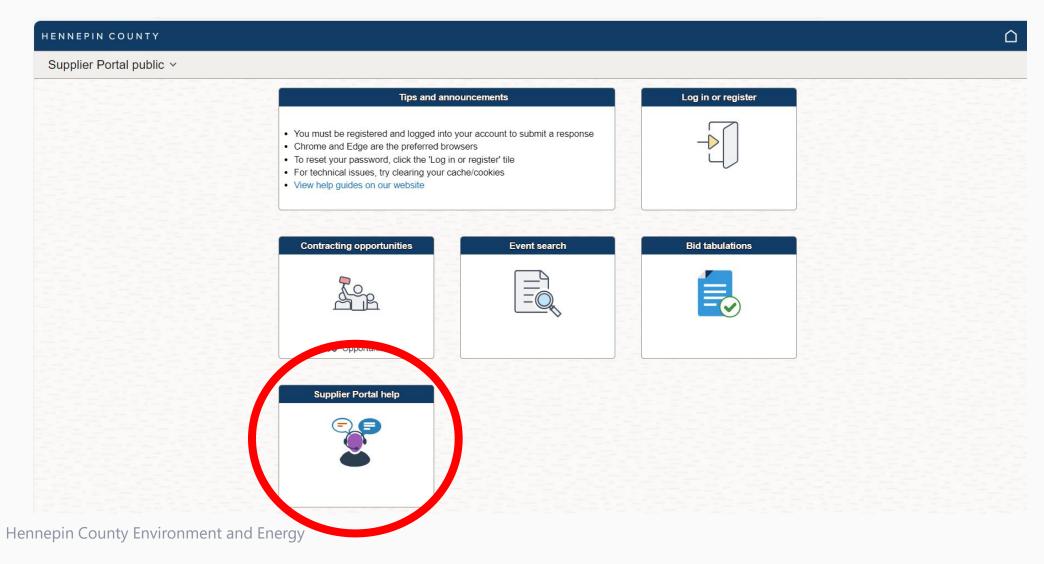


Supplier Portal – contracting opportunities





Supplier Portal – Help Desk



Supplier Portal Help Desk

Supplier Portal questions

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

612-543-5412

supplierportal@hennepin.us

Supplier Portal help

On the Supplier Portal, vendors can:

- · Register to get notifications of solicitations
- · Update profile information
- · Review current solicitations
- Submit responses to solicitations

Vendors don't have to register to view open solicitations, but must register to submit a response.

Visit the Supplier Portal

supplierportal@hennepin.us

Ouestions?

Phone: 612-543-5412 M-F, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Close all

- Training materials

Registration

- Register with the portal (PDF)
- Register with the portal (Video)
- We can't seem to find your account error (YouTube)
- Reset your password (PDF)

Overview of the Supplier Portal

- Supplier Portal overview (YouTube)
- Definitions (PDF)

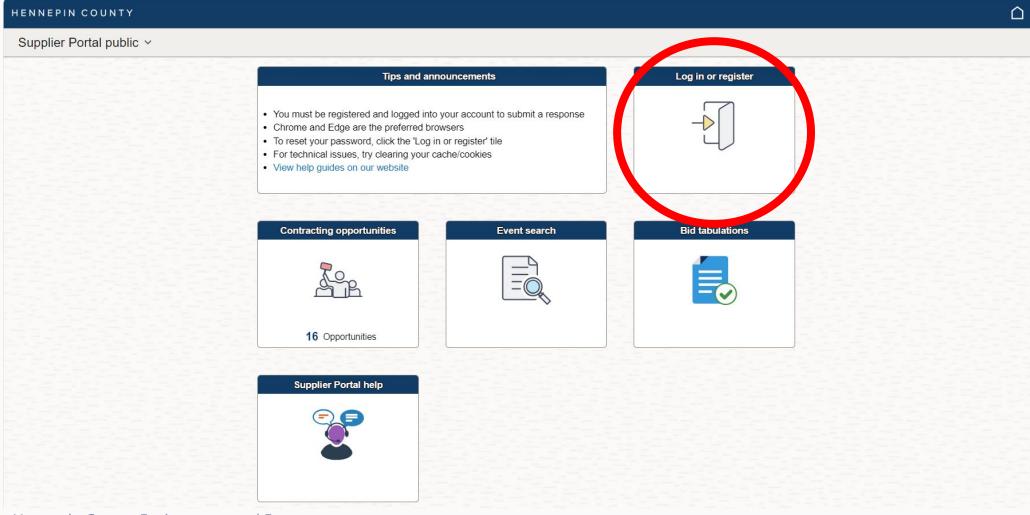
Responding to an event

- · Respond to a bid or proposal with images (PDF)
- · Respond to a bid or proposal no images (PDF)
- Respond to a bid or proposal (YouTube)
- Upload an attachment (PDF)
- Confirm your bid or proposal was received (PDF)
- Edit your bid or proposal (PDF)
- Edit your bid or proposal (YouTube)

