NOTICE OF GRANT FUNDING AVAILABILITY

2018 EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

DATA COLLECTION/RESTORATION GRANTS

SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

March 7, 2018

Deadline to apply: Tuesday, April 10, 2018

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District is now inviting proposals for Data Collection/ Restoration Grants to be awarded through its 2018 Education Grant Program.

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM?
The mission of the Education Grant Program is to provide funding for educational and other projects that enhance the understanding of the San Lorenzo River watershed or improve the watershed's environmental health. The District's Education Grant Program funds two types of grants--Classic Watershed Grants, and Data Collection/ Restoration Grants. The 2018 Classic Watershed Education funding will also be opening March 7, 2018. Please apply through the separate application.

DATA COLLECTION/ RESTORATION GRANTS: The District is now accepting applications for 2018 Data Collection/ Restoration Grants, which are designed to supply needed information or address acknowledged restoration needs with respect to District-owned lands.

Your proposal should address one of the following Recommended Project Areas, identified by the District to provide priority information/restoration needs for the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Lands:

1. Develop comprehensive evaluation of potential energy generation opportunities on District lands and buildings (e.g. solar panels, wind turbines, micro hydro, and etc. potential).
2. Develop a long-term monitoring program including baseline and protocols in order to evaluate invasive species eradication success & determine if management strategies are increasing biodiversity abundance on the San Lorenzo Valley Water District's Olympia Watershed Property.
3. Design and implement a soil sampling and monitoring effort to determine if invasive species management strategies impact soil quality.

For background information about these project areas, please refer to the District's website (http://www.slvwd.com/_WatershedProjects.htm#OlyProjects). You are encouraged to apply if you are a scientist, restoration practitioner, student or citizen group with experience in designing and implementing similar projects.

Funding level: The aggregate amount of grant funding available for 2018 is $15,000. The District will consider funding Data Collection/Restoration Grants for approximately $5,000 each (award negotiable).

Application deadline: Applications for Data Collection/Restoration Grants may be submitted to the District beginning Wednesday, March 7, 2018 and must be received by the District by **Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.**

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-FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS -

WATERSHED DATA COLLECTION/RESTORATION GRANTS

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Who is eligible to apply?

Scientists, restoration practitioners, students, groups, and organizations are eligible for grant funding.

What features are we looking for in projects?

The District gives highest priority to projects that exhibit some or all of these features:

- Project is within one of the District's Recommended Project Areas (see previous page)
- Applicant has experience and expertise in the project area
- Project is designed with an appropriate seasonal timeline for the proposed work
- Project has a work plan that can be completed within 1 – 2 years
- Project has potential to incorporate volunteers and increase public knowledge of environmental issues

What qualities will make my project stand out?

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District will give the highest consideration to projects that exhibit Some or all of the following selection criteria:

- Applicant has successfully completed similar projects
- Applicant has demonstrated knowledge of the project area
- Applicant has demonstrated potential for achieving the highest value for amount of funding proposed
- The proposed project is described in relation to completed or ongoing projects on District land within the project area

What types of projects does the District discourage?

Projects that are outside the Recommended Project Area list are discouraged because the District's Environmental Committee has carefully selected and recommended the highest priority project areas for funding. Please do not propose projects suitable for funding as Classic Watershed Grants, such as outdoor education for students and the public, including watershed hikes, day camps and school curriculum. The next round of funding for Classic Watershed Grants will also be opening March 7, 2018. Please apply through the separate application.

How do I apply?

Email your completed application to:cblanchard@slvwd.com or mail to: Carly Blanchard, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, 13060 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006. Email preferred.

How do I get more information?

If you have any questions or need additional information or assistance with the grant proposal application or review process, please consult the District website at http://www.slvwd.com, or contact Carly Blanchard, Water Conservation Specialist at the San Lorenzo Valley Water District at cblanchard@slvwd.com.

What format should my application follow?

The District encourages brief and concise grant proposals, which meet the formatting guidelines listed in Attachment 1, Formatting Guidelines.

What do I need to do when my project is completed?

All successful grant applicants will be required to submit a written narrative report documenting the accomplishments of the completed project AND a financial report that accounts for all expenditures of Education Grant Program funds.

How are applications reviewed and awards decided?

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District Education Grant Program awards grants on a competitive basis, using the following procedure:

1. District staff screens all applications to ensure that they meet the application format guidelines.
2. The District's Education Program Advisory Commission reads and evaluates all of the screened applications in terms of the selection criteria.
3. Based on their evaluation, the Education Program Advisory Commission recommends grant funding awards to the Board of Directors.
4. The Board of Directors, at their sole discretion, decides which grant proposals to fund and the amounts to be funded for each proposal. All decisions of the Board of Directors are final. Generally, the Board of Directors will award grants within six (6) weeks of the proposal application deadline.
5. Staff notifies all applicants in writing of the Board's decision.
6. Following grant awards, funds are normally available for disbursement within twenty-one (21) calendar days.

The Olympia Watershed has a heavy infestation of French broom and other exotic invasive broom species, which need to be systematically controlled.

Each grant proposal application has two (2) parts: The **Application Narrative** and the **Budget Summary**. Use only paper clips to fasten your proposal; do not bind or staple.

<u>**Application Narrative**</u>

The Application Narrative shall not exceed four (4) single-sided 8-1/2" x 11" pages or two (2) double-sided pages, with minimum 1-inch margins. Number all pages. The designated contact person shall sign the Application Narrative. Please include the following information:

1. Name of Individual(s)/Organization Submitting Proposal: Provide the full and correct name of the individual(s)/organization that will receive the grant and be responsible for the project.

2. Name, Address, Telephone Number(s) and Email Address of Contact Person: Provide the name, address, telephone number(s) and email address of one (1) contact individual who carries the proposal/project responsibilities.

3. Title of Project and Recommended Project Area: Provide a descriptive title of your project, and identify the Recommended Project Area where it fits.

4. Amount of Funds Requested: Identify the total amount of San Lorenzo Valley Water District Education Grant Program funds you are requesting for your project.

5. Briefly describe and summarize your project. You may include photographs and/or maps.

6. Briefly describe how your proposed project relates to ongoing or completed projects within the Recommended Project Area.

7. Briefly describe why this project is needed. What specific issues will your project address?

8. Briefly describe your scope of work/work plan. Explain exactly what you are going to do and how you are going to accomplish your project. You may use drawings, photographs and/or maps.

9. If you require maps to define your project, please download, print, and mark-up existing maps provided on the District website (http://www.slvwd.com/_WatershedProjects.htm#OlyProjects)

10. Identify the overall goal(s) and primary objective(s) of your project/program. Objectives are the "real world" things you will do as a means of achieving your goals.

11. Describe how you will show that your project has achieved its stated goal(s) and proposed objective(s).

12. Describe your qualifications to complete the grant proposal.

13. Identify the key participants and leadership of your proposed project. If you represent a group or organization, identify the stated purpose of your group or organization.

14. If you will use volunteers, explain how you will recruit them.

15. Explain how your project will increase public knowledge of environmental issues affecting District lands.

13. Identify specific timelines & milestones for project completion & the final project report.

14. If applicable, describe your proposed project's monitoring program.

15. Identify any other source(s) of funding for your proposed project. Include any matching funds, materials, services, equipment, personnel and/or other resources.

<u>**Budget Summary**</u>

Include a separate, one-page Budget Summary which provides a clear and concise budget for your proposed project.