

**City of Plymouth
Environmental Quality Committee
Composting Grant Program**

3400 Plymouth Boulevard
Plymouth, MN 55447
763-509-5527

The City of Plymouth and the Environmental Quality Committee supports environmental education, recycling, and other practices which reduce waste, including composting. To encourage waste reduction and composting practices and to demonstrate potential for environmental protection while maintaining practicality, the City has established a grant program to support individual composting efforts. Composting can reduce the amount of garbage a household produces, it can reduce the amount of water and fertilizer required for yards, and improves soil quality.

I. Purpose of Grant

This program is established to encourage and support community-based initiatives to reduce waste by increasing the number of households composting in the City of Plymouth.

II. Award Amounts

The total available amount in 2012 is \$10,000. Maximum grant amount for any single project is \$100.

III. Eligible Applicants

Single-family detached residential property owners or tenants or others as authorized by City Code.

IV. Eligible Activities & Materials.

Activities that reduce the amount of organic waste placed into the garbage for weekly pick-up. Both composting materials and materials to construct a vegetable garden, flower garden, or similar are acceptable.

V. Participant Commitment

Participants must attend a workshop on composting. Plymouth will hold two no-fee workshops on the following dates:

Sat., March 17, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Black Box Theater in the lower level of the Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Ave. N.

Thurs., April 5, 7 to 8:30 p.m., City Council Chambers in Plymouth City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Blvd.

Call 763-509-5527 to reserve your space at one of these workshops.

VI. Public Promotion of Projects and Acknowledgment Requirements

- Recipients may be asked to work with the City to seek media coverage for their project(s).
- Recipients may be asked to allow others to view their project. This will be part of an ongoing effort to educate other Plymouth residents about the benefits of reducing waste and producing compost.
- All publications and publicity generated as part of this project must include acknowledgment of the City of Plymouth.
- Recipients are requested to provide pictures of their work to the EQC for promotional purposes.

VII. Deadline

Applications for 2012 grants are due on February 29, 2012.

IX. Award of Grant

Announcement of grant approvals will occur by March 17, 2012. All applicants will receive written notification regarding their request for funding. Maximum grant amount for any project is \$100. Payment will be made upon completion of work and submission of payment request accompanied by original receipts for expenses.

X. Composting:

Items to include:

- Vegetable and fruit scraps
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Tea leaves and tea bags
- Egg shells
- Nut shells
- Plant trimmings
- Grass and leaves

Items not to include:

- Butter, cheese, or dairy products
- Meat or bones
- Gravies or sauces
- Pet wastes

TIPS: Mix the compost about 1x per month. Keep your compost pile at the right moisture level. If your compost pile has a bad odor, it lacks air circulation or may be too wet. You can turn the pile and/or add dry material to resolve this issue. If your compost is not "heating up", try adding more nitrogen or "green" material. Bury kitchen scraps deep to discourage critters. Think about adding straw or hay to the top of the pile during the winter to allow the composting process to continue. The best compost is made of a variety of materials. Smaller pieces will decompose faster.

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Composting Grant Program Application

Return to: Kevin Springob, City of Plymouth, 3400 Plymouth Blvd, Plymouth, MN 55447. Phone: 763-509-5527 Fax 763-509-5510 Email: kspringob@plymouthmn.gov

Applicant Name: _____

Title: _____ Application date: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ FAX: () _____

E-mail: _____

Project Title: _____

Start and End Dates: _____

Total Cost of Project: _____

Amount requested from City of Plymouth: _____

Other sources of funding with amounts: _____

I. Narrative *(Use additional pages if needed.)*

Please describe the major purpose of your project. (Refer to enclosed/attached Plymouth Yard Waste Guide)

List Action Steps necessary to accomplish your objectives (plan, install, maintain, educate).

Indicate the location of your project.

Outline the time frame for completing this project.

- II. Budget** Please provide a budget breakdown, with a brief description for each line item if necessary.

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>
1. Compost Bin	\$ _____
2. Garden Materials	\$ _____
3. Other	\$ _____
Total project cost:	\$ _____

- III. Partners**
List all participants in this project and their role.

- IV. Please attach a sketch/plan of proposed project**
Or attach additional related information.