



Mayor, Richard C. David

Green Stormwater and Landscaping Matching Fund

Green Stormwater and Landscaping Matching Fund (GSLMF) Description

The City of Binghamton has established a Green Stormwater and Landscaping Matching Fund (GSLMF), made possible by a grant of \$48,500 from a local community foundation. The GSLMF was created to help homeowners and businesses pursue small green infrastructure projects that will contribute to the City's resilience to flooding and help improve water quality.

GSLMF Goals

- Encourage property owners to carry out improvements that add resilience to the City's built environment.
- Increase the area of land mass that contributes positively to the City's stormwater management program.
- Fund a minimum of nine (9) projects that can be used to educate the community on the benefits of small-scale green infrastructure projects.
- Increase the awareness of the use of green infrastructure for stormwater management purposes.

Eligible Applicants

The GSLMF is open to residential property owners, non-profits, and small business owners in the City of Binghamton. For the purposes of this project, a small business is defined as a privately owned company generally employing 100 or fewer employees. Applicants must own the property under consideration for a grant or have the property owner submit the application.

Eligible Projects

- Projects must be implemented on property within the City of Binghamton.
- Total project area should be less than 5,000 square feet.
- *Example* projects include:
 - Replacement of impervious surfaces with climate appropriate landscaping;
 - Installation of pervious asphalt or pervious paver systems;
 - Planting of shade trees;
 - Installation of rain barrels and rain gardens.
- Applicants are encouraged to think creatively about how their properties can be used to meet the goals identified above. In other words, if it's not shown in the list of example projects above and you think it's a good project, give us a call.

Funding Specifics

- Submitting an application does not guarantee funding.
- The GSLMF will reimburse applicant for 50% of the total project cost. GSLMF awards will not exceed \$5,000.
- The City's Shade Tree Commission along with the City GSMLF project manager will make up the review committee for this funding source. The City's Shade Tree Commission meets the third

Monday of every month and applications will be reviewed at that time unless an expedited review is considered necessary due to the timing of the grant program. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

- The City will reimburse approved costs for goods and services completed by third party vendors. Sweat equity of applicants, family, and household members are neither an eligible source of match nor eligible for reimbursement.
- One of the goals of this fund is to educate the community on the different ways to use green infrastructure for stormwater management. In order to achieve this goal, the City will make decisions that support diverse types of projects. Therefore awards will not be made on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- The City will accept applications on a rolling basis until grant funds are fully expended. The City has until the end of 2014 to expend the grant funds.
- If plantings are incorporated into the project scope and budget they are subject to the approval of the Shade Tree Commission. Plantings considered to be invasive species cannot be incorporated into projects receiving these funds. See <https://plants.usda.gov/java/noxiousDriver> for more information on invasive species.

Grant Program Requirements

- The grant is a **reimbursement** grant, paid upon completion of the approved project, including on-site inspection. Invoices to substantiate project costs are required for reimbursement.
- Projects must be completed within 120 days of notification.
- Partial funding for incomplete projects will not be permitted.
- Any changes made to the project after project approval will not be funded without written approval from the City GSMLF Project Manager. If approved plantings are not available at the nurseries at the time of installation, a correction sheet must be submitted for approval by the City GSMLF project manager prior to installation.

Application Instructions

- Fill out the attached GSMLF application.
- Attach photos of project area and write captions of the areas that you plan to re-landscape or implement green infrastructure as part of this grant project.
- Fill out the attached itemized budget form.
- Attach the project and budget narratives.
- Sign the certification section.
- Mail application materials to:
 - City of Binghamton
 - Planning, Housing & Community Development
 - 38 Hawley Street
 - Binghamton, NY 13901
 - Attn: Melissa Enoch, GSMLF Project Manager

GREEN STORMWATER AND LANDSCAPING MATCHING FUND APPLICATION

[applicant must be property owner]

Property Address: _____ Binghamton, NY 1390_____

Property Tax ID #: _____

Applicant: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

EIN # / Social Security #: _____

Estimated Project Start Date: _____ Estimated Project Completion Date: _____

APPLICATION NARRATIVE

***Please provide a project narrative that includes succinct answers to the following questions. Responses should not exceed two pages.**

- 1. Explain the existing conditions of the proposed property.**
- 2. Describe the scope of work to improve the property.**
- 3. What is the size of the project area?**
- 4. How will you maintain the improvements?**
- 5. Who will you use to complete the scope of work?**
- 6. How will your proposed project improve existing conditions and meet the goals of the GSLMF?**

PHOTOS

[Write captions under photos of the areas that you plan to re-landscape or implement green infrastructure.
Please do not submit more than 3 pages of photos.]

Property Address: _____ Binghamton, NY 1390 _____

BUDGET NARRATIVE

***Attach a budget narrative that identifies the types of materials, planting species, and vendors that will be used for each budget line. The budget narrative should be no longer than one page.**

CERTIFICATION

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the above, and all information presented herein is true to the best of my knowledge. I give the City of Binghamton permission to access the project property at reasonable times for the purpose of taking photographs and conducting other visual inspections that will assist in the pre-/post-approval process. If my application is approved, I agree to provide the City with information as requested for the purposes of education and community awareness.

Date: _____

Property Owner Print Name

Property Owner Signature