

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“MOU”) is made as of the ___ day of _____ 2022, between **City of Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board**, an executive board of the **City of Jacksonville**, a consolidated government under the laws of the state of Florida pursuant to chapter 73, Jacksonville Ordinance Code, whose address is 214 N Hogan Street – Suite 500, Jacksonville, FL 32202 (“EPB”), and the **Duval Soil & Water Conservation District**, with the address of 260 US Hwy 301 N., Baldwin, FL 32234 (“DSWCD”) for the enhancement of Duval County Natural Resources Educational Events (“PROJECT”).

BACKGROUND FACTS

The intent of this MOU is to document that:

- EPB and DSWCD both support educational activities that enhance resident awareness of, and promote the conservation of, natural resources ; and
- EPB and DSWCD both support the Envirothon competition which allows high school students to understand and differentiate among local, state, and national natural resources and environmental issues ; and
- EPB and DSWCD both support and desire the enhancement of other natural resource educational programs and competitions for high school students.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. **RECITALS.** The Background Facts set forth above are true and correct, and are incorporated in and made a part of this MOU.
2. **OBLIGATIONS OF EACH PARTY.**
 - a. **EPB’s Obligations:**
 - i. EPB agrees to provide support for the PROJECT by seeking funding for the PROJECT described in Exhibit A;
 - ii. EPB agrees to request the Mayor’s Budget Review Committee (“MBRC”) and, if approved by MBRC, the City Council to appropriate \$36,000.00 from the Environmental Protection Fund (“FUND”) to fund the PROJECT pursuant to the following payment schedule as also outlined in Exhibit B:
 1. Following final approval of the appropriation, \$12,000.00 shall be disbursed by EPB from the FUND to DSWCD on April 30, 2022.
 2. The balance of the funding, in \$12,000.00 increments, shall be disbursed annually on January 1st in 2023 and 2024.
 - iii. EPB agrees to use its best efforts to promote the PROJECT and share information about the PROJECT with the public.

b. DSWCD Obligations

- i. DSWCD agrees to accept EPB funding in the amount of \$36,000.00 according to the payment schedule set forth above.
- ii. DSWCD agrees to expend the funds only for the PROJECT, and to return to EPB any funds not used for the PROJECT.
- iii. DSWCD agrees to provide the services necessary to accomplish the PROJECT.
- iv. DSWCD shall submit annual reports to the EPB, on or before September 15th of each year in which it receives funding from EPB providing an overview of students served, awards made, and other general information about and metrics for the PROJECT as reasonably requested by EPB.

- 3. **Term and Renewal.** This MOU shall continue in effect through September 30, 2024 and may be extended only with the agreement of both parties. EPB's performance and obligations to pay, if any, under the provisions of this MOU are subject to appropriation by the City Council of the City of Jacksonville. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as providing DSWCD of any third party with a cause of action against EPB or the City of Jacksonville for failure to obtain or make an appropriation for the PROJECT.
- 4. **Performance.** DSWCD shall ensure that the PROJECT is conducted in a professional manner, using reasonable efforts and abilities, on a non-emergency basis.
- 5. **Safety.** EPB and DSWCD agree that the safety of all employees, contractors, and the public shall always be considered as having priority. Either EPB or DSWCD personnel may stop the PROJECT immediately due to any safety concerns.
- 6. **Force Majeure.** DSWCD shall not be liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its obligations under this MOU due to a force majeure event, including but not limited to, acts of civil or military authority, acts of courts and/or regulatory agencies, war, riot or insurrection, embargoes, sabotages, strikes or lockouts (provided such strike or lockout does not arise from inequitable labor practices), epidemics, fires, floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes. If any failure or delay results from such causes, upon notice from DSWCD within five days of the event giving rise to the delay, the time for performance shall be extended for a period of time reasonably necessary to overcome the effects of such delays. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if DSWCD's performance is rendered impossible or ineffective by the event or delay, then all funds distributed to DSWCD by EPB remaining unspent on the PROJECT shall be returned to EPB.