Apply through the Supplier Portal



Step 1 – Log in or register a new account

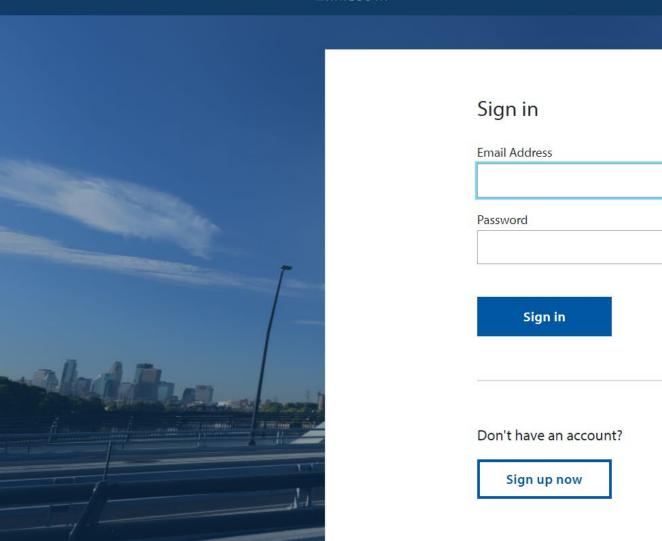




Step 1 – Log in or register a new account

Forgot your password?

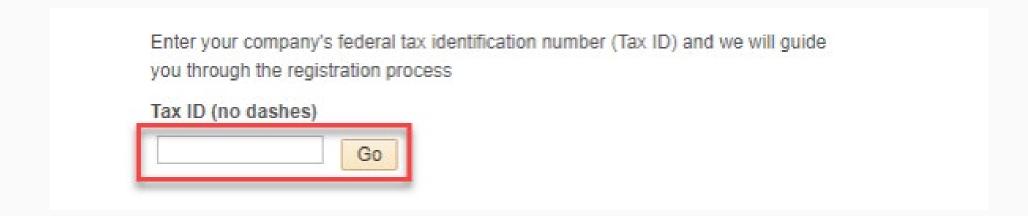
HENNEPIN COUNTY
MINNESOTA





Step 1 – Log in or register a new account

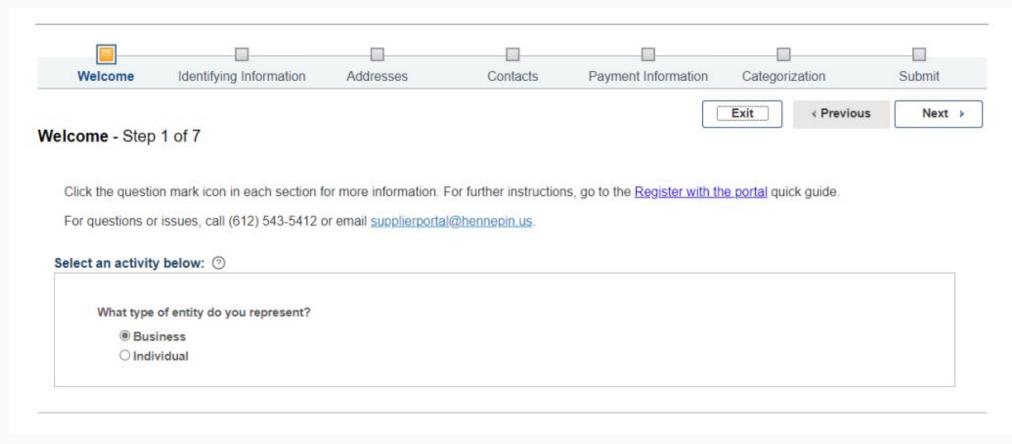
Be prepared to enter your organization's tax ID number.





Step 2 – Register in the Supplier Portal (new bidder registration)

If your screen looks like this, follow the steps for "bidder" registration.



