

Application: 0000000018

Ellee Spier - gardenquest.org@gmail.com
BCOS Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant

Summary

ID: 0000000018
Last submitted: Dec 8 2023 09:27 PM (EST)

Fill out a form

Completed - Dec 8 2023

BCOS Neighborhood Grant - Intake Form

Please fill out all the information necessary to apply for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant

Applicant Information

Organization/Neighborhood Name

GardenQuest

Organization Type

Designated nonprofit

Designated Neighborhood Liaison

Provide the information of the authorized liaison. This person will be responsible for signing any necessary contracts and grant applications on behalf of the interested group.

Critically, this person will also be the designated recipient of the grant funding and therefore will be the one that is set up as a vendor in the City's payment system.

Name	Ellee Spier
Email	GardenQuest.org@gmail.com
Address	2110 E. Covenanter Drive
Phone Number	8123451549

Will the designated liaison also be serving as the project leader?

Project leaders should be neighborhood residents that are coordinating with others to implement the project itself.

Yes

Participating Residents

In order to participate, the project must be supported by a **minimum of 4 households** of the neighborhood. Please list the contact information of at least 3 others (should all be in from different houses) that will be involved in the project implementation and will benefit from the grant.

	Name	Email
Resident 1	Lia Kettenis	Rothbaul@gmail.com
Resident 2	Michelle Hauser	Hausermichelle@yahoo.com
Resident 3	Traci Jovanovic	Traci.s.jovanovic@gmail.com
Resident 4	Beth Hollingsworth	Hollingsworthbeth5@gmail.com
Resident 5	Kim Arnold	Ksa2@indiana.edu

Project Overview

Project Title

Terracycle

Associated Physical Address

Provide the nearest address of where the project will occur

2110 E.Covenanter Drive

Upload a map of the targeted location

[Terracycle Box Location.pdf](#)

The red rectangle on the map symbolizes the location of the Terracycle boxes.

Filename: Terracycle Box Location.pdf **Size:** 883.2 kB

If necessary, upload documentation from the owners of the property approving the use of the property for this project

Relevant Bloomington Climate Action Strategy

WM 1-B

Funding Request

Maximum amount that applicants may request is \$1,000. During application review, funding request will be taken into consideration and used to determine a recommended funding amount.

Amount	1000
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Project Details

Project Narrative

Describe the project, including a general overview of how the grant funds would be used.

GardenQuest, a Covenanter neighborhood non-profit focusing on educational sustainability initiatives and urban farm-to-table instruction, would like to offer a location for neighbors to drop-off household items that are recyclable through Terracycle, but not through the City of Bloomington's recycling service.

What is Terracycle? In a nutshell, Terracycle is a company that has created a closed loop recycling/reuse process for household and business items that are not recycle through typical municipal methods.

Since this program will be located within a neighborhood, the footprint of the recycling operation must remain small. With more than 300 product/options, neighbors who are interested in reducing their waste through Terracycle, will fill out a survey to narrow down the recyclables to the 3 most popular product categories. Terracycle Zero Waste boxes for the products in these categories will be purchased with grant funds.

The recycling boxes will be located in an accessible location for all participating neighbors, but safely tucked within a corner of the Spier Family's carport (property out of which GardenQuest operates) to dissuade animals from disturbing the boxes.

Once a box in a particular category is filled, GardenQuest will ship it to Terracycle with the prepaid label and purchase another one. While funding limits how many paid Zero Waste Terracycle boxes can be purchased, GardenQuest plans to add applicable business sponsored boxes (free programs with brand specific items) to the list of recyclables for the neighborhood. GardenQuest also hopes to expand options for the neighborhood by researching what businesses in Bloomington already sponsor Terracycle boxes and promote the usage.

If Terracycle proves itself through this pilot to align with the city's waste reduction and recyclable diversion CAP goals, GardenQuest will reapply annually for funding to purchase boxes that are not provided elsewhere in the community and will coordinate the program for the neighborhood.

Project Deliverables

Provide a statement describing project deliverables and how results will be measured.

