

2016 C2E Grant Info Packet

What is Conserve2Enhance (C2E)?

“When you save water, you save our rivers.” The Tucson Conserve2Enhance program connects water conservation to community action by linking participant donations, based on water savings, to local environmental enhancement projects.

An individual or business’ efforts to use less water can result in direct benefits for the community. By creating a C2E account on conserve2enhance.org, you gain access to the free C2E Water Use Dashboard. This online tool allows Tucson Water customers to automatically upload water use data for their home or business, track their water use over time, learn about where they have the most potential to save, and put their water savings to work to support local environmental enhancement projects.

Here’s how C2E works:

- 1) **Conserve water** by changing behaviors and/or installing new water efficient retrofits
- 2) **Track water savings** using the personalized Water Use Dashboard
- 3) **Donate the money** you saved on your water bill to a C2E program
- 4) **Urban enhancement projects** in your community are supported by participant donations



What kinds of Enhancement Projects does C2E fund?

C2E supports urban riparian and waterway projects that...

- Increase native vegetation to create and expand habitat value
- Increase soil moisture to support native habitats and reduce heat island effects
- Cool air and surface temperatures at the project site
- Slow and capture stormwater to improve infiltration into the soil
- Reduce runoff and associated pollutants that end up in washes
- Reduce erosion and sedimentation in washes, waterways, and their tributaries
- Beautify areas near neighborhood washes to create a community resource

Urban Enhancement Projects are generally funded in the range of \$2,500 to \$7,500. All projects must have a one-year timeline for completion.

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C2E projects make on-the-ground impacts in our community. Eligible projects include:

- Habitat restoration or preservation along/near/in washes or upland drainages
- New green infrastructure in right-of-ways along streets, parking lots, parks, or public spaces like churches and schools that connect to an urban wash or waterway

In the 2016 grant cycle, the C2E Advisory Council will prioritize projects that benefit important riparian areas, emphasize partnerships and community access to green space, have high levels of C2E participation, and feature strong long-term stewardship commitments. In addition, areas with low urban tree canopy cover and high surface temperature will receive special consideration.

C2E will *not* fund...

- The expansion of irrigation from potable water sources
- Hardscape (e.g., concrete structures, retaining walls, impervious stormwater conveyance)
- Improvements that are entirely contained on private property, unless the private property is located within a wash or waterway and the applicant can demonstrate that the improvements will generate public benefit in excess of the funding request

You can learn more about C2E and view past projects by clicking the **Tucson C2E** link on the left side of this web page: <http://conserve2enhance.org/Tucson>.

- ➔ C2E will provide flyers for you to distribute during the application process and throughout the project. Contact Tucson@conserve2enhance.org to request brochures.

Additional funding information:

- No additional funds will be granted to selected C2E projects once the project budget has been approved — please make sure all anticipated costs are accounted for in your budget template and/or have other monies available.
- Funded C2E projects will only be allowed up to a 10% contingency within the approved budget. This 10% can be moved among the three budget categories.
- Should your project come in under budget, you have two options. You may return unspent money to the Tucson C2E fund or you may submit a revised budget and scope of work to Tucson C2E to expand the original project. This does not guarantee that you will be able to use remaining funds to expand your project. The Tucson C2E Advisory Council will review your amended proposal and, if approved, award some or all of the remaining funds for continued work.
- Fiscal agent identified and verified
 - No matter what type of organization you are, you need to have your own fiscal agent that will accept and manage funds for this project, including

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payment of any sub-contractors, as well as reimbursement requests to C2E.

- If you are a group of individuals, we recommend seeking a local non-profit organization willing to act as a fiscal agent. It may be that one of the project partners is willing to act in this capacity and the organization could offer this in-kind service as matching time.
- Grant payments will be made on a reimbursable basis, unless other arrangements need to be made due to financial constraints.
- Ancillary project needs may not exceed 20% of total project budget
 - There will be some need for budget items like permits and tools that are not considered a direct environmental benefit. Projects may also want to provide some funding to students or job training opportunities for community members, so stipends or the like may be included.
- Matching support
 - A 50% match will be required for all applications. (For example, if an application is requesting \$5,000, then \$2,500 in match needs to be demonstrated.)
 - Matching funds are considered volunteer hours, in-kind services and tools that relate directly to the project.