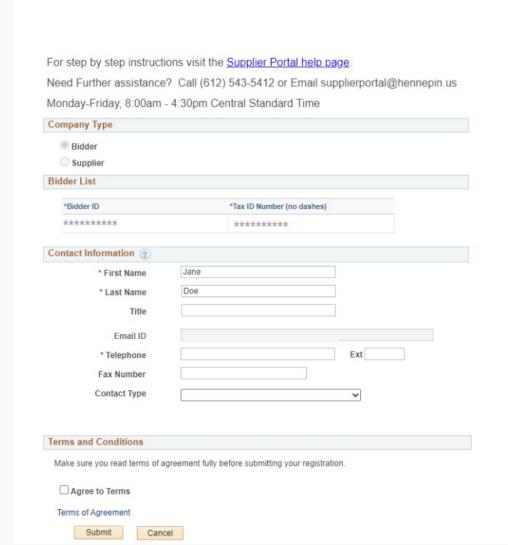


Step 2 – Register in the Supplier Portal (new user registration)

Register New User Accounts

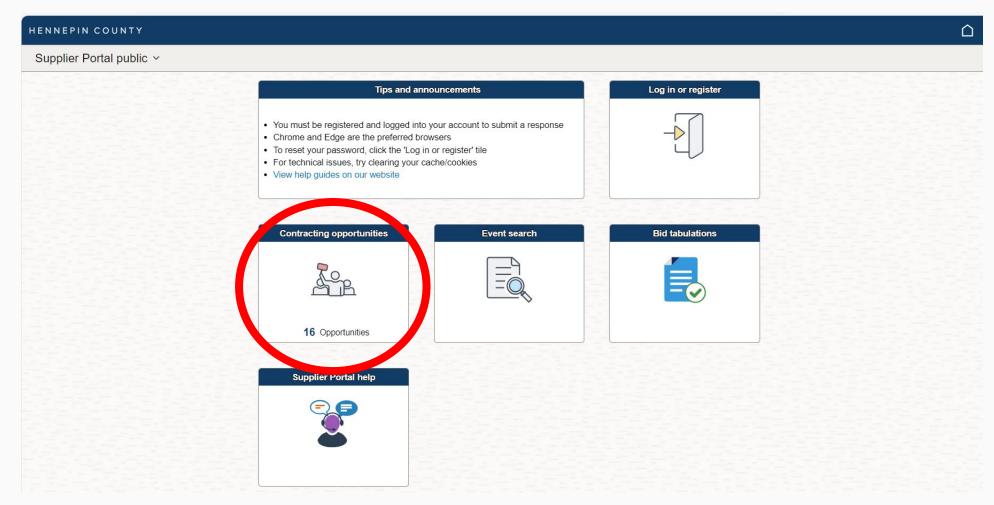
If your screen looks like this, <u>follow</u>
<u>the steps to register a "new user"</u>
<u>account.</u>

You may need to update your registration information before you can submit your application.



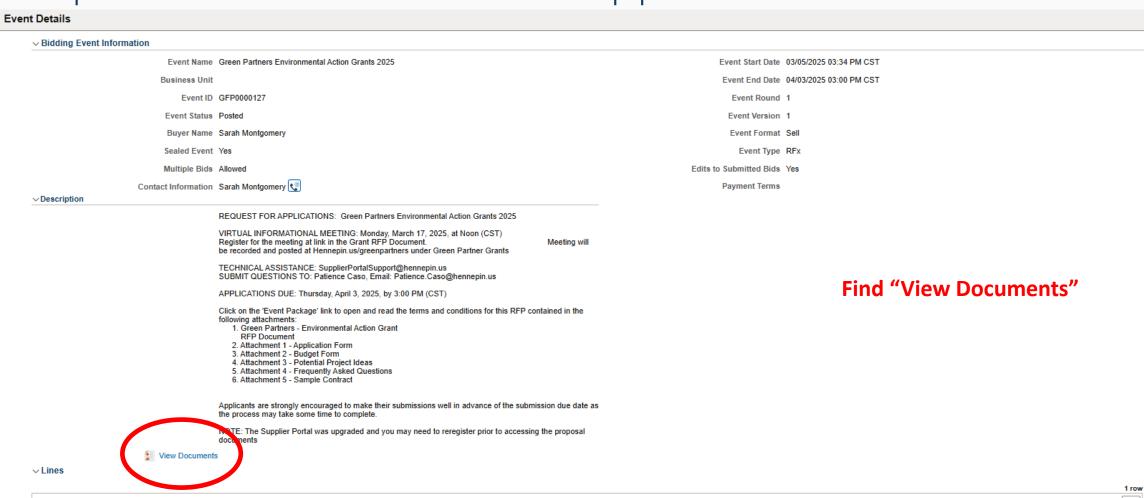
You do not need to be registered or logged in to download application materials.