7. **No Waivers.** Failure of EPB or the City to take action to enforce compliance by DSWCD with any of the terms or conditions of this MOU after having received funds therefor, or to give notice or declare this MOU or any authorization granted hereunder terminated shall not constitute a waiver or relinquishment of any term or condition of this MOU, but the same shall be and remain at all times in full force and effect.
8. **Entire MOU.** This MOU constitutes the entire understanding between the parties and supersedes all previous discussion, understandings and agreements between the parties relating to the subject matter hereof.
9. **Applicable Law.** The MOU shall be construed, interpreted and controlled by the laws of the State of Florida.
10. **Public Records.** The Parties understand and agree that all documents of any kind provided in connection with this MOU are public records and are treated as such in accordance with Florida law.
11. **Retention of Records/Audit.**
 - a. DSWCD must establish and maintain books, records, contracts, subcontracts, papers, financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, goods, services and all other documents, in whatsoever form or format including, but not limited to electronic storage media, (for purposes of this Section 11, hereinafter referred to as the "Records") sufficient to reflect all receipt and expenditures of funds provided by EPB or City under this MOU.
 - b. DSWCD must retain all Project Records pertinent to this MOU for a period of three (3) years after completion of the Project. If an audit has been initiated and audit findings have not been resolved at the end of six years, the Records shall be retained until resolution of the audit findings or any litigation which may be based on the terms of this MOU, at no additional cost to EPB or the City. Records shall be retained for longer periods when the retention period exceeds the time frames required by law or ordinance.
 - c. Upon demand, at no additional cost to EPB or the City, DSWCD must facilitate the duplication and transfer of any Records during the required retention period in Section 11(b) hereof.
 - d. DSWCD must provide these Records at all reasonable times for inspection, review, copying or audit by EPB or the City.
 - e. At all reasonable times for as long as the Records are maintained, DSWCD must allow persons duly authorized by EPB or City to have full access to and the right to

to examine any of the provider's Records, relative to the Project, regardless of the form in which kept.

- f. DSWCD, at its sole and exclusive cost and expense, must provide audits or reports as requested by EPB or the City, and must insure that all related party transactions are disclosed to the auditor.
- g. DSWCD must comply and cooperate immediately with any inspections, reviews, investigations, deemed necessary by EPB or the City.
- h. DSWCD must permit EPB or the City to interview any employees, subcontractors and subcontractor employees of DSWCD to assure EPB or the City of the satisfactory performance of the terms and conditions of this MOU. Following such review, if performance of DSWCD is, in the opinion of EPB or the City, deficient, EPB or the City will deliver to DSWCD a written report of the deficiencies and request for development by DSWCD of a corrective action plan. DSWCD hereby agrees to prepare and submit, to EPB or the City, said corrective plan within ten (10) days of receiving EPB's or the City's written report. Thereafter, DSWCD must correct all deficiencies in the corrective action plan, within ten (10) days from EPB's or the City's receipt of the corrective action plan.
- i. All reports, audits, and other information provided by DSWCD pursuant to this Section shall contain the following statement: "The information provided to the City of Jacksonville in this submittal is submitted under penalties of perjury, under Section 837.06, Florida Statutes."
- j. To the extent that DSWCD uses subcontractors in the performance of the Services under this MOU, or assigns this MOU with prior CITY consent, DSWCD must include the aforementioned audit, inspections, investigations and record keeping requirements in all subcontracts and assignments.

12. Limitations of Government Liability. Nothing in this MOU shall be deemed a waiver of immunity or limits of liability of either party or the City of Jacksonville beyond any statutory limited waiver of immunity or limits which may have been adopted by the Florida Legislature in Florida Statutes Section 768.28, or other statutes as amended from time to time, and nothing in this MOU shall inure to the benefit of any third party for the purpose of allowing any claim that would otherwise be barred under the Doctrine of Sovereign Immunity or by operation of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year first above written.

