

Schools Fight Food Waste Grant Application

Eau Claire County has received funding through the USDA to reduce food waste in our community. Part of that funding has been dedicated to assisting K-12 schools in Eau Claire County establish or improve upon food waste diversion efforts and education about food waste and composting. All questions should be directed to Regan Watts, regan.watts@eauclairecounty.gov or 715-839-2756.

The maximum award amount is \$1,000. If you are applying for multiple schools separate applications should be submitted. Applications for the first round will be due August 18th by 4PM.

Eligible Project Activities

Preference will be given to applications that incorporate 2 or more of the following:

1. Implement a compost program during student mealtimes. Extra points will be given to programs that plan to compost in the kitchen and in the cafeteria.
2. Establish a Share Table or a similar program that diverts food that is still safe to consume from being wasted.
3. Engage students in the project implementation and educating students about food waste and composting.
4. Improve upon an existing composting program.

Eligible Project Expenses

1. Subscription to curbside compost service.
2. Purchase of a compost bin or the materials needed to construct one.
3. Purchase of compostable materials such as bags, cutlery, etc.
4. Purchase of materials for a Share Table. Learn about Share Tables and safety requirements at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cn/use-share-tables-child-nutrition-programs>
5. Purchase of educational materials such as books, lessons, activities, etc. that discuss composting, food waste, or soil health.

Reporting Requirements

As part of this funding opportunity, you will be required to perform a waste audit prior to project implementation and then again either at the end of that school year or within 1 year of receiving the grant. Eau Claire County staff and volunteers will be available to assist during these waste audits if the applicant chooses at no cost to the applicant.

Primary Contact: _____

I am a:

- Student
- Teacher
- Principal
- Nutrition Director/Manager
- Facilities Director/Manager
- Other: _____

School Name: _____

Address: _____

School Level:

- Elementary
- Middle
- High

Website: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Secondary Contact: _____

Job Title: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Select which project activities this project will include:

- Implement a compost program.
- Establish a Share Table
- Engage students in the project implementation.
- Improve upon an existing compositing program.

Project Narrative: Describe the project and how each of the selected project activities will be achieved.

Describe the current efforts to reduce waste at your school. Include how staff and students are engaged in this process and who is leading these efforts.

Percent of students eligible for free or reduced lunch: _____

If awarded funding, will you need the County's assistance performing the required waste audits?

- Yes**
- No**

The first round of projects will start project activities in fall 2023. If your school is not chosen for this round do you want your application considered for the spring round? Projects would then start in January-February 2024.

- Yes**
- No**

In addition to this application please attach the following:

- Itemized Budget. If providing a match please include that. A match is NOT required.**
- Letters of commitment from at least 3 staff members who will be leaders in implementing the project activities. Example: principal, nutrition manager/director, teacher, club sponsor, or facilities staff. Letters can be uploaded as one document.**