GardenQuest will purchase Terracycle boxes based on the top three non-recyclable waste stream items, based on a survey of the participating neighbors. The volume and weight of each box will be recorded prior to shipping. Once grant funds run out, GardenQuest will send out a post-program survey. GardenQuest will provide pre- and post survey results to BCOS.

CAP Alignment

Please provide a statement of relevance, describing how your project supports the CAP goal you selected on the previous page and how your overall project supports Bloomington sustainability goals.

Terracycle is a business that directly diverts waste from Bloomington's landfills. Better yet, the waste is not thrown-away somewhere else. Terracycle's operations and business model closes the loop. All waste stream products collected have either end-of-life buyers or Terracycle recycles them and makes new products. Terracycle's recycling facilities are centrally-located in the Midwest, with the closest facility to Bloomington in Illinois.

By providing this program, GardenQuest will be able to increase recyclables diversion, which is the goal of WM 1-B.

How does this project support Bloomington's overall sustainability goals? While a Terracycle box for a single household may be price-prohibitive, this program provides the opportunity for neighbors to work together to actively participate in diverting recyclables from the landfill. Having a drop-off point within a neighborhood provides a level of convenience and accessibility that is limited with business and city drop-off points, which may encourage more participation and lessen the transportation ecological footprint of each neighbor.

By giving GardenQuest and its neighbors the chance to put into practice a small waste reduction program, the program is becoming part of the progression to Bloomington's ultimate sustainability solution no matter what the results show.

Project Timeline

Provide a list of project milestones with an approximate timeline and completion date. Include details necessary to accomplish each milestone.

Grant approval received 8 weeks after 12/8 submission deadline - Feb. 2nd, 2024

Share news to Covenanter Neighborhood Association - Feb. 5th, 2024

Pre-survey distribution to interested neighbors - Feb. 9th, 2024

Survey deadline - Feb. 16th, 2024

First set of boxes purchased, set-up, and recycling information distributed to participating neighbors - Mar. 1st, 2024

Terracycle Earth Day Sale - Assess if more boxes are needed to take advantage of 30% off sale - Apr. 22nd, 2024

Complete list/map of additional Terracycle boxes located in businesses around Bloomington and distribute to neighbors - May 3rd, 2024

Purchase last round of Terracycle boxes if funding still exists - - Black Friday sale 30% off - Nov. 29th, 2024

Re-apply for BCOS grant funds to continue program - Dec. 13th, 2024

Complete post-survey and analyze the results - On or before Dec. 31st, 2024

Share results with BCOS - On or before Feb. 2nd, 2025

Project Cost

Upload a detailed project budget, specifying which aspects of the project are to be funded by the BCOS grant.

[Costs for Terracycle Program - BCOS Grant Application .pdf](#)

Filename: Costs for Terracycle Program - BCOS Grant Application .pdf **Size:** 19.9 kB

Alternative Funding

Describe any other sources of project funding, including a cost-sharing proposal if applicable.

(No response)

Project Outcomes

Expected Benefits

Describe if and how the project will (1) increase resident engagement with Bloomington's sustainability goals (2) advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the community (3) provide community-wide benefits.

Residents in the Covenanter neighborhood are looking for ways to reduce the amount of waste coming from their homes and going to the landfill. The project will increase resident and community awareness that recycling options exist for many items that end up in Bloomington's landfill.

The hope is that GardenQuest's pilot program for Covenanter residents results in a successful reduction in recyclables heading to the landfill, which inspires other neighborhoods to request funding for Terracycle as well.

Expected Challenges

Describe any expected challenges and how you anticipate overcoming these, using previous experiences to help if applicable.

The challenge with this project will be filling up the Zero Waste boxes quickly and running out of funds to continue diverting the most popular neighborhood recyclables, disappointing residents.

To overcome these challenges, options include:

1. Reapplying for BCOS funding
2. Applying for alternative funding
3. Surveying residents to see if makes sense to cost-share to purchase additional boxes.
4. Continuing Terracycle using the product-specific, free programs.
5. Encourage local businesses to invest in Terracycle Zero Waste boxes to increase commercial participation in Bloomington's CAP recyclable diversion goal. Share this information with residents, so that they can continue to recycle.

