

**Dane County Parks Friends Grant Program
2023 Mini-Grant Application Summary
5/10/2023**

Applicant	Project Name	Project Details	Meets Requirements	Grant Amount Requested	Total Project Budget
Anderson Park Friends	Shredder-Chipper Equipment for Food Pantry Garden	A DR shredder/chipper will mulch/shred stalks, stems, and vines into small pieces and reduce the length of time to compost vegetable waste into an organic soil enhancer.	Yes	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,050.00
Catholic Multicultural Center	Community Environment Program	Host a community field trip to Brigham County Park in July, August, or early September 2023. CMC began offering community field trips annually in 2018. These events aim to break down barriers that many of the people CMC serves face in accessing natural areas: lack of transportation or knowing how to get there, not knowing about these spaces and the rules to using them, or, not speaking the language or not seeing others there who look like them. These barriers lead to harmful disparities in the rates that low-income people and people of color access, and benefit from, nature and green spaces.	Yes	\$ 1,141.00	\$ 1,701.00
Capital Off Road Pathfinders	CamRock County Park Trail Building Tools Refresh	Replace unrepairable worn trail building tools such as: McLeouds, forestry hoes, loppers, rakes	Yes	\$ 946.30	\$ 946.30
Friends of Donald Park	Equipment to Support Natural Areas Volunteers	Purchase tools and proper safety equipment to maintain and improve the park's natural areas and multi-use trails for regular Tuesday and Saturday volunteer workdays.	Yes	\$ 1,428.92	\$ 1,428.92
Prairie Moraine Friends	Tool Time	Purchase additional tools to support our demonstrated commitment to natural area restoration and park maintenance.	Yes	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,340.00
Friends of Schumacher Farm Park	Environmental Education Programs	Provide a series of environmental education classes for kids in 2024 focused on birds.	Yes	\$ 604.00	\$ 604.00
Holy Wisdom Monastery	Prescribed burning for North Mendota Wildlife Area	To help offset the costs of contracted prescribed burning at the North Mendota Wildlife Area.	Yes	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,320.00
Friends of Badger Mill Creek Environmental Corridor	Badger Mill Creek Native Planting Restoration	Purchase equipment necessary for volunteers to manage invasive plants in existing native plantings seeded in fall 2021/winter 2022, and to establish a new native planting on a 5-acre fallow parcel, adjacent to and including a line of mature burr oaks in the Ice Age Junction Natural Resource Area.	Yes	\$ 1,540.00	\$ 1,540.00
Friends of Silverwood Park	Park Restoration and Garden Supplies	Obtain specialty fuel for brush pile burning and rental of skid steer and trailer to further natural area restoration volunteer work and support a composting program for the grower-partners.	Yes	\$ 1,447.50	\$ 1,447.50

Total Requests \$ 11,957.72
DCP Funding Available \$ 6,000.00
Funding Deficit Covered by the Foundation for Dane County Parks \$ (5,957.72)

**Dane County Parks Friends Grant Program
2023 Capital Improvement Grant Application Summary**

5/10/2023

Applicant	Project Name	Project Details	Meets Requirements	Grant Amount Requested	Total Project Budget
Koshkonong Prairie Historical Society	CamRock County Park Interpretive Signage	Develop six interpretive signs to be placed at selected locations to feature natural history and development history along CamRock Trail, a multi-purpose graveled trail linking Cambridge and Rockdale. CamRock Park Master Plan Report (2008) envisioned five interpretive signs to be placed at points of interest along the multi-use trail.	Yes	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 14,000.00
Friends of Schumacher Farm Park	Farmhouse Porch Restoration	The Friends have been actively restoring the house to a look similar to its 1917 appearance while also improving the safety and accessibility. On the south porch, the Friends plan to add period balusters and columns and move the location of the stairs by removing the concrete steps and rebuilding wooden ones. We'd also recreate the wooden deck, and add a lattice under the porch. On the north porch, we'll raise the soil level to within at least 6" or less of the front edge of the porch in order to install a handicap accessible ramp from the east (front) face. This will eliminate the need for a ramp on the north side of the house. The existing deteriorating ramp will be removed. We will also add carved period columns and a wood deck to the north porch. The roof support beam on both porches also need to be replaced.	Yes	\$ 11,514.00	\$ 15,352.00
Friends of Lake Kogonsa Society	Improvements to Fish Camp County Parks Net House Building	Paint the inside of the front room net house and install and create education signage for this space.	Yes	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 7,000.00

Total Requests \$ 27,264.00
Funding Available \$ 111,271.25
Remaining Funds \$ 84,007.25



Friends of Dane County Parks Grant Programs *2023 Grant Program Details*

The Friends Capital Grant Program was created in the 2020 County Budget and provides matching funds to Friends groups and other nonprofit organizations to implement capital improvements on Dane County parkland. There are two grant options for Friend and Partner organizations.