ATTEST:

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

By: _____
James R. McCain, Jr.
Corporation Secretary

By: _____
Lenny Curry, Mayor

ATTEST:

DUVAL COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: _____
Signature
Type / Print Name: _____

By: _____
Signature
Type / Print Name: _____

Title

In accordance with the *Ordinance Code*₂ of the City of Jacksonville, I do hereby certify that there is an unexpended, unencumbered₂ and unimpounded balance in the appropriation sufficient to cover the foregoing agreement; and that provision has been made for the payment provided therein to be paid.

Director of Finance and Administration
CITY Contract Number: _____

Form Approved:

Office of General Counsel

Exhibit A - Project Scope (Funding Request)

Duval Soil and Water Conservation District 260
US Hwy 301 N., Baldwin, FL 32234
www.duvalsoilandwater.com



Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board - December 2021

Funding Request for Enhancement of Duval County Natural Resources Educational Programs

The educational programs that the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District presents are some of the most important projects we do all year. Our educational events like **Envirothon** attract interested K-12 students through extracurricular school programs and fulfill the mission of the board by educating future generations of stewards to our land. Our **Start Farming** workshops and mentorship program instill a conservation ethic in beginning farmers and help stimulate more sustainable agricultural enterprises in Duval County. Our **Regeneration Park** green infrastructure and stewardship workshops bring ongoing technical assistance from soil scientists and conservationists directly to urban core residents right where they live and work.

Funding is needed in order to expand natural resources education to K-12 students, beginning farmers and underserved populations residing in the urban core. \$36,000 is being requested to fund the listed components for the next 3 years in Duval County.

1. Background
2. Envirothon & Student Programs
3. Start Farming Workshops
4. Regeneration Park Workshops
5. Funding Request
 - a. Envirothon
 - b. Speech Contest
 - c. Poster Contest
 - d. Land Judging
 - e. Start Farming Workshops
 - f. Regeneration Park Workshops
 - g. Itemized Budget
 - h. Sponsorship



1. Students from Darnell-Cookman win the 2018 Regional Envirothon at Lake Fretwell Park

1. Background

The Duval Soil and Water Conservation District (DSWCD) was created in July of 1953 under the authority created by the Soil Conservation Act, passed by Florida Legislature in 1937. The DSWCD was organized by concerned citizens of Duval County to help landowners and users to conserve land, water, forests, wildlife and related natural resources.

When the Florida Legislature first passed Chapter 582, Florida Statutes (F.S.), Soil and Water Conservation law in 1937, the legislation established a state and local partnership with the federal government to protect and restore soil and water resources, and to assist private landowners in using conservation practices. This partnership has worked for over sixty-eight

years to address serious national problems in soil erosion, flood damage and water quality. Today, Florida's conservation districts focus on a locally led conservation model and priorities are unique to each conservation district.

In Duval County, as we fulfill our responsibilities pursuant to Chapter 580.20, F.S., we have placed a priority on planning, implementing and/or facilitating programs, projects and practices that will serve to promote the conservation of our natural resources. These educational efforts include:

- Organizing, participating, funding and facilitating Envirothon and other student programs
- Creating awareness about the benefits of regenerative urban agriculture through the expansion of our Start Farming workshops on sustainable practices, water conservation, composting and permaculture.
- Conducting demonstration projects like Regeneration Park to demonstrate effective conservation methods to residents, businesses, and city officials.

The DSWCD is administered by five non-salaried, non-partisan, locally elected, public officials who serve as the Board of Supervisors. The expertise of the Duval SWCD includes a board member with over 40 years as a Soil Scientist and Conservationist with the NRCS, one with a decade of service teaching underserved youth, one who is a subject matter expert for the Jacksonville City Council's Subcommittee on Resiliency, and others who play critical roles in public outreach and in securing sponsorships and partnerships for conservation education and action within our urban district. The board meets twice a month to hear reports from affiliate agencies, learn about conservation funding priorities in the district, develop programs, create educational opportunities, and build workshops that meet the needs of conservation within Duval County.

