

## Sustainability Grants Program Summary

The City of Vernon's Sustainability Grants aim to engage and support community participation in environmental sustainability and climate actions. There are normally two application intakes annually, one in the spring to celebrate Earth Day (April 22) and one in the fall. The Sustainability Grants program historically has provided up to \$1000 per grant.



### Who can apply?

Vernon residents, students/schools, community groups, and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply. For-profit businesses/corporations are not eligible.

### What types of projects qualify?

The scope of acceptable projects is broad and creative initiatives from all disciplines are welcomed. Successful projects will address climate change and environmental sustainability in the Vernon area and preference may be given to projects that engage the broader community to maximize impacts.

### Project Ideas

- Encourage eco-friendly modes of transportation (e.g., cycling, e-scooters, public transit, carpooling).
- Promote technical solutions to reduce energy consumption in homes/buildings.
- Reduce the amount of waste that is landfilled through recycling, composting, etc.
- Promote local food production and food preservation.
- Reduce water consumption.
- Educate people to buy more sustainable products.
- Protect sensitive ecosystems or species.
- Create artwork (visual, written, performance, etc.) or other cultural initiatives to encourage people to discuss and act on climate change and sustainability.
- Develop education resources that can be used locally to increase awareness of the City's Climate Action Plan.
- Coordinate efforts to prepare residents for local impacts of wildfires, flooding, droughts, or other climate impacts.

Other sustainability projects that are not on this list will also be considered.

### How to apply

On Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, a link to the grant application form will be available at: <https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/sustainability>.

### Eligibility Details

- You cannot profit financially from the project.
- You must begin your project after the grant decision is made. Projects are not supported retroactively.

## Sustainability Grants Program Summary

- If your project is going to take place in public spaces/parks, please confirm the appropriate authorization with the City of Vernon.
- Create a project budget by determining the cost of items and resources to be used for your project. Grant money may be used to source supplies and materials, cover travel costs, provide honorariums for volunteer time, rent space to host events, or other direct expenses that are appropriate for your project, as described on your application form. Think resourcefully about how to obtain materials through borrowing or sourcing donations. Keep a copy of all your receipts to submit with your project report.
- Grant recipients will be expected to take photos or videos of their project activities to share with the City in your project report.
- A short, final report must be provided once your project is complete. The City will provide a report template to complete.
- It is expected that the City of Vernon Sustainability Grants program will be recognized as a sponsor in your project communications. Aim to promote your project and the Sustainability Grant program in the community as much as possible and where appropriate. For example, if an organization uses social media, they will be expected to promote their project and the Sustainability Grant program on social media (individuals will not be expected to use their personal social media accounts).

### 2022 Funded Sustainability Grants Program

The following table outlines the most recent projects funded by the Sustainability Grants Program. The program was not available in 2023.

Intake period	Description	Grant Amounts
2022 fall intake	Recycling plastic into plastic feedstocks for new products	\$1000
	Vernon area wetlands inventory	\$1000
2022 spring intake	Green Timbers community garden development	\$500
	Nurses, citizen science, and climate change impacts on community health	\$500
	Pollinator pathway project	\$1000

### More information

Additional information will be provided on [Vernon.ca](http://Vernon.ca) in April, prior to the program launching on Earth Day.