Chat Box Question: What is your name, organization, and your favorite WV State Park?
Welcome!

MEET THE VOLUNTEER WV STAFF

Dana Bryant
Outreach Officer
Today’s Topic
Volunteer West Virginia Mini Grant Training

- Introduction to the Mini Grant Project
- Application Tips
- Questions

(We will send you this presentation & recording after today’s call!)
Introduction To The Mini Grant Project
These days a little bit of kindness goes a long way!
'Rhonda the Rock Snake' initiative brings positivity, unity to St. Marys

By Brittanee Fleming bfleming@thecourierexpress.com  Jun 29, 2023
“I think it’s amazing that something as simple as a rock snake can bring an entire community together,” Mohney said.

“We need more positivity to lift us up,” Mohney said. “Who knew so much joy could be brought from just painted rocks.”
The goal of this project is to bring volunteers together to make a positive impact in their community and to encourage individuals to be kind and volunteer.
Mini Grant Overview

- The purpose of the mini grants is to develop new volunteer projects in the community.
- Eligible organizations may receive up to $500 to plan and complete a volunteer project in September – October 2023.
Mini Grant Overview

- This is a reimbursement grant, meaning that the organization will be responsible for purchasing project materials upfront.

- Grantees will submit an invoice to Volunteer West Virginia for payment after the event has been held.
Volunteer Project Examples
Park & Trail Clean Ups and Maintenance

Volunteers helping in the New River Gorge National Park & Preserve.
• Historic preservation projects led by volunteers.

• Animal shelter / rescue cleanups and improvements led by volunteers.

• Emergency preparedness projects and events led by volunteers.

• Community garden development and maintenance.
Community Beautification Projects

More than 10 volunteers painted a new mural on the front of Facing Hunger Foodbank in Huntington as part of United Way of the River Cities’ 2023 Week of Action.
• **Nutrition and drug prevention** events led by volunteers.

• Volunteer led projects that engage and support **youth**.

• **Community** and/or **waterway cleanups**.

• Volunteer led projects such as **yard work and pen pals for seniors**.
Random Acts of Kindness

For community members, first responders, individuals in recovery, seniors, children in foster care, etc.
Application Tips
How to Stand Out
Tips

• **Get creative!** Give your project a catchy title and an overall theme.

• To stand out, paint a clear picture of your project in the application.

• Provide as much detail as possible with specific budget items.
Tips

• Don’t rush! Put some thought into your project.

• Projects are not first come first serve.

• You have until August 21st to apply.

• Projects must include an element of volunteer recruitment to engage new volunteers as well as outreach to the community.
Allowable Expenses

• **Supplies For Volunteer Projects** – Tools, Paint, Safety Gear, Gloves, Art Supplies, Printing, etc.
Unallowable Expenses

• The goal of the grant is to develop new volunteer projects in the community. Funding cannot be used for annual and preexisting volunteer projects and events, general office supplies, and salary.

• No Food, Beverages, Snacks, Tee Shirts, Hats, Mileage

• Costs need to be necessary and reasonable for the project.
Dates & Deadlines

• Applications will be accepted **August 21st**

• Organizations will be notified by email by **August 31st**

• Projects must be completed by **November 1st**

• The mini grant final report & invoice must be submitted by **November 8th**
Grant Review Process

• Volunteer West Virginia staff will review the application and determine if the project is eligible and approved for funding.

• The application must be filled out completely to be eligible for review.

• Due to limited funds, all projects may not be selected for funding.
How To Apply

• Visit [www.volunteer.wv.gov](http://www.volunteer.wv.gov) to download the Notice Of Funding Opportunity.

• You will find the link to the Grant Application on Page 3.
Mini Grant Application
Questions?

If your question does not get answered today, Please email vwvgrants@wv.gov