2. Duval County Envirothon & Student Programs

Each year the Envirothon positively influences the lives of more than 500,000 young people across the country. The Envirothon is an international environmental and natural resource problem-solving competition that builds leadership experience for high school students (grades 9-12 or ages 14-19). Incorporating STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) principles, experiential learning and hands-on outdoor field experiences, the Envirothon program encourages students to expand their knowledge and explore environmental education and natural resource conservation in the areas of Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soils and Land Use, Wildlife and Current Environmental Issues.

Emphasizing hands-on learning and real-world application of concepts, Envirothon students can be found getting their hands dirty in a soil pit, measuring the basal area of a forest, collecting macroinvertebrates in a stream to determine water quality, identifying wildlife tracks and/or signs and many other skills and activities used by environmental and natural resource conservation professionals. Students learn



2. Students learn from wildlife experts about animal populations and the importance of habitat conservation at the 2020 Envirothon workshop at UNF Nature Trails

directly from these environmental and natural resource professionals, introducing the students to a wide array of higher academic study and careers in the environment, natural resources and conservation. The Envirothon is an excellent example of an ongoing partnership with conservation districts and cooperating state, local and federal natural resource agencies.

"In 1979, the Pennsylvania Soil and Water Conservation Districts created an "Environmental Olympics" as a way to encourage high school students to become interested in natural resource conservation and environmental issues and careers."

www.envirothon.org

One of the most unique characteristics of the Envirothon is that it allows students, as they progress through the competition's challenges, to understand and differentiate between local, state and national natural resources and environmental issues. The curriculum and study materials change based on the competition, as the environment itself changes. At the state and national level students compete for scholarship awards in various amounts each year.

In Duval County, the DSWCD has been helping organize, participate, fund or facilitate the Envirothon for more than 20 years. The Duval County Envirothon has become a regional event. We invite Nassau, Clay, Baker and St. Johns County to join us when their own district does not provide an event. Now called the Fred B. Miller, Jr. Regional Envirothon, the competition is organized by a team of volunteers including current and former teachers, agency leaders and the DSWCD. In recent years, the event has been hosted at the Diamond D Ranch, Tree Hill Nature Center and at the UNF Wildlife Preserve. Outside of trivia, students are able to enjoy guided hikes, hayrides, and a picnic lunch after the competition concludes.



3. More than 200 students participate in the 2016 Regional Envirothon at Tree Hill Nature Center

The most important aspect of the Envirothon is the subject matter. Natural Resources is not a standalone subject in many high schools. While websites and online curriculum exist to help students and teachers prepare for the Envirothon competition's categories (Soils and Land Use, Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, and Current Environmental Issues), local agencies also provide presentations and in-house assistance in each of the categories. St. Johns Riverkeeper (SJRK) schedules times to visit each school for lessons in aquatic ecology. The Florida Forest Service (FFS) teaches forestry, Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) teaches wildlife, the Duval

Agricultural Extension Office (Duval IFAS) and the Museum of Science and History (MOSH) offer guidance in the current environmental issue, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides Soil Scientists for soils training. Each station at the Envirothon is a mixture of hands-on tools and techniques with written questions and team exercises.

For many years, the Duval County Envirothon survived on a shoestring budget of \$1,500 - \$2,500 per year, gained through sponsorship solicitations. These funds cover venue expenses, lunch for students and educators, agency leaders and event volunteers. We also pay the entry fee into the state competition and travel expenses. Over the last 3 years, the JEPB helped us to expand our Envirothon outreach and involve new schools and teachers in the program. The JEPB is currently the primary funding source for the Envirothon with additional support from local businesses. **Sustaining this level of support is essential to keep up the program’s momentum and continue reaching new students!**

Natural Resources education doesn’t stop with the Envirothon! The DSWCD also helps host a speech contest and poster contest in a topic chosen nationally by the National Association of Conservation Districts. Students can use art and communication to research, learn and create a speech or poster based on the topic. In categories based on age, the local district selects a winner that goes on to the regional, state, and United States competition. The research and creative process in these competitions is invaluable. Entries included students attending public, charter and private schools, as well as home school students. In Duval County, we give out prizes for the top 3 students, totaling \$100 in the speech contest. Thanks to the JEPB’s funding, Duval County has hosted a poster contest for the last 3 years.