						_
Contracting Opportunities						
Time Zone	Date Format MMDDYY V	Apply				
Bidding Event Information						24 ro
₹						
Event Name ↑↓	Event ID ↑↓	Type of Opportunity ↑↓	Ends In ↑↓	Start Date ↑↓	End Date	Details
Land Reclamation - St Anthony Parks	NFB0000353	General Services	1 days	02/18/2025 09:00 AM CST	03/11/2025 02:00 PM CST	>
Land reclamation-Lake Independence Easement	NFB0000352	General Services	1 days	02/18/2025 09:00 AM CST	03/11/2025 02:00 PM CST	>
RFQ Residential Contractors for Lead Abatement	NFQ000008	General Services	2 days	02/19/2025 09:00 AM CST	03/12/2025 12:00 PM CST	>
Lawn irrigation maintenance and installation	NFB0000354	General Services	8 days	02/25/2025 04:30 PM CST	03/18/2025 02:00 PM CST	>
Sheriff's City Hall Locker Room Improvements	PFP0000444	Professional Services	10 days	02/25/2025 04:00 PM CST	03/20/2025 01:00 PM CST	>
Forestry Supplies and Delivery	CFB0000354	Commodities/Goods	15 days	02/25/2025 02:00 PM CST	03/25/2025 02:00 PM CST	>
Paper Supplier Bid	CFB0000355	Commodities/Goods	15 days	03/04/2025 03:44 PM CST	03/25/2025 02:00 PM CST	>
Healthy Tree Canopy Grants for Schools	GFP0000122	Grant/Loan Application	15 days	02/25/2025 02:50 PM CST	03/25/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Healthy Tree Canopy Grants for Non-Profits	GFP0000121	Grant/Loan Application	15 days	02/25/2025 02:48 PM CST	03/25/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Healthy Tree Canopy Grants For Affordable Housing	GFP0000119	Grant/Loan Application	15 days	02/25/2025 02:46 PM CST	03/25/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Healthy Tree Canopy for Cities	GFP0000120	Grant/Loan Application	15 days	02/25/2025 02:47 PM CST	03/25/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Consultant services	PFP0000446	Professional Services	16 days	02/26/2025 11:20 AM CST	03/26/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Voluntary Vision Insurance	PFP0000445	Professional Services	16 days	02/25/2025 01:46 PM CST	03/26/2025 04:00 PM CST	>
Employee Assistance Program Service	PFP0000443	Professional Services	16 days	02/25/2025 12:56 PM CST	03/26/2025 04:00 PM CST	>
Hennepin Planning Grants	GFP0000126	Grant/Loan Application	17 days	03/04/2025 02:54 PM CST	03/27/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Business District Initiative	GFP0000125	Grant/Loan Application	17 days	03/04/2025 02:10 PM CST	03/27/2025 03:00 PM CST	>
Equipment Grant	GFP0000117	Grant/Loan Application	21 days	02/03/2025 12:30 PM CST	03/31/2025 04:00 PM CST	>
Arts & Music Grant	GFP0000118	Grant/Loan Application	21 days	02/03/2025 01:00 PM CST	03/31/2025 04:00 PM CST	>
Green Partners Environmental Action Grants 2025	GFP0000127	Grant/Loan Application	24 days	03/05/2025 03:34 PM CST	04/03/2025 03:00 PM CST	>



				_1↓
Line Numb	er Bid Mandatory	Item Description	Requested Quantity/UOM	Comments and Attachments
1	Yes	Provide the total grant application amount.	1.0000	

Step 3 – Download application materials

View Documents >

∨ Attachments

Filename	Description			
Attachment_2_Green_Part_Environ_Act_2025_BudgetFinal.xlsx	Attachment 2 Budget Form			
Attachment_3_Green_Part_Project_Idea_Environ_Act_Final.docx	Attachment 3 Potential Project Ideas			
Attachment_4_Green_Part_Environ_Act_FAQ.docx	Attachment 4 Frequently Asked Questions			
Attachment_5_Hennepin_County_Terms_and_Conditions.docx	Attachment 5 Sample Contract			
Green_Partners_Environ_Act_RFP_2025_Finaldocx	Green Partners Environmental Action Grant RFP Document			
Attachment_1_Green_Part_Environ_Act_2025_App_Finaldocx	Attachment 1 Application Form			
Green_Partners_Environmental_Action_Grants_2025.pdf	Event Details			

