

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are the answers to some of the frequently asked questions we received in recent years about grant opportunities such as this.

1. Q: *Where can I find an application? Does the application have to be submitted online?*
A: The application form can be found on the RIDEM website at www.dem.ri.gov. RIDEM is only accepting online applications this year.
2. Q: *Who can apply?*
A: Schools, municipal organizations (for example, town department of public works, parks and recreation, conservation commission), and non-profit organizations are all eligible to apply.
3. Q: *Do we have to be a 501c3 non-profit to be considered?*
A: This year we are not specifying that non-profits be a 501c3 because we recognize that there are community-based non-profit organizations that have other federally recognized non-profit designations.
4. Q: *Inadvertently my co-worker and I both submitted applications for the same event. Can you please consider both?*
A: No. We will only consider one application per event. If we receive multiple applications for a single event we will only consider the first application that arrives. Before you submit an application be sure to coordinate with other members of your organization and other organizations participating in the event with you. We will consider multiple applications from a single organization if that organization is holding multiple clean-up events at different locations throughout the state.
5. Q: *What are the criteria that are used to consider which applicants will receive an Earth Day grant?*
A: The evaluation criteria are listed on the application form. The criteria includes education component, clean up component, long term environmental impact, number of volunteers, and demonstrated need. Applicants must address these criteria on the application form to be considered for a grant.
6. Q: *Is the deadline a firm deadline?*
A: The application must be submitted no later than 4pm on March 11, 2015.
7. Q: *Who reviews the applications and determines which applicants will receive an Earth Day grant?*
A: The review committee consists of representatives from RIDEM, J.R. Vinagro, and RIRRC.
8. Q: *How will I know if I have received a grant and when will the funds arrive?*
A: Once the final decision has been made the winners will be notified by email. RIDEM will also post the names of the awardees on the RIDEM website. It is expected that the checks will be mailed no later than April 1, 2015.