Land Judging is an extracurricular activity where Middle and High School students, usually 4-H, observe and interpret the soil in order to make wise land use decisions. Students can compete at the county, state, and national levels. To participate regionally, student must first compete in a local contest for their county hosted or coordinated by the local Soil and Water Conservation District. We secured enough interest to host our first Land Judging in 2020 but were interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic and school closures. We want to build a foundation for this event that will last years or even decades.



4. Winners of the 2020 Speech Contest at the UF/IFAS Duval County Extension



5. The topic for the 2021 Speech and Poster Contest is “Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities”

3. Start Farming Workshops

Our Start Farming Panel Discussion and Farmers Market began in 2017 as a way for residents in Duval County to glean insight from farmers that have gone through the challenge of starting a farming endeavor by providing an opportunity for new and potential farmers to ask questions from agency personnel offering conservation technical assistance and funding to growers and producers. The Start Farming event continues to be an effective way to network with current and future farmers on the First Coast to make a difference in both urban and rural parts of the district in local, sustainable food production.



6. 2019 Start Farming Panel Discussion at UF/IFAS Duval County Extension

In 2021 we are launching a Start Farming Mentorship Program to support new farmers in Duval County by providing tours of diverse farm operations and **onsite workshops about regenerative practices, including water conservation, composting and permaculture**. Over the course of the year, 15-20 participants will take guided tours of four farms, from an urban farm in a food desert to a rural commercial operation. In addition, each will receive a Sustainable Solutions Kit which will include resources for water conservation, a compost kit, and seed to attract beneficial pollinators. Beyond the training, participants will network with the local agricultural community and with agency personnel offering conservation funding assistance to growers and producers.



7. Visit to Juicy Roots Farm to prepare for 2021 Start Farming Mentorship workshop

4. Regeneration Park Workshops

Regeneration Park is a green infrastructure and community stewardship project which will create a safe space to demonstrate urban agriculture, cultivate environmental stewardship and empower residents to build with nature for social, economic and environmental health. The project will transform a half-acre of public land into an ecological demonstration site on the west side of Jacksonville's Urban Core near the S-Line and the Sugar Hill Mosaic. The DSWCD has been working with the City of Jacksonville's Parks and Recreation department to develop an appropriate plan for the site which is less than a mile from the recently completed EPA cleanup activities which addressed soil and sediment contamination at the Fairfax Street Wood Treating Superfund site. This project will complement improvements already underway through the City of Jacksonville's decision to fund and approve Groundwork Jacksonville's Emerald Trail system, which will be 30 miles of trails, greenways and parks that encircle the Urban Core. Regeneration Park would be situated along the Emerald Trail's Biodiversity Corridor.

In March 2021, the DSWCD was awarded a \$50,000 urban agriculture conservation grant through a partnership with the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to

boost technical capacity nationwide. This grant will allow us to employ a part-time urban agriculture coordinator, begin soil regeneration, and install green infrastructure including a bioswale and a pollinator habitat. The City of Jacksonville will be installing signage that explains the functions of the green infrastructure within the park. The Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board, UF/IFAS Duval County Extension, Groundwork Jacksonville, St. Johns Riverkeeper, NativeJax, and Jacksonville Youth Works have provided resolutions, consultations and in-kind support to the project.



6 Community cleanup event with our partner Jacksonville Youth Works in 2018

Beginning in June 2021, our network of conservation and community partners will work together to provide education, research, hands-on conservation, native seed collection, and technical assistance that results in a resilient and sustainable system. In addition, the Duval SWCD will host annual celebrations of Stewardship Week, quarterly community cleanups at Regeneration Park, and a series of hands-on green infrastructure workshops on *Building with Nature*. The workshops, *Building Healthy Soils*, *Building a Bioswale* and *Building Biodiversity*, will focus on the need to build *with* nature rather than against it. In the years ahead, we believe it is imperative that we offer ongoing **educational workshops at Regeneration Park to help remedy decades of persistent environmental inequality which has disproportionately affected poor and minority communities in the urban core**. Our hope is that the Regeneration Park project will promote independence to the community through nature and model future resilient park design and natural resources education in Duval County and beyond.

