



**Keep Cobb Beautiful**  
*Dig'n The Dirt*  
**Grant Program 2016-2017**

**Children today spend more time indoors, disconnected from the natural world. The results are diseases like obesity and juvenile diabetes, social dysfunction and behavior issues. As educators, we're sure you would agree that your time is better spent teaching your students in an engaging, interactive environment. One solution? Get them into the garden!**

Garden programs provide a dynamic environment where children can learn and play at the same time. They experiment, discover, gain confidence, build self-esteem, and gain an appreciation for the amount of work required to bring food to the table. *The purposes of the Dig'n The Dirt Program are two-fold: 1) to provide opportunities to school children through school gardens to experience and study nature, and 2) to learn how to grow and appreciate fruits, vegetables and flowers.* Outdoor garden lessons can be integrated across the curriculum and children can overcome nature-deficit disorder with just a few hours of wonder in the garden.

When you choose to plant a garden with children, the world is on track to becoming a healthier place. So tell us your plans for your school garden and how it will impact your students and the community.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. *Dig'n The Dirt* grant, you must be a Cobb County school (public or private, including Marietta City Schools) planning to garden during the **2016-2017** school year with at least 8 children between the ages of 5 and 18. This includes after-school programs.

**Application period and deadline**

Application period is November 2, 2016 through November 30, 2016. To Be considered for this grant, all applications **must be received on the Due Date by 5:00 p.m.** *Mail to:* Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., ATTN: Dig'n The Dirt Grant, 1792 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008, *faxed to* 770-528-2504 or *emailed to* keepcobbbeautiful@gmail.com.

**Grant package**

This year, each grantee could receive up to a maximum of \$800. The award amount will be based on the size and scope of the project and the number of awards granted.

**Judging**

Judging will be performed by the Greening Committee made up of KCB Board members who will select the grantee (s) based on the criteria below. All decisions are final.

**Judging Criteria**

The Committee will score each application based on the criteria listed with the awards going to those applicants with the highest scores:

- Educational focus (or curriculum standards integration)
- Innovative use of resources
- The number of students involved
- Administrative support/Staff involvement
- Social aspects of gardening (leadership development, team building, community support, etc)
- Community service component (supplying produce to a homeless shelter, etc).

**APPLICATION  
KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL  
DIG'N THE DIRT GRANT**

*Please print*

Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Principal \_\_\_\_\_

**Please answer all of the following questions. You may submit photographs with this application.**

1. Do you currently have a school garden?      Yes      No  
If yes, how many years? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you previously received funds from Keep Cobb Beautiful for a garden program?      Yes      No
3. Are you a Title I school?      Yes      No
4. Project Overview: Briefly explain your primary goals and how the grant money will be spent.
5. How many students do you anticipate being actively involved in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Approximately how many hours per week will each student be in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Approximately how many hours per week will each student be engaged in activities related to the garden?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Explain your administration and staff commitment.
  
9. Explain what you plan to plant in the garden.
  
10. Explain your plans for any harvest.
  
11. Explain how the garden will be cared for during the summer (non-school months)

12. Describe the sustainability features of the garden including but not limited to: compost activities, innovative watering methods, use of recycled materials, etc.
13. Do you currently have a garden curriculum in place?            Yes            No  
 If yes, please provide a copy of a sample lesson plan with this application.  
 If not, what resources do you plan to use to develop garden-based lesson plans?
14. How will you measure the success of the program (expected outcomes)?
15. What is your budget for this project? (include completed worksheet)
16. If you have additional funding, what other sources do you have, or expect to have?
17. Do you have partnerships with business and/or local community groups? (PTA, County Extension, etc.)  
 Yes    No                    Explain
18. Do you currently have a Junior Master Gardener Program?            Yes            No  
 If so, what is the name of your representative? \_\_\_\_\_
19. Is your school currently a Cobb Green School?                    Yes            No

**THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE OPTIONAL AND WILL HAVE NO IMPACT ON YOUR GRANT APPLICATION**

20. I have a curriculum, a working garden and am available to act as a mentor            Yes            No
21. I'm just starting a garden and would like to be considered for the mentoring program            Yes            No

**Application is due by 5:00 PM on November 30, 2016.** Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. will require an interim report documenting gardening activities with photographs and examples of classroom activities by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June, and a final report by 1<sup>st</sup> week of December. Omission of these reports will negate your school from future garden grants from Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. The reporting forms will be available for download from our website <http://www.keepcobbbeautiful.org>.