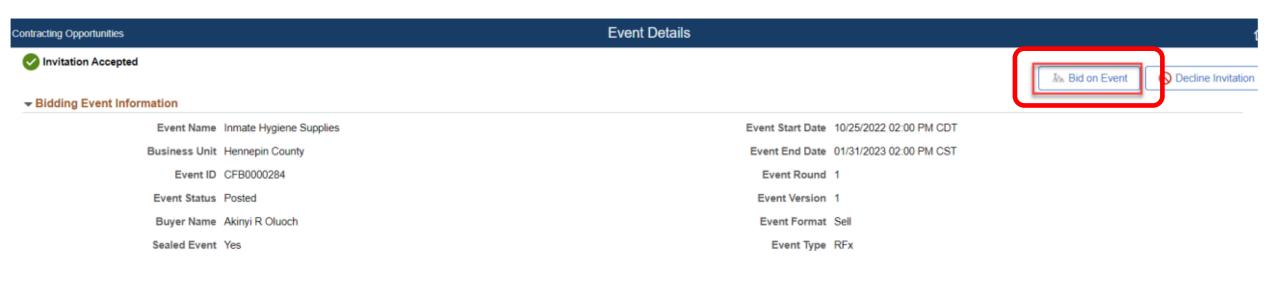
∨ Comments

Allow enough time to register or submit your response. Technical issues could cause you to miss the deadline.

When responding, any requested attachments should be zipped prior to uploading.



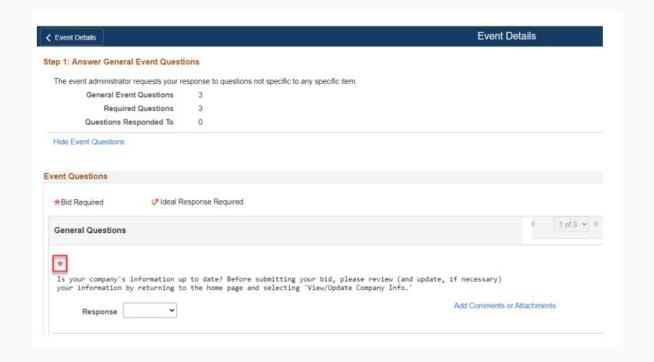
Select **Bid on Event** to respond to this event.



You must REGISTERED and LOGGED IN to bid on an event / submit your application materials



- Answer the questions in the Supplier Portal
- Attach your application and budget





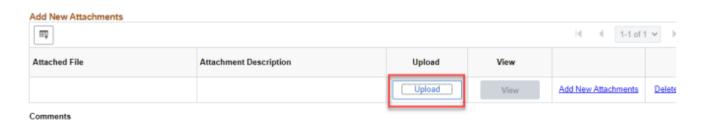
Upload an attachment

This quick guide explains the steps to upload attachments when responding to a contract opportunity. In the example below, we have already signed into the Supplier Portal, selected an event and selected Bid on Event.

- Scroll down to the Event Question section. Any questions that say 'Enter File Attachment Response' require that you upload an attachment.
- Select the Enter File Attachment Response link.



3. Select the Upload button.



Upload files: "Enter File Attachment Response"

What to submit:

- 1. Application
- 2. Budget
- 3. Additional documents (not required)



After answering all the questions, select the **Validate Entries** button to ensure you have answered all required questions.