Project Maintenance

Describe if and how the project will be maintained beyond the life of this grant. If these efforts were not included in the project timeline, please also detail how they fit into the timeline.

As soon as the last set of Terracycle boxes are purchased, GardenQuest will initiate the steps listed above in the Overcoming Challenges section.

Community References

Optional

If you would like to include any community references to strengthen your application, please list them here.

	Name	Phone	Email
Reference 1			
Reference 2			

Letters of Support

If you would like to include any letters of support for your project, please include them here.

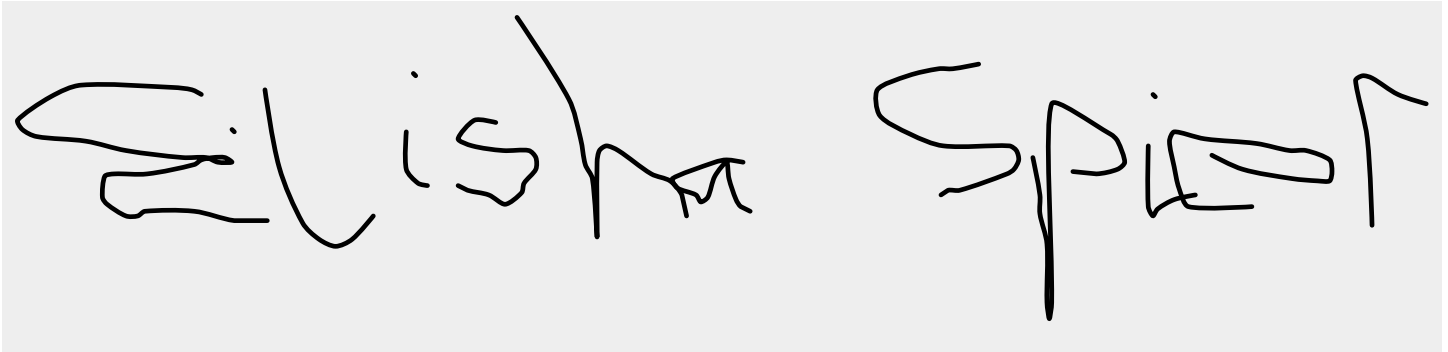
Application Review

Additional Attachments

Upload any additional attachments.

Application Signature

I have read and understood the information regarding my application for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant and I understand that the grant money is not a prize for personal profit or gain and is strictly for the project described. I further understand that the City of Bloomington has the right to allocate and supervise the spending of the grant money and when projects do not proceed within the stated timetable, the City of Bloomington reserves the right to request that the grant be refunded. I understand that recipients of these grants may be invited by the City of Bloomington to participate in promotion and publicity of the project. Please type your name below to electronically sign and signal your agreement to these terms and conditions listed in the Grant Application and Agreement.



Dilisha Spier



SITE PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"



Keystone Construction Company LLC
3601 E. Hagen Street, Suite G
Bloomington, IN 47401
keystoneconstructionco.com
812.658.8157
davis@keystoneconstructionco.com

Preliminary Drawings	Site Plan
	Drafted By: RLW
Scale: 1" = 20'-0"	ENERGY STAR
Paper: 18" x 24"	
Date: 12/12/2022	Draft: 6

Blueprints are property of Keystone Construction Company LLC. They are not to be reproduced, distributed or copied without the permission of Keystone Construction Company LLC.

Spier Residence
2110 E. Governor Drive, Bloomington, IN 47401

Costs for Terracycle Program - BCOS Grant Application

5 Medium Zero Waste Boxes
(shipping included) - 11"x11"x40"

$\$179 \times 5 = \895

1 Small Zero Waste Box
(shipping included) - 11"x11"x20"

$\$106 \times 1 = \106

Total = \$1,001

Total Requested from BCOS = \$1,000

GardenQuest Donation = \$1