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

- Educational focus or curriculum standards integration meeting the purposes of the grant (20 pts)
- Innovative use of resources (15 pts)
- The number of students involved (15 pts)
- Administrative support/Staff involvement (15 pts)
- Social aspects of gardening: leadership development, team building, community support (10 pts)
- Community service (10 pts)
- TOTAL (85 pts possible) \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL  
DIG'N THE DIRT GRANT AWARD  
PROGRAM RULES**

**Program.** The goal of Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc.'s *Dig'n The Dirt* grant program is to create sustainable educational programs, activities, lessons, or events to excite students about creating a better planet through gardening. The grant(s) will be posted on the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. website (<http://www.keepcobbbeautiful.org>.) for use by the community for helpful guidelines, created by educators for educators, on how to develop innovative educational programs.

**Sponsor.** The KCB *Dig'n The Dirt* grant program is funded by grants and contributions, and sponsored by Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., 1792 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008.

**Eligibility.** The KCB *Dig'n The Dirt* grant program is open to all Cobb County public and private schools (including Marietta City Schools), limit one application per school. Applications not containing the required information will be disqualified. Verification of eligibility may be required. By submitting an application, KCB grant program entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules.

**Entry.** The KCB *Dig'n The Dirt* grant application period begins November 2, 2016 through November 30, 2016. The proposed program must be completed by December 1, 2017.

**Judging.** Judging will be performed by the Greening Committee made up of KCB Board members who will select the grantee(s) based on the criteria below. All decisions are final.

**Judging Criteria.** The judges will select the grantee(s) who submissions receive the highest point totals based on the criteria below:

- Educational focus or curriculum standards integration (20 points)
- Innovative use of resources (15 points)
- The numbers of students involved (15 points)
- Administrative support/Staff involvement (15 points)
- Social aspects of gardening (10 points)
- Community service (10 points)
- TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 85

**Selection and Notification.** Grantee(s) will be selected from all qualified applications and announced during the month of December, 2016 (before Winter Break) by Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., whose decision will be final and binding.

**Use of Grantees' Names.** Eligible Grantee acknowledges and agrees, that the name and city will be posted online at [kcb.cobbcounty.org](http://kcb.cobbcounty.org), and possibly at the Cobb County Schools website ([www.cobbk12.org](http://www.cobbk12.org)). Further, Grantee(s) agrees to grant Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. and Cobb County Schools the right to publish the lesson plans, activities and outcomes of the *Dig'n The Dirt* program. Grantee may also be requested, after award of the grant, to participate in further promotional activities.

**Grants.** Each Grantee could receive up to a maximum of \$800. The award amount will be based on the size and scope of the project and the number of awards granted. Under no circumstances are grantees eligible for grants which exceed the cost of the submitted budget in the application.

**Reporting Requirements.** Each grantee will be required to file two reports with the Keep Cobb Beautiful Greening Committee. The first report will be an interim report due by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June.

The final report will be due by 1<sup>st</sup> week of December. The reporting forms will be available for download from our website <http://www.keepcobbbeautiful.org>. If the grantee **does not submit** the reports with documentation regarding expenditures and curricular integration by the due dates, Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. reserves the right to demand that the grant amount be refunded in full immediately. Failure to meet this reporting requirement will negate the school from future *Dig'n The Dirt* grants. If the school is a previous recipient of grant funds, all previous reporting requirements **must have been or will be met** to qualify for additional funds.

**Grant Restrictions.** Each eligible Grantee may receive only one grant. Before grants are released, Grantee(s) must execute an Affidavit of Administrative Support, attesting to receiving support from the school administrator, as well as verifying that the grant funds will be used for their stated purpose.

**Unlawful Conduct and Disqualification.** Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any Grantee and terminate the grant who a) tampered with the application process; b) is an ineligible school; c) submits more than the allowed number of applications; d) conducts or administers the submitted program inconsistent with the program application, these rules, or the stated purpose and goal of the *Dig'n The Dirt* Program.

**Release.** By acceptance of any grant, the grantee(s) agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., any other sponsors, subsidiaries, affiliates, suppliers, distributors, advertising/promotional agencies, representatives, award package suppliers, and each of their respective parent companies and each such company's officers, directors, employees, and agents (collectively "Released Parties") from and against any claim or cause of action, including but not limited to, personal injury, death or damage to or loss of property, arising out of participating in the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. *Dig'n The Dirt* grant program, or receipt, use or misuse of any grant awarded herein.

**Limitation of Liability and Remedies.** NEITHER THE SPONSOR, NOR ANY OTHER RELEASED PARTY, SHALL HAVE ANY LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO ANY APPLICATIONS THAT ARE INCOMPLETE, LATE, GARBLED, MUTILATED, ILLEGIBLE, DELAYED, MISDELIVERED, LOST, DAMAGED, STOLEN, DELETED OR LOST DURING TRANSMISSION, MISDIRECTED OR OTHERWISE NOT TIMELY OR ACCURATELY DELIVERED OR DIFFICULT TO INTERPRET OR UNDERSTAND. ENTRIES RECEIVED BY US THAT ARE INCOMPLETE, LATE, GARBLED, MUTILATED, ILLEGIBLE, DELAYED, MISDELIVERED, LOST, DAMAGED, STOLEN, DELETED OR LOST DURING TRANSMISSION, MISDIRECTED OR OTHERWISE NOT TIMELY OR ACCURATELY DELIVERED OR DIFFICULT TO INTERPRET OR UNDERSTAND SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR GRANTS AND WE WILL NOT DELIVER ANY NOTICE OF SUCH INELIGIBILITY TO THE PARTICIPANT.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, SHALL THE RELEASED PARTIES BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR EXEMPLARY OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONJUNCTION OR CONNECTION WITH ENTRANTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE KCB GRANT AWARD PROGRAM POSTING ON OR ACCESS AND/OR DOWNLOAD OF ANY MATERIALS OR INFORMATION FROM ANY WEBSITE OWNED, OPERATED OR CONTROLLED BY KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL, INC. OR COBB COUNTY, AND/OR ANY GRANT (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ITS ACCEPTANCE OR USAGE) AWARDED TO GRANTEE(S) IN CONNECTION WITH THE KCB GRANT AWARD PROGRAM, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION DAMAGE TO PROPERTY AND, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, DAMAGES FOR BODILY OR PERSONAL INJURY, INCLUDING DEATH, EVEN IF THE RELEASED PARTIES HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES OR LOSS, ENTRANTS AGREE THAT THE AGGREGATE LIABILITY, IF ANY, OF THE RELEASED PARTIES ARISING OUT OF ANY KIND OF CLAIM (WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT, OR OTHERWISE) SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00).

**Indemnification.** Each Eligible Grantee agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from and against any loss, damage or expense (including court costs and attorneys' fees) that Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., and/or any of the Released Parties together with each of the parent, subsidiary, and affiliated companies, and each of its and their

successors or assigns, may suffer or incur as a result or in conjunction or connection with the KCB Grant Program, or the grant awarded to any grantee (including, without limitation, the receipt and/or use of said grant).

**Grantee(s) List.** The list of grantees will be available at the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. on our website <http://www.keepcobbbeautiful.org>. Or you may request a copy of the grantee(s) list by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope: Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., *Dig'n The Dirt* Grant Program, 1792 County Services Parkway, Marietta, GA 30008.

**Force Majeure.** The failure of Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. to comply with any provision of the Official Rules due to an act of God, hurricane, war, terrorism, fire, riot, earthquake, actions of governmental authorities outside the control of Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc., or other force majeure event shall not be considered a breach of these Official Grant Program Rules.

I have read and accept the terms of these Official Rules for application to the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. *Dig'n The Dirt* Grant Award Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Affidavit of Administrative Support

I hereby aver that I shall support this application for the Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. *Dig'n The Dirt* Award Program for a school garden and that funds received from this award will be used for the intended purpose. If the funds are not used per the agreement, or the grantee **does not submit** the interim report by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June, and/or the year-end report by 1<sup>st</sup> week of December with documentation regarding expenditures and curricular integration, the grant amount will be refunded in full to Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc. immediately upon demand. Further, the school will be prohibited from applying for any future *Dig'n The Dirt* garden grants from Keep Cobb Beautiful, Inc.

To be signed by the school's Principal and the Garden Coordinator.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