5. Funding Request

Up until approximately eleven years ago, the DSWCD received an annual appropriation from the City of Jacksonville – Duval County, FL to assist with its financial obligations. At that time, the DSWCD’s budget was eliminated due to the cancellation or substantial reduction of a City of Jacksonville – Public Service Grant that funded the annual appropriation. Since that time, the DSWCD has been totally supported by fundraising activities/private donations, and more recently by a \$5000 grant from the Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board for each of the last three years.

ENVIROTHON

We are proud of the regional Envirothon. Over the years, more and more counties in northeast Florida have stopped hosting the event, which for many, is the only lesson in natural resources education for high school students. The time with agency leaders in the classroom and in the field is invaluable. The hands on, in the field equipment testing is unmatched. These events area proven model for education with decades of experience behind them on local, state and national levels. We want Duval County high school students to have the same opportunities for participation. Here is how we plan to implement that vision:

Every Public High School in Duval County!

To expand and grow the Envirothon, we have a goal to bring a team from every single Duval County High School to the event. In order to work towards this goal, we are continuing to work to expand our individual **outreach to schools and to teachers**. In recent years, 125-200 students participate. However, these students only represent 10-12 local high schools. There are 23 Duval County Public High Schools and with an enhanced focus on individual **outreach from members in the Envirothon volunteer team and incentives**, we believe we can gain more participation from a broader array of schools that will build a foundation for participation in the future. Incentives to participate include waiving registration fees, funding transportation needs, or providing teacher incentives. Thanks to JEBP funding, we were able to launch a highly successful Treat Our Teachers program in 2019 which allowed us to host two small groups of science teachers for an after school snack at local restaurants with representatives from local agencies who work with students at Envirothon including SJRK, NRCS, and the St. Johns River Water Management (SJRWMD). Teachers that attended our free **Treat Our Teachers events** brought their students to participate in the Envirothon, Speech and/or Poster contests, growing those programs. We would like to host 3-5 Treat Our Teachers events each year at different areas around the county.

Funding Request

Graphic Design to promote the event, printing and distribution \$150
Incentives for student and teacher participation \$850
Total \$1000

Agency Support

One of the most rewarding educational aspects of Envirothon is gaining **hands on training** with equipment by the agencies that partner to host the event. These trainings, conducted by FWC, FFS, Duval IFAS, NRCS, SJRWMD and SJRK are often difficult to schedule because the agencies are understaffed, busy, or the classrooms themselves have very limited hours when students are available. We want to **encourage earlier training** in the year and **incentivize participation** with the agencies that are not able to provide a staff person. For example, the NRCS no longer has a regional soil scientist. SJRK only has one person on staff able to conduct these lessons. FWC and FFS are also equally strained in providing knowledgeable people on these subjects. If we are to expand to all 23 high schools, we need to ensure the agencies can be available for 23 classroom lessons. Funding is needed to cover costs of these agencies, whatever those expenses may be for their participation. Travel stipends may be necessary.

Funding Request

Funding assistance for travel, stipends, contractual fees for classroom training \$500
Total \$500

Incentive for top winners

Currently, the winner of the Envirothon receives travel reimbursement and funding for the state competition. We would like to recognize, with **medals**, the top three teams in the contest. Often, it is only a single point that differentiates first place from second or third. Being able to offer something to the top three contestants allows **more students**

to be recognized for their hard work. We have also created a **traveling trophy** that is displayed at the winning high school which allows schools to compete against each other. This engraved trophy is presented to the winning team at the Duval County School Board monthly meeting following the event.