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Resources for Starting Projects:

- Maps:
 - Determine your nearest wash and community needs:
<http://gismaps.pagnet.org/PAG-GIMap/>
- Plant Types:
 - [Guide to Food-rich Landscapes for Birds and People](#)
 - Pima County Meso and Xeri riparian plant lists page 126:
http://rfcd.pima.gov/wrd/riparian/pdfs/revised_guidelines_jan2010.pdf
 - Feldman's Neighborhood created this guide:
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B9AXXZU1bloYUGVSZnZvSjJNLTQ>
- Native tree list from Desert Harvesters:
<http://www.desertharvesters.org/native-tree-information/native-tree-list/>
 - Rain garden plant list from Brad Lancaster, author of Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands: <http://www.harvestingrainwater.com/plant-lists-resources/multi-use-rain-garden-plant-lists/>
- Plant Sources:
 - Work with Trees for Tucson to do a community tree planting:
<https://tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/trees-for-tucson/low-cost-shade-trees/community-shade-trees/>
 - Jessie Byrd, Pima County Native Plant Nursery Manager: (520) 488-8022 or Jessie.byrd@pima.gov
- Design for Green Infrastructure, Restoration & Water Harvesting:
 - City of Tucson Approved standards for green infrastructure and rainwater harvesting: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/landscape>
 - Water harvesting information from Desert Harvesters: <http://www.desertharvesters.org/water-harvesting/>
 - City of Tucson Public Right-of-Way Design Standards: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/landscape>
 - City Of Tucson Water Harvesting Guidelines: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/stormwater-management>
 - Watershed Management Group's Resource Library: <https://watershedmg.org/learn/resource-library>
 - Green Infrastructure for Southwest Neighborhoods Manual: <https://watershedmg.org/document/green-infrastructure-southwestern-neighborhoods-manual>
 - Brad Lancaster's website, author of Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands: <http://www.harvestingrainwater.com/rainwater-harvesting-inforesources/>
- Permits:
 - City of Tucson Right-of-Way Excavation Permits: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/transportation/files/ROW_Permit_Application.pdf

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- Project Expertise:
 - If you need additional leaders to help organize your event and to help educate additional neighbors, you can work with groups like Watershed Management Group to apply for grants together:
<https://watershedmg.org/>
 - WMG staff or other rainwater harvesting professionals such as Ethos (<http://www.ethosrainwater.com/>), will partner on grants to help lead your neighborhood workshops.
 - Ask UA Hydrocats if they can send rainwater harvesting interns to your workshops: <http://www.uasfs.com/hydrocats.html>
- Recruit Volunteers:
 - Tucson Clean & Beautiful has forms online allow you to request volunteer groups: <https://tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/trees-for-tucson/events-workshops/volunteer-planting-projects/>
- Maintenance:
 - The WMG Monsoon Squad can be hired to develop specialized training for your neighborhood and bring in and organize volunteers.
<https://watershedmg.org/advocacy/monsoon-squad>
 - Sign-up your project site with Tucson Clean & Beautiful's Adopt-a-Park and Public Areas program: <https://tucsoncleanandbeautiful.org/adopt-a-park-public-areas/adopting-a-site/>
 - Field guide for rain garden care:
https://watershedmg.org/sites/default/files/documents/resource-guide-rain-garden_0.pdf

Typical Project costs:

- 1 block Green Infrastructure: \$2,000
- Design/Build Contractors: \$50 - \$100/hr
- Excavator: \$100/hr
- Right-of-way permit/excavation permit: \$50/block
- Curb Core: \$50
- Curb Cut: \$200
- Chicane: \$5,000