

## **GUIDELINES: COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

**Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful's Community Improvement Grant Program** promotes litter cleanups and recycling in Lincoln and Lancaster County. Grants are awarded to community groups and individuals who conduct litter cleanup projects in **public areas** - along streets, curbs, alleys and sidewalks, at schools, parks and other open spaces. The main objective of these grant applications must be to pick up loose litter in public places.

## **Guidelines**

- 1. Applications can be completed online at the KLLCB website.
- 2. Cleanups can take place any time between January-October. Final reports must be submitted one month after completion of the cleanup project. The final date to turn in your cleanup report and receive funding is November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 3. The project must incorporate a recycling plan in order to receive funding. At minimum, the recycling plan should indicate how recyclable material will be collected, separated from trash and properly disposed of.
- 4. Below is a checklist to help grantees track what information required for the Final Report and for project funding:
  - Number of volunteers and amount of hours worked (include planning, organization and implementation).
  - Size and location of the cleanup area (indicated on map provided by KLLCB).
  - Pictures of the project are required.
    - i. Take photos before, during and after that show volunteers picking up litter, group photos of volunteers with bags of litter and recyclables along with the and amounts of items collected.
    - ii. Awards will not be distributed if pictures are not submitted. Digital photos are preferred but printed photos will be accepted.
  - Amount of litter collected and amount of recyclables collected (scales will be provided).
  - List of organizations involved.
  - Donations and in-kind contributions (transportation costs, food and drink, etc.).
  - Project wrap-up and any additional comments or suggestions.
  - Liability waivers provided by KLLCB must be signed by all participants and returned with the Final Report.
- 5. Funding for this program is limited and applications are considered on a first-come, first-served basis. The amount of the grant award is determined by the area cleaned up (in miles or acres). The maximum incentive amount that will be paid out is for 10 miles or 50 acres (or \$500.00). KLLCB greatly appreciates grantees that clean up more than the incentive payment. If a grantee cleans up more than 10 miles or 50 acres and if grant funds remain at the end of the year, KLLCB will allot the remaining funds to grantees in the order by which the final grant reports were received.
  - Note: \*Grant awards do not need to be used for the cleanup project. The awards are an incentive to keep Lincoln and Lancaster County clean and applicants can be flexible with the use of grant funds.\*
- 6. Because the Community Improvement Grants are based on outside funding please note that LLCHD reserves the right to halt payment to grantees at any time if funding is no longer available.

Please allow two weeks from the time of submission for a response from KLLCB. Once the application has been approved, the KLLCB Coordinator will contact you to go over project details and make arrangements for you to pick up supplies. KLLCB can provide trash and recycling bags, safety equipment and other helpful tools.

For more information:

Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful, 3131 O Street, Lincoln NE 68510 402-441-8035, kllcb@lincoln.ne.gov, www.lincoln.ne.gov Keyword: KLLCB

Funding for this program is provided by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality