



## Big Country Master Gardener Association Educational Garden Grants

Big Country Master Gardeners, a non-profit, trained volunteer organization, is a component of Texas AgriLife Extension Service that promotes volunteer horticultural education and service to the community. As part of our mission, Big Country Master Gardeners (BCMG) is offering two (2) \$500.00 garden grants. The grants are funded through various fundraising events in cooperation with the Taylor Country Master Gardener Advisor. It is our intention to provide both educational and financial support to non-profit horticulture programs in the Big Country. This includes, but is not limited to, educational gardening/landscape organizations/associations, landscape conservation programs, pollinator, pocket/community gardens, and rainwater harvesting to support said gardens.

Examples of projects may include:

- Creating a wildlife habitat or pocket garden on land that has been neglected
- Creating a rain garden to help eliminate water runoff
- Creating a garden to grow food for community needs
- Establishing a landscape to eliminate soil erosion
- Establish a garden to be enjoyed by all citizens in a community
- Establish a garden for a specified group, i.e. veterans, community organization, etc.
- Expand an existing project

Types of projects not funded:

- Food and Refreshments
- Marketing Activities
- Ribbon Cutting or other events
- Media or PR campaigns

### **Administration**

General administration of the Big Country Master Gardener Association is under the direction of the Strategic Planning Committee, which will evaluate all grant applications and make notifications. Notification of award will be via phone call and email.

## **Qualifications**

### **The project must:**

- Be in the Big Country which includes Taylor, Runnels, Callahan, Jones and Nolan counties;
- Use Earth-Kind Landscaping Methods <https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/> ;
- Gardens/landscapes must be created for educational, therapeutic or food source use; beautification project to an existing community eyesore, or resolution to an existing environmental landscape issue;
- Must have commitment to provide year-round care for the project.

## **Additional Information**

Follow up documentation will be required in the form of a report (Attachment B), as to the progress/completion of the project. Updates must be provided at the mid-point and end of the award. The final report should be submitted no more than 90 days following the end of the grant period, or at completion of the grant. Pictures or presentations to the BCMA are required, both at the mid-point and final reports.

By accepting grant funds, applicants are authorizing the Big Country Master Gardeners the rights to post photos of the project on our website and/or on social media. Any photos including individuals will require a photo, or use of likeness, release.

The application period is from May 15 – June 14, 2019. Applications must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 14, 2019 to be considered for funding during this award cycle. Awards will be announced June 21, 2019. Projects must be completed by September 30, 2020.

Questions regarding the grant should be directed to:

[mgardeners@yahoo.com](mailto:mgardeners@yahoo.com)

Applications should be mailed to:

**Grant Committee  
Big Country Master Gardener Association  
1982 Lytle Way  
Abilene, TX 79602**

Applications may be emailed to:

[mgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:mgardeners@gmail.com)