**Environmental Initiatives Grant Program**
**2016 Grant Recipients**

Eight distinctive environmental projects are going ahead in 2017 thanks to the City of St. Albert's annual Environmental Initiatives Grant Program (EIGP). The EIGP was made possible by funding received from the City of St. Albert to assist community groups in launching environmentally beneficial projects by alleviating all or part of project costs. The accomplishments of community groups, with the support from the City of St. Albert, enables our environmental policy, plans, and practices to continuously take shape and positively impact our city.

**2016 Highlights of the Environmental Initiatives Grant Program:**

- 8 applications approved
- Grants awarded ranged from $1,200 to $10,000
- Total grant funding allocated in 2016 is $33,450
- 108 environmental initiatives projects have received funding since 2007

Applicants are eligible to apply if the community group is a federally or provincially registered non-profit society or charitable organization operating in St. Albert; a school located in St. Albert; or a community group of two or more St. Albert citizens who have come together for the purpose of undertaking an eligible project.

The qualifying projects had to demonstrate environmental benefits or improvements that is consistent with City policies and may include:

1. community environmental education projects
2. open space and natural area enhancement projects
3. natural spaces reclamation projects
4. waste reduction projects
5. wildlife or biodiversity-oriented projects
6. land, air and/or water quality preservation and/or enhancement
7. environmental demonstration projects using innovative technologies
8. environmental projects that demonstrate local, regional or provincial leadership
9. environmental communications and public awareness facilitation projects
10. environmental monitoring or inventory projects
11. other environmental projects in keeping with City policies.

Congratulations to the following recipients!

| Community Group/Project | Proposed Grant |
|---|---|
| ***Trout Unlimited for promotion and presentation of Yellow Fish Road Program***. Funds will be used to provide 20-30 public outreach sessions to schools and community groups, stewardship activities with 5-10 volunteer storm drain painting events, and hold teacher training sessions. | $5,000.00 |
| ***Bertha Kennedy Elementary School to purchase supplies for a microgreens greenhouse***. Funds will be used to purchase supplies for a microgreens initiative which grows plants with smaller, more compact, less expensive system. The growing time is also shorter which is optimal for a classroom setting. This new system will allow for additional classes to participate. | $1,200.00 |
| ***Society of Friends for the St. Albert Botanic Park to purchase and install irrigation system***. Grant will be used to purchase and install an irrigation system for the Park's new Heritage Garden. This will align the garden with the irrigation system throughout the Park. | $5,000.00 |
| ***Grey Nuns White Spruce Park Working Group (GNWSPWG) for seedling planting, control Manitoba Maple, site preparation and GNWSP publication***. Funds will go towards planting the remainder of seedlings from the 2014 Environmental Initiatives Grant, initiate treatment of Manitoba Maple, prepare site for planting in 2018 and assist in the development of publications for the Park. | $10,065.43 |
| ***Ecole Marie Poburan for outdoor gardens/classroom***. The grant will be used to add an additional planting beds and rehabilitation of 3 existing beds. Addition of an outdoor composter. | $2,600.00 |
| ***St. Albert Urban Agriculture & Arts and Heritage Foundation for community food forest***. Continue with the success of 2014 grant project, the funds will be used to complete the planting of the Community Food Forest. | $1,234.57 |
| ***Grandin Village Gardeners for community garden***. The Grandin Village Gardeners utilized the grant in 2015 to construct and initiate a community garden. Funds from this grant provide additional beds, rain barrels and compost bins. | $4,600.00 |
| ***ESSMY Jr High School for naturalization project***. Funds will be used to purchase native plants for the natural area at the front of the school. The planting site will be incorporated in to the student curriculum. | $3,750.00 |
| ***TOTAL*** | $33,450.00 |