Capital Grants will fund up to 75% of the total project costs and can range from \$2,000 - \$18,750. All grants must be matched 25% with cash.

In the 2023 budget, funding from the Environmental Council's Community Partners grant program was transferred to Dane County Parks. Mini Grants can fund a full or partial project/program between \$250-\$2,000.

The 2023 grant period opened February 1 and had an initial review after March 15, 2023. The program was advertised with a rolling deadline after the initial application period if there was still funding available. Capital Grants will remain open. Mini Grants will close after these initial grant awards.

Capital Grant

Grants will be awarded for capital projects on county parkland. Capital improvements are defined as permanent changes that have a life expectancy of at least ten years. Projects must be far along in the planning process and meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for funding:

- Total project cost may not exceed \$25,000 for projects that involve construction or paving
- Project or concept must be identified in a master plan, if applicable
- Projects must be pre-approved by Dane County Park staff
- Organization must have the capacity to manage and implement the project on their own
- Only one (1) grant application can be submitted per organization/park property per year.
- Previously awarded Friends Capital Improvement Grants must be closed before another application is accepted.

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Trail construction
- Habitat restoration and perennial plantings
- Signage (interpretive, kiosk panels)
- Tree planting
- Food systems
- Mobile Storage structures (storage structures cannot become buildings)
- Interpretive Signage - working with a professional designer (required)

Grants will NOT be awarded for the following projects:

- Buildings or other construction projects that exceed \$25,000 in total cost, which must be bid out through the County
- Projects that the organization can't manage and implement directly
- Plans or studies, brochures or printed materials
- Projects on non-Dane County Parkland
- Projects for personal/private benefit

- Salary or honorariums
- Vehicles, machinery, trailers, equipment or hand tools
- Memorial bench installation
- Acquisition of land or easements
- Other projects may be deemed ineligible upon review

To apply for a **Capital Grant**, an entity must:

- Have a current 501c3 status
- Abide by all county rules, policies, and guidelines
- Have previously worked with Dane County Parks
- Have a project/program that will occur on Dane County Park property

Available Funding

\$100,000 is available for the program. The standard grant amount will be up to 75% of the project costs with a maximum grant award of \$18,750 and a minimum grant award of \$2,000. Eligible expenses for projects include construction materials and contracted services.

All grants must be matched with cash. Donations of cash and grants from private foundations, state or federal grants are acceptable match. **In-kind services are NOT accepted as match, such as donated labor, materials, supplies or discounts from vendors.**

Mini Grant

Grants will be awarded for projects or programs on county parkland. Projects meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to be considered for funding:

- Total grant request for projects/ programs must be between \$250-\$2,000
- Projects must be pre-approved by Dane County Park staff
- Organization must have the capacity to manage and implement the project/program on their own
- Only one (1) grant application can be submitted per organization/park property per year

Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Programming - supplies, transportation, materials, gear
- Interpretive Signage - working with a professional designer (required)
- Friends Group specific brochure creation, design or printing (about the friends brochure, not a park map/park brochure)
- Tools and equipment

Grants will NOT be awarded for the following projects:

- Park Map/Park Brochure design, creation or printing
- Projects on non-Dane County Park land
- Projects for personal/private benefit
- Salary or honorariums
- Memorial bench installation
- Projects for private use or benefit
- Acquisition of land or easements
- Other projects may be deemed ineligible upon review

To apply for a **Mini Grant**, an entity must:

- Abide by all county rules, polices, and guidelines
- Have previously worked with Dane County Parks
- Have a project/program that will occur on Dane County Park property
- 501c3 status is NOT required

Available Funding

\$6,000 is available for the program. The standard grant amount will be up to 100% of the requested amount with a maximum grant award of \$2,000 and a minimum grant award of \$250.

There is no match required for this grant. This grant may be used as partial funding for an activity or project that fits the criteria.

Foundation for Dane County Parks Support & Collaborative Grant Program Discussion

Dane County Parks received nine (9) applications that met the mini grant program guidelines, for a total request of just under \$12,000, which was almost double the amount of funding available. The Foundation for Dane County Parks board of directors recently voted to make up the funding deficit, thus bringing each grant award amount up to the total amount requested from each organization.

This partnership opens up an opportunity to have a broader conversation about a collaborative grant program between the Foundation and Parks. The merging all of these grant programs is a conversation that the Land and Water Resources Department has been having for almost two years. The Foundation was a part of those early conversations and declined to join. Last year's grant cycle, in January of 2022, the Environmental Council and Dane County Parks jointly opened applications for a collaborative grant program. So when the Environmental Council grant funding was transferred to Parks, we set-up the grant program so that it very closely aligned to the Foundation's grant program, to help ease a hopefully future transition. The Foundation for Dane County Parks' Allocation Committee will review a proposal from Dane County Parks re: this possible collaborative grant program again this year.