**The Great Lakes Clean Communities Network**

**Community Partnership Program**

The [Great Lakes Clean Communities Network](http://www.glccn.org) (GLCCN) is a growing network of environmental practitioners, planners and community leaders, and watershed organizations around the Great Lakes Basin who work together to enhance their local environment and improve the health of the Great Lakes. Coordinated by the Michigan State University Institute of Water Research and funded through the Great Lakes Protection Fund, the GLCCN also includes an Ecological Scorecard (EcoScore) where communities can evaluate and track their ecological improvements over time. The GLCCN Community Partnership Program (CPP) funds small projects to assist communities with implementing various practices that directly improve water quality in their local watershed or relate to one of the EcoScore’s 12 land and water indicators. Funding is made possible through the [Great Lakes Protection Fund](http://www.glpf.org).

Who May Apply for CPP Funds?

Communities, municipalities, and watershed organizations within the Great Lakes region that are registered on the GLCCN are eligible to participate in the CPP. Individuals and private entities are ineligible to apply. As part of the project, recipients will need to complete a baseline evaluation and re-evaluate their EcoScore at the end of the project.

Funding and Eligible Activities

Applicants may apply for up to $4,000 in funding. Projects are intended for practices or activities that directly improve water quality or that support EcoScore indicators (e.g., planting trees, green infrastructure). Eligible activities include: rain garden installations, rain barrel sale events, porous pavement, green roofs, erosion control and more. Other activities such as water quality monitoring, river cleanups, or youth education are not eligible for funding. Preferential scoring will be given to innovative approaches that enhance water quality. If you have an idea to improve water quality in your area that is not listed here, please contact us to discuss your idea.

Funds can be used for hourly support/wages, supplies/materials, and travel. Equipment purchases including computers, smartphones, tablets and similar devices are not allowed. Funds must be spent no later than September 16, 2016.

Application Dates and Contact Information

Application materials are available below and on the GLCCN web site ([www.glccn.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cyoungla9%5CDesktop%5Cwww.glccn.org)). For 2016, **applications are due by 5:00 pm EST on Friday, May 13, 2016.** Awards will be announced approximately two weeks following the deadline date. Questions about the application process should be directed to Lois Wolfson at [wolfson1@msu.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cyoungla9%5CDesktop%5Cwolfson1%40msu.edu).

Program Reporting

Recipients will be asked to email a final report that includes the following: a one to two paragraph summary of the project and its outcomes, accompanying photos showing the installed practice(s), and a breakdown of final project expenditures. The project completion report must be submitted no later than December 31, 2016. Furthermore, recipients agree to have their findings published and/or reported on the GLCCN site and to the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

**Project Director:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Community/Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**; URL:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Requested $**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please e-mail the completed application and this page to iwr@msu.edu. Put “GLCCN Partnership Program” in the subject line. **Deadline for 2016 applications is May 13, 2016.**

**Project Description**

Describe the project or program, including:

* problem situation/opportunity
* type of practice(s)
* methods to be used
* where it will be implemented (city, county, watershed, and lat/long)
* potential outcomes and impacts, and measures of success\*
* timeline from start to completion

**Budget**

* Include expenses (if applicable) for Hourly Wages, Supplies/Materials, and Travel with a budget narrative

**Format**

* Applications should be no more than 3 pages, exclusive of budget/budget narrative

\*Reviewers will consider the following when evaluating applications:

*Ecological Benefits*

The application should identify measurable ecological benefits relating to the EcoScore. An online program such as [www.networkedneighbors.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cyoungla9%5CDesktop%5Cwww.networkedneighbors.org) can be used to estimate decreases in runoff, sediment, and/or nutrients.

*Innovative Approaches*

Innovative approaches to addressing water quality improvements will be given higher priority.

*Collaborative Projects*

Projects that leverage additional funding to provide greater ecological impact will be given higher priority.

*Reporting and Sharing*

Applicants that identify how they will report and share their new projects and beneficial impacts with others will be given higher priority. In addition to sharing your project, you are strongly encouraged to use the Networked Neighborhoods for Eco-Conservation Online (NECO) [www.networkedneighbors.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cyoungla9%5CDesktop%5Cwww.networkedneighbors.org) to map and track your project's beneficial impacts (if applicable).