Funding Request

Travel reimbursement and state entry fee \$400
Medals for 6 students per team for the top three teams \$350
Traveling Trophy \$50
Total \$800

Conservation Teacher of the Year

The Conservation teacher of the Year award is a model program hosted by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). This award recognizes teachers that have excelled in providing valuable **conservation education in our schools**. It does not have to be the teacher that hosts the winning team at the annual Envirothon, but the program itself pairs well with **promoting and encouraging participation in the Envirothon**. Thanks to JEPB funding, we introduced this award in 2018 and we have awarded 3 local teachers from Darnell-Cookman Middle-High, The Foundation Academy and Sandalwood High School. The **Conservation Teacher of the Year** is recognized at our annual anniversary event. We would like to work closely with the DCPS and Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board's Green Champion program to begin recognizing a **Green Principal of the Year**. What we have found is that teachers who have their principals' support are more likely to participate in programs like the Envirothon and Green Champions. The Green Principal of the Year award would be presented at the year-end meeting of the Green Champions program. We will solicit nominations locally, provide a cash prize and plaque for the winning teacher and principal, and publish notices of recognition on our blog and in local newspapers.

Funding Request

Graphic Design to promote the event, printing and distribution \$150
Awards for Winning Teacher and Principal \$725
Total \$875

SPEECH CONTEST

The speech contest is a great lesson in **researching an environmental issue, crafting a position** on that issue, and **speech composition**. The **public speaking** portion is an added benefit. In order to send the strongest candidates to the regional competition, Duval County needs to reach more students and distributing printed **promotional materials** at Envirothon is a great place to reach out and encourage students to apply. With **cash prizes**, we believe we can foster more county participation. By bringing in **judges with name recognition and valuable expertise**, we are better able to prepare these students for the next level of competition and we can create a dialogue between students interested in the environmental sector and those in the profession.

Funding Request

1st Place Cash Prize \$300
2nd Place Cash Prize \$150
3rd Place Cash Prize \$75
Certificate of Participation ~16 students \$50
Gift Baskets for 3 Judges \$100
Graphic Design to promote the event, printing and distribution \$150
Travel and Entry Fee for top winner to participate at the regional competition \$100
Total \$925

POSTER CONTEST

The poster contest allows students of all ages, K-12, to artistically express the topic or theme. This event is a great opportunity to engage all students, ***including those with diverse abilities***, in ***environmental conservation research and expression***. Funding is needed to **create a flyer** that can be distributed to art and science teachers at all Duval County Public Schools. Funding is also needed for **cash prizes** for 1st place in three categories, certificates of participation, and a **gift for the judge**. The categories are for entries in grades K-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Last, we would like to incentivize the contest by displaying the awarded winners in each category in a public building.

Funding Request

Three 1st Place Cash Prizes at \$50 each
Certificate of Participation ~30 students \$70
Gift Baskets for 1 Judge \$30
Graphic Design to promote the event, printing and distribution \$150
Total \$400

LAND JUDGING

Land Judging is a very specific but vitally important skill. ***Knowledge of soils*** can lead to various ***career opportunities and college programs***. For this, we need to **promote the event** through the local Duval County IFAS 4-H program and **host a local contest**. The local contest will allow us to **send a team to the regional competition**.

Funding Request

Hosting a local 4-H event \$100
Regional Competition Entry Fee and Travel \$250
Graphic Design to promote the event, printing and distribution \$150
Total \$500

START FARMING WORKSHOPS

The Start Farming Panel Discussion and Farmers Market is an annual agricultural awareness event which is typically held at the UF/IFAS Agricultural Extension office. In contrast to other gardening events and programs which teach people to grow their own groceries, this panel discussion prioritizes ***highlighting local farms which have successfully implemented conservation and sustainable, regenerative practices***. Funding is needed to provide **gift baskets for our panelists** and to promote the event with flyers and Facebook/Instagram ads. **Attractive promotional materials** will help us to solicit local business for sponsorships of food for the event and to promote the event to a wider audience.

