

Extension Water Initiative Grants Round 2

Utah State University Extension is pleased to announce a request for proposals (RFP) in the area of Water Conservation. This RFP is funded through a legislative appropriation approved during the 2016 Utah legislative session titled the USU Extension Water Initiative. Proposals must focus on at least one of the following topics: water conservation, the economics of water conservation (must have a direct policy or other application related to water conservation), the creation of innovative tools that support/direct water conservation, the enhancement of water quality, the enhancement of water availability, or enhancing water efficiency. All successful projects must have a clear application for their outcomes such as new Extension programming, implementable water conservation policy recommendations, deliverable tools, curriculum, smart Apps, or other practical deliverables. Successful projects should demonstrate a high probability of significant impact to an area mentioned above within a reasonably short period of time, while demonstrating sustained benefit. For example, youth educational programs are important but benefits may be more delayed than benefits from educational programming aimed at other water users.

Proposals will be limited to five single-spaced pages. A budget and budget justification are required, but are not included in this five-page limit. Proposals must provide a clear project justification, scope of work, description of anticipated impact (including an estimated time frame for when this impact will be realized), and description of how project outcomes will enhance water conservation, availability, and/or policy. Proposals should also describe specific Extension/practical deliverables, and how outcome(s) will be integrated into Extension or other real world activities. There is an expectation for a 1:1 match from external partners such as city/town, Conservation District, State or Federal agency, private industry, etc. The match can be a combination of in-kind and/or cash. The required budget template is posted at <http://extension.usu.edu/employee/grants>. A separate Budget Justification must be submitted with the budget template and must specifically justify each of the budget items as well as describe the match. The maximum request must not exceed \$50,000 and the timeline for completion may not exceed 18 months.

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on March 20, 2017, and must be submitted electronically at <http://extension.usu.edu/employee/grants>. Proposals will be reviewed by a Scientific Advisory Board for scientific merit, and then also reviewed by a Water Advisory Board who will rank the proposals based on anticipated community impact(s). Final funding recommendations will be made to the Vice President for Extension based on scientific merit and impact on community water conservation. The Vice President reserves the right to fund or not fund projects recommended for funding as well as the right to fund projects at full or partial levels depending on the appropriateness of the budget and budget justification.