



Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

www.viriniagardenclubs.org

Club GUIDELINES

“KEYS TO THE FUTURE” Youth Project Grants

The “Keys to the Future” Youth Project Grants Program, with a simple application procedure, is sponsored by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing youth-centered programs. All VFGC clubs are encouraged to apply for a one-year grant up to \$1000 for the purpose of helping youth realize the rewards and life lessons from gardens and habitats for becoming good stewards of the earth. The scope of these programs may include benefits to the community, environmental awareness/education, plant-to-food connections, outdoor classroom projects, horticulture education, and the social aspects of gardening.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15

HOW TO APPLY:

Please fill out the application form, include a budget and mail or e-mail to:

Melissa Damiano
VFGC Chairman
9436 Park Bluff Terrace
Chesterfield, VA 23838

Phone: 804-796-3287
E-mail: mtdamiano@aol.com

*The application is available in a Word document at www.viriniagardenclubs.org or by email from the Chairman.

PROGRAM CRITERIA:

In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize one or more of these elements:

- Number of youth participating/reached
- Benefits to the community
- Environmental awareness/education
- Horticulture educational focus or curricular/program integration
- Plant-to-food connections
- Social aspects of gardening such as leadership development, team building, community support, or service-learning

FUNDING GUIDELINES: Grants will not be provided for:

- Projects in which the club does not participate in some aspect
- Salaries or benefits of school personnel
- Fieldtrips outside Virginia
- Political action programs
- Eagle Scout projects
- Capital drives and building funds
- Scholarships and endowments
- Lawsuits and litigation
- Overhead costs
- Consumable, one-time use items or giveaways, such as T-shirts, tote bags, food, admission fees, or tuition