30	*	Sports Bra, Cotton Spandex Brown	EA	22.0000	22.0000 0.000000	0.0000 USD	Rid	
31	*	Tampon, Regular (500 per case)	CS	8.0000	8.0000 0.000000	0.0000 USD	Bid	
32	*	Tampon, Super Absorbent (500 per case)	cs	8.0000	8.0000	0.0000 USD	Bid	
33	*	Toothbrush, 40 Tuft Security 3" Thumbprint (72 per case)	cs	335.0000	335.0000 0.000000	0.0000 USD	Bid	
34	*	Toothpaste, Freshmint 6oz (144 per case)	cs	113.0000	113.0000 0.000000	0.0000 USD	Bid	

At any point in the bid response process you may save an in-progress bid and resume completion at later time. When your bid response is complete, submit for consideration

Submit Bid

Save for Later



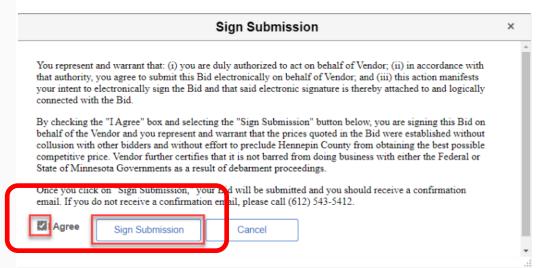


Select Submit Bid to submit your bid.





Read the text then select **I Agree** and select **Sign Submission**.



What to submit:

- Application
- 2. Budget
- 3. Additional documents (not required)



Green Partners grants timeline

Environmental Action

- RFP posted: March 5
- Info meeting: March 17
- Due: April 3
- Review: Mid to late April (April 14-30)

Youth EE grants

- RFP posted: March 19
- Info meeting: April 8
- Due: April 17
- Review: Early to mid May (April 28-May 23)

Youth EL grants

- RFP posted: April 2
- Info meeting: April 8
- Due: May 1
- Review: Late May to early June (May 12 – June 4)



Hennepin County Supplier Portal Help Desk

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

supplierportal@hennepin.us

612-543-5412

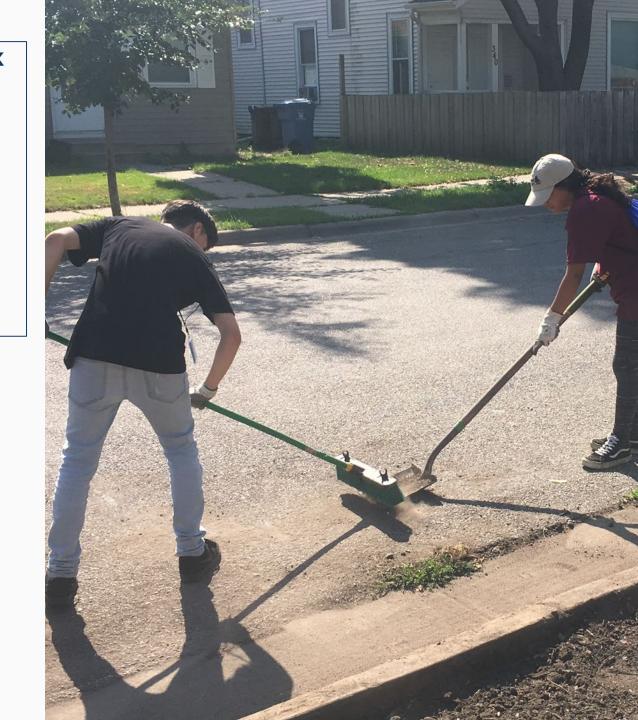
Hennepin County Green Partners program

Patience Caso and Mary Karius

Green Partners program

<u>GreenPartners@hennepin.us</u>

612-596-6856



Example projects (extra slides not covered in recorded meeting)







Environmental action: Choosing an action to focus on

Steps to motivate behavior change

- 1. Select a topic and specific action/behavior that will result in environmental protection and is appropriate for the audience. (specific, direct, impactful)
- 2. Identify your audience's barriers and what will motivate them to act.
- 3. Incorporate the strategies needed to overcome barriers.
- **4. Pilot** (or implement) your strategy.
- **5. Evaluate,** make necessary changes, and implement broadly.

Source: Motivating behavior change checklist (PDF)



Environmental action: Choosing an action to focus on



Selecting an action to focus on

Topic: Reducing plastic waste

- Avoid plastic straws
- Reduce packaging waste
- Eliminate plastic water bottles
- Recycle plastic bags at drop-offs
- Avoid plastic bags



Environmental action: Choosing an action to focus on



Apply SMART Goals

- Specific
- Measurable
- Attainable/achievable
- Relevant
- Time-bound



Environmental action: strategies to address barriers

What you might hear

"I've been meaning to do that." "That sounds interesting." "That sounds hard."

"I'm not interested."

"People like me
don't do that."

"I always forget to do that." "I can't remember how to take action."

Strategy to try and why it works

Build commitment

We want to be consistent and need a nudge into action

Cultivate social norms

We want to be socially accepted and make decisions based on others' recommendations.

