

Tu Agua Project

2024 – 2025 Mini Grant Opportunity for Individuals and Groups

Purpose: The University of Wisconsin–Madison Arboretum and Division of Extension Water Action Volunteers program were awarded a Wisconsin Idea Collaboration Grant to promote community engagement and outreach in stormwater and water quality issues. Working in partnership with Wisconsin EcoLatinos, our main goal is to support individuals, small groups, and nonprofits working to model and promote water stewardship actions in our community.

Main contact for individuals: Cristina Carvajal (cristina_carvajal@wisconsincolatinos.org)

Funding Amount:

- Up to \$2,000 per awardee (\$10,000 total available)

Timeline:

- Applications due: August 26, 2024
- Awardees notified by: September 13, 2024
- Final invoice due: June 2, 2025
- Final report due: June 9, 2025

Mini Grant Priorities:

- Funds must be used for water stewardship projects or activities that reduce negative impacts to water quality from stormwater or other sources. See example projects below.
- Projects should demonstrate measurable outcomes.
- Projects should engage and impact underserved residents and areas of our community.

How to Apply:

- Email completed application form to cristina_carvajal@wisconsincolatinos.org by 11:59 pm on August 1, 2024

Example Projects:

Each awardee may complete one or more water stewardship activities that reduce negative impacts to water quality. Below are some examples of activities that qualify for funding, but this is NOT a complete list.

"Infrastructure" projects

Projects that install stormwater mitigation infrastructure, providing a visible example for the surrounding neighborhood or community. Funding could cover expenses such as materials (including native plants), hiring a consultant to locate and guide the project, educational signage and programming, installation costs, and promotion.

Example infrastructure projects could include:

- porous pavers
- rain garden or downspout garden
- rain barrel
- bioswale installation

Outreach and educational activities

To promote water stewardship in the community, awardees can use the funds to support outreach and educational activities that focus on ways to reduce negative impacts to water quality from stormwater and other sources.

Outreach and educational activities might include:

- Neighborhood or community events such as:
 - tour of infrastructure projects (such as rain gardens or rain barrels)
 - tour of stormwater or water quality impacts
 - teaching others about stormwater/water quality impacts
 - hosting guest speakers or instructors
- Outreach projects such as:
 - educational signs or videos
 - digital or print campaigns to raise awareness and/or encourage action on water quality issues

Tu Agua Project

2024 – 2025 Mini Grant Application for Individuals

Applications are due **August 1, 2024**. Email completed applications to Cristina Carvajal (cristina_carvajal@wisconsinecolatinos.org). If you have any questions about your project or the application, please contact Cristina. We will provide additional guidance on project reporting and funding when we notify awardees.

Applicant Information

Applicant name	
Applicant phone number	
Applicant email address	
I am applying as a:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Individual● Group

Project Information

Our goal is to provide funding and other support so you can implement a successful water stewardship project. The questions below ask you to describe your project, set a timeline for accomplishing the components of your project, and describe the impact of your project.

1. Provide a summary of your water stewardship project. What stormwater or water quality issue(s) do you plan to address? Briefly describe your main project activity or activities.

2. For each main activity, provide as much detail as possible about how you plan to use the mini grant funds.

Examples of the kinds of details to include about your project activities:

- *What is your installation plan for an infrastructure project (e.g. rain garden, porous pavers)?*
- *How will you communicate with and engage your target audience (e.g. volunteers, event attendees, parents, students)?*

- *Who will develop, design, and distribute your project materials? (e.g. signage, educational materials)*

3. Outline your timeline for key parts of your project, including milestones for planning and implementation.

Reminder: Final invoices for project expenses are due June 2, 2025 and your final report is due June 9, 2025.

4. Please list who will be involved in your project (and you can briefly describe how they will be involved). Include people within your organization or group, as well as key people who can provide information and guidance for your project.

Example: My family and neighbors will adopt a stormwater drain on our street. We will contact Dane County Ripple Effects to sign up and get training.

5. Describe how your project will engage and impact underserved residents or areas of our community.

6. How will you measure the outcomes of your project? Include details like the estimated number of people impacted by each activity and how they will benefit.

Examples of how to describe impact:

- *We estimate 10 volunteers in the neighborhood will help install the downspout garden. They will learn how to help other people install more gardens in the future.*
- *We estimate that 100 residents who use our outdoor space will see our educational signage. They will learn about the impacts of stormwater and how they can help.*
- *We estimate that 30 people will attend our education event about water quality. They will learn how to help keep our waters clean and how to keep their families and pets safe.*

Budget

Please outline your costs by expense type in the table below. The maximum award per applicant is \$2,000. Materials and supplies could include items such as plants for a rain garden, permeable pavers, materials for an educational event, or signage. Consultants and contractors could be hired to locate, guide, or install a project, or be a guest speaker at an event. Other costs could include promotion, renting a venue for an event, etc.

Please add rows as needed.

Total dollar amount requested	\$
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Expense type	Description	Cost
<i>Ex: Materials and Supplies</i>	<i>Ex: Plants for rain garden</i>	<i>Ex: \$200</i>
Materials and Supplies		\$
		\$
Consultants/contractors		
Other		

Total award requested:		\$