

# Watershed Guardian Grant Guidelines

The Northeast Iowa Stormwater Education Program is excited to support school classes in implementing stormwater management projects. Eligible classes may apply for two types of awards: **Junior Watershed Guardian Grants** will award up to \$500, and **ExStream Watershed Guardian Grants** will award up to \$5,000.

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## Junior Watershed Guardian Grant

*Awards up to \$500 - Available to classes on completion of field trip*

**Eligibility:** Junior Watershed Guardian grants are available to all classes from school districts in project area counties that visit the Northeast Iowa Urban Stormwater Demonstration Site in Postville for a learning field trip, and complete lessons in section 3 of the Northeast Iowa Stormwater Education Project Watershed Guardian Teacher's Packet. Multiple applications from the same school/district will be considered, as long as they are submitted by different classes with different teachers.

*Project Area counties: Allamakee, Buchanan, Bremer, Black Hawk, Clayton, Chickasaw, Delaware, Fayette, Floyd, Howard, Mitchell, and Winneshiek.*

**Purpose:** Junior Watershed Guardian grants are intended to support classes in implementing stormwater best management practices at their schools and in their communities. Teachers are encouraged to engage students in project selection and development, as well as implementation. The Education Coordinator will be available to help classes identify possible projects, and answer questions on applications and project implementation.

The Junior Watershed Guardian Grant is intended to help classes hit the ground running, applying classroom learning to real-world stormwater management scenarios. Examples of possible projects include creating rain gardens on school property, developing school-to-home rain barrel programs, and starting a community tree planting project.

Projects may be sited on school property, city property, or on private property within the urban community.

**Project Size:** The Junior Watershed Guardian Grant awards of up to \$500 could be used as the sole source of funding for smaller projects, such as a school butterfly garden, or could fund a portion of a larger project alongside funding from other sources. Projects including vegetative plantings, must incorporate native species only. The project budget should also specify how Northeast Iowa Stormwater Education Program funds will be spent, and identify other sources of support.

**Application and Award Timeline:** The Education Coordinator will regularly review Junior Watershed Guardian Grant applications, and grants will be awarded within a month of submission. Junior Watershed Guardian grants will be available for up to 20 projects, and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Application Requirements:** Applicants need to submit a site plan, project description, budget, timeline, student involvement plan and project learning evaluation. Detailed instructions are included on the application form, which can be found on the website at [www.northeastiowarcd.org/projects/stormwater](http://www.northeastiowarcd.org/projects/stormwater). Applications should be submitted by email to [stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org](mailto:stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org) or mailed to Northeast Iowa RC&D Attn: Watershed Guardian Grant Program, PO Box 916, Postville, IA 52162.

**Reporting:** Grantees will be required to submit a final report at the completion of their Junior Watershed Guardian Project. The report should include pictures of the student's involvement in the implementation of the project. If the project is not completed within a year, grantees will be required to submit an annual report.



**Questions?** Contact Tori Nimrod, the Education Coordinator, at [stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org](mailto:stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org) or call 563-864-7112.

## **ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant Program**

*Competitive grant program – Awards up to \$5,000 - Available to classes on completion of field trip and section 3 of Watershed Guardian Teacher’s Packet.*

**Eligibility:** All classes from school districts in project area counties that visit the Northeast Iowa Stormwater Demonstration Site in Postville for a learning field trip, and who complete lessons in section 3 of the Watershed Guardian Teacher’s Packet are eligible to apply for an ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant. Multiple applications from the same school/district will be considered, as long as they are submitted by different classes with different teachers.

*Project Area counties: Allamakee, Buchanan, Clayton, Chickasaw, Fayette, Howard, and Winneshiek.*

**Purpose:** The ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant is a competitive grant program intended to support classes in implementing stormwater best management practices at their schools and in their communities. Teachers are encouraged to engage students in project selection and development, as well as implementation. The Education Coordinator will be available to help classes identify possible projects, answer questions on applications, and project implementation.

ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant aims to empower students to apply classroom knowledge to the creation of stormwater management solutions in their own communities. Projects should measurably improve stormwater management at the school or in the surrounding community. Projects including vegetative plantings, must incorporate native species only. Example of possible projects include: wetlands, rain gardens, and bio-swales. Projects may be sited on school property, city property, or on private property within the community.

**Project Size:** The ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant is a competitive grant program that will support projects in a select number of Northeast Iowa with awards up to \$5,000. Match funds are not required. If classes seek funding from other sources the project budget should specify how Northeast Iowa Stormwater Education Program funds will be spent, and identify other sources of support.

**Application and Award Timeline:** Applications for the ExStream Watershed Guardian Grant will be reviewed quarterly. Application deadlines are: Oct 31, 2018, Jan 31 2019, April 30, 2018. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of education and stormwater experts, and awards will be announced within 60 days of the application deadline.

**Application Requirements:** Applicants need to submit a site plan, project description, budget, timeline, student involvement plan and project learning evaluation. Detailed instructions are included on the application form, which can be found on the website at [www.northeastiowarcd.org/projects/stormwater](http://www.northeastiowarcd.org/projects/stormwater). Applications should be submitted by email to [stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org](mailto:stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org) or mailed to Northeast Iowa RC&D Att: Watershed Guardian Grant Program, PO Box 916, Postville, IA 52162.

**Reporting:** Grantees will be required to submit a final report at the completion of their ExStream Watershed Guardian Project. Report should include pictures of the student’s involvement in the implementation of the project. If the project is not completed within a year, grantees will be required to submit an annual report.

**Questions?** Contact Tori Nimrod, the Education Coordinator, at [stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org](mailto:stormwater@northeastiowarcd.org) or call 563-864-7112.