Use prompts

Breaks our routines and helps us remember what we intend to do.



Environmental action: strategies to address barriers

What you might hear

"I'm afraid I'm going to do it wrong." "I don't know how to do that." "I can't take that action." "I don't have that service." "Tell me what to do and why." "I need to know more."

Strategy to try and why it works

Develop skills

We're more likely to act if we feel competent and confident.

Make it easy to act

We're more likely to act if it's convenient and we have the infrastructure, tools, and supplies we need.

Create effective communication

We're more likely to act when we know why it's important and what to do.



Environmental action: strategies to address barriers

What you might hear

"I have this big change coming up (moving, new job, baby, etc.)."

"I already do that."

"I'm ready to take
the next step."

Strategy to try and why it works

Use moments of disruption

We're more ready to adopt new actions during big changes.

Use successes to create momentum

We start to associate actions as part of our identity and are more likely to take further action.



Environmental action outcomes tracking

Sharing project outcomes

- Anecdotes, stories, other qualitative outcomes
- Hard data

Tracking hard data

- Measurements
- Checklists/tallies
- Online tracker
- Observations
- Interviews
- Focus groups



Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA

- Focused on reducing use of single-use plastics during the season of Lent with 12 congregations
- Hosted a focus group on barriers
- 6-week workshop series + commitment and field trip
- Weekly activities and communications
- Formed cohorts and coordinated with point person to plan and distribute resources for field trip component



Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA engaged congregants in reducing plastic waste.

- Posted on social media and blog
- Outreach to congregations
- Planned curriculum
- Purchased supplies
- Hosted weekly virtual workshops



Participants met weekly on Tuesday nights over the six weeks of Lent for presentations, conversations, and activities. Photos above feature participants listening to Representative Frank Hornstein discuss policy efforts and participating in a cooking demonstration to make a meal that could be made entirely from ingredients that could be purchased without single-use plastic packaging.



Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA engaged congregants in reducing plastic waste.

- Supported participants in mini litter clean-ups with a focus on plastic waste
- Distributed supplies for bulk shopping and reuse





Jack Hurbanis, staff, assembling the zero waste shopping kits for the "field trip" activity practicing bulk shopping in cohorts.



Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA engaged congregants in reducing plastic waste.

- Offered field trips to practice buying with waste reduction in mind
- Collected reflections and surveys from participants



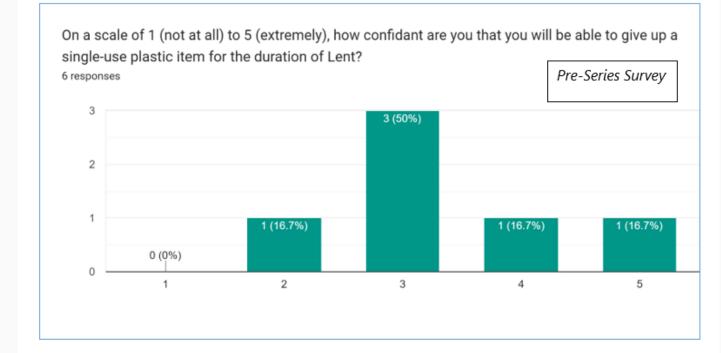
A group from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in South Minneapolis shopping together at a local co-op, exploring the use of mesh shopping bags and glass mason jars to reduce the amount of plastic they consume while grocery shopping.

"Cut the plastics"

Project outcomes

Many participants started the series with an uneasy feeling – eliminating plastic from their life felt daunting and unachievable.

By the end, every participant reported that they had successfully eliminated their chosen single-use plastic item, and 88% were confident in their ability to find the next regularly consumed plastic item that they could eliminate from their life.





What will you (the grantee) do?







Host tours Knock on doors Hold an event to take action

What will your participants do that is new?

- 150 neighbors will participate in storm drain clean up events
- 75 neighbors will sign up to adopt a storm drain



What difference will it make?

- Neighbors will clean out 50 storm drains
- Neighbors will remove at least 50 bags of trash from streets that drain to local lakes
- 75 people who adopt-a-drain will continue drain clean-ups



How will you spend the money?







Hennepin County Supplier Portal Help Desk

Monday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

supplierportal@hennepin.us

612-543-5412

Hennepin County Green Partners program

Patience Caso and Mary Karius

Green Partners program

<u>GreenPartners@hennepin.us</u>

612-596-6856

