



City of Boulder Support for Sustainability Neighborhood Groups

Neighborhood groups focused on sustainability play a crucial role in mobilizing our community to help reach our climate action goals. These groups help contribute to a decrease in greenhouse gas emissions through sustainability-focused social and educational gatherings, programs, challenges, while sharing information within their neighborhoods. The following document details various ways in which the City of Boulder's Local Environmental Action Division (LEAD) provides support to neighborhood groups. **As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact Kristen Hartel, at 303-441-1878, or hartelk@bouldercolorado.gov.**

Neighborhood Sustainability Grant:

Neighborhood sustainability groups can apply for a grant of \$400 per year, per group, provided by the City of Boulder's Local Environmental Action Division (LEAD) through Climate Action funds. Below are some examples of what funds can be used for:

- Flyer printing
- Website support
- Event support
- Event space rentals
- Support for the creation of a new Sustainable Neighborhood Group (see info below)
- Do you have an idea for something missing here? **Just ask if the grant can be used for it!**

Things to keep in mind:

- All materials must first be sent to Kristen Hartel for reviewal and approval before printed and/or distributed
- City logo and/or blurb should be included on materials as appropriate (logo/blurb will be provided)
- Funds are allocated to Sustainable Neighborhood Groups on a yearly basis. Thus, each Neighborhood Group has \$400 to use before the end of 2011. Groups must apply again for funds to use in 2012.¹
- To apply for a neighborhood grant, we request **two** reports, one at the time of the initial grant distribution, and one at the end of the calendar year. This will allow us to track efforts, successes, and lessons learned from Sustainable Neighborhood Groups throughout Boulder, both to assess how effective our endeavors are and to share information among Neighborhood Groups
- **Please send all questions and requests for Neighborhood Sustainability Grants to Kristen Hartel, at hartelk@bouldercolorado.gov, (303)-441-1878. More information will be provided upon contact.**

Event Support

If your group is interested in hosting an event, we can connect you with event space rentals, flyer printing and promotion, permit assistance, raffle prizes, and possibly a sound system.

- **Permit Assistance:** If your neighborhood group is looking to host an event that requires a permit, such as a block party or an event on city property, we are happy to help you track down what permit(s) you may need. Although we cannot submit the permit(s) for you, we can help to answer questions and provide guidance as appropriate.
- **Raffle Prizes:** We have found in the past that by offering incentives, such as raffle prizes, more residents are likely to attend your event, whether that is a picnic, movie showing, or discussion. The city can offer goodies to support and promote sustainability for your group to offer as raffle or door prizes at your next event. Donations in the past have included kitchen compost bins and compostable bags, reusable stainless steel water bottles, clothes drying racks, compact fluorescent light bulbs, tire gauges, shower timers, and toilet leak detecting tablets.

1. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and are limited to the first 10 neighborhood applicants annually.



- **Sound System:** The city's Parks & Recreation department has a sound system that your neighborhood group may be able to use for its next event. Availability is dependent on time, date, and location of your event, and is not guaranteed. The use of a sound system may also require your event to have a sound officer present.

Neighborhood Maps

Are you looking to go door-to-door, distribute flyers, or figure out the boundaries of your neighborhood? We can provide your group with a map of your neighborhood, which indicates the official neighborhood boundaries as well as included properties.

Connection to Resources

Is your group interested in creating a Neighborhood Eco-pass program, or hosting a Neighborhood Green Street event (a small street closure event in your neighborhood)? We will do our best to connect you with the best resources and groups possible.

Outreach

The city performs outreach and community engagement around sustainability issues and services throughout the year. Depending on the timing of your event, we can help to promote your neighborhood sustainability group or upcoming event through our outreach efforts.

Creation of a New Neighborhood Sustainability Group

There are many areas in our community which lack a neighborhood sustainability group. If you're interested in starting one, we can offer some direction and support, provide case studies of how other neighborhood groups have started, and help your group create some guiding principles.

Bi-Monthly Neighborhood Sustainability Meetings

Every other month, the City hosts a Neighborhood Sustainability Meeting, aimed at supporting sustainability-focused neighborhood groups by providing a hub for discussion and interaction. For information about future meetings, as well as notes from prior meetings, please visit:

www.bouldercolorado.gov/LEAD/neighbors.

Please contact Kristen Hartel, at 303-441-1878, or hartelk@bouldercolorado.gov, with any requests, concerns, or suggestions. Support may be limited depending on timing, staff resources, and funding, and as such, will be provided on a case-by-case basis. For more information about the Neighborhood Sustainability program, visit www.bouldercolorado.gov/LEAD/neighbors.