



Piedmont Master Gardeners
Virginia Cooperative Extension, 460 Stagecoach Road, Charlottesville, VA 22902

2025 School and Community Garden Grant Guidelines

The Piedmont Master Gardeners Association (PMGA) is accepting proposals for grants to be awarded in 2025 that promote youth education in horticulture and/or gardening. PMGA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports the work of Extension Master Gardeners serving Charlottesville and Albemarle County through Virginia Cooperative Extension.

1. The grants will not be less than \$100 or exceed \$500 each. The number of grants will be determined based upon monies available and eligible grant applications received. All requests for grants must be made on the PMG “Educational Horticulture Grant Application” form. The form is available online at PiedmontMasterGardeners.org or by emailing Mary Voorhees at mdv1952@aol.com.
2. Any public or private educator or school-assigned project coordinator (e.g., a City Schoolyard Garden Coordinator) within Albemarle County and the city of Charlottesville is eligible to apply for a grant. A school may qualify for more than one grant; however, these grants must be for different projects.
3. The grants should involve youth in gardening activities (e.g., growing, caring for, and harvesting vegetables, herbs, flowers or native plants) and teaching gardening concepts (e.g., plant life cycle, role of beneficial insects and pollinators, companion planting, composting). Funds may be used to purchase garden related items, **not labor**. Examples might be books, tools, soil tests, fertilizer, compost, mulch, seeds, plants, instructional kits.
4. The application form is to be completed in its entirety. Typing is preferred but not required; however, if writing is illegible, the application will not be considered.
5. The applications are due via email by **February 28, 2025**. Email instructions are provided on the application form. Grant recipients will be notified in early March.
6. A final report summarizing the funded project’s benefits and accomplishments will be due by June 9, 2025. A report form will be emailed to grant recipients.
7. If there are no qualified applicants, the PMG will not award grants for 2025. If the requests for funding from qualified applicants exceed the available monies, the grant committee looks at several factors to prioritize funding. These factors include whether schools or projects reach an underserved or minority population and/or serve the greatest number of children who receive free or reduced lunches, are English language learners or receive special education services. Partial funding may also be made rather than full funding.
8. Any grant recipient must be willing to allow the PMG and VCE to publicize the grant award in media outlets as well as PMG and VCE publications.
8. Decisions of the PMG are final.