The Start Farming Mentorship program will annually select 15-20 applicants to explore farming opportunities in Duval County with the help of volunteer farm mentors. Funding is needed to create a **curriculum and materials for 4 onsite farm workshops** in sustainable practices including water conservation, composting and permaculture. In addition, we plan to create an **online library of agricultural and conservation resources** on our website. Video resources will be created each year to be included in the online library for **on-demand learning**.

Funding Request

Curriculum and Materials ~20 new farmers \$2000
 Gift Baskets for 4 Start Farming Discussion Panelists \$120
 Graphic Design for promotional materials, printing and distribution \$380
Total \$2500

REGENERATION PARK WORKSHOPS

While the Regeneration Park project has been partially funded by the National Association of Conservation Districts, a funding gap remains. Funding is necessary for the delivery of ***conservation technical assistance to the community via educational workshops***. We plan to purchase educational materials for our Stewardship Week Celebration and to create **3 hands-on green infrastructure workshops**, annually. In addition, materials are needed including shovels, trowels, rakes, and wheelbarrows to use during workshops. Community members will be incentivized to participate in workshops/workdays with gift cards for Jacksonville Transportation Authority **public transportation passes to address economic insecurity** that might prevent their participation in the project. **Attractive promotional materials** including Facebook/Instagram ads, a banner, and flyers are needed to generate community support for this brand-new initiative.

Funding Request

Curriculum and Materials ~ 100 participants \$2850
 Graphic Design for promotional materials, printing and distribution \$450
 Incentives for community participation \$1200
Total \$4500

Itemized Budget

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	3 Year Total
Envirothon	<i>Every High School!</i>			
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
	Incentives	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 850.00
	<i>Agency Support</i>			
	Travel, Stipends, Fees	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

	Prizes				
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	
	Medals for top 3 teams	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	
	Traveling Trophy	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
	Conservation Teacher of the Year				
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
	Awards for Winning Teacher & Principal	\$ 725.00	\$ 725.00	\$ 725.00	
	Total Envirothon	\$ 3,175.00	\$ 3,175.00	\$ 3,175.00	\$ 9,525.00
Speech Contest	Cash Prizes	\$ 525.00	\$ 525.00	\$ 525.00	
	Certificates of Participation	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
	Gift Baskets	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
	Total Speech Contest	\$ 925.00	\$ 925.00	\$ 925.00	\$ 2,775.00
Poster Contest	Cash Prizes	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
	Certificates of Participation	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 70.00	
	Gift Basket	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
	Total Poster Contest	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,200.00
Land Judging	Hosting 4-H Event	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	
	Total Land Judging	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Start Farming	Curriculum & Materials	\$ 2000.00	\$ 2000.00	\$ 2000.00	
	Graphic Design & Promotion	\$ 380.00	\$ 380.00	\$ 380.00	

	Gift Baskets	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 120.00	
	Total Start Farming	\$ 2500.00	\$ 2500.00	\$ 2500.00	\$ 7,500.00
Regeneration Park	Curriculum & Materials	\$ 2850.00	\$ 2850.00	\$ 2850.00	
	Graphic Design & Promotion	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00	
	Incentives	\$ 1200.00	\$ 1200.00	\$ 1200.00	
	Total Regeneration Park	\$ 4500.00	\$ 4500.00	\$ 4500.00	\$ 13,500.00
Total Request for Funding to Enhance Natural Resources Education in Duval County					\$ 36,000.00

Sponsorship

Partnership with the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District on any of our educational programs gives recognition at events, advertising on event publications, recognition on the DSWCD website, Instagram and Facebook page, on the Duval County Envirothon Facebookpage, invitations to school activities, recognition in DSWCD press releases, and listing in the DSWCD newsletter.

We've never had better plans to deliver natural resources educational programs! We directly impact nearly 1000 students and adults each year. We'd like to double that over the next three years. That is a goal we can reach, with your support.

We appreciate the time the Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board took to review our funding request and thank you in advance for your work in the community to promote, fund and advance environmental protection and natural resources education. Please contact me with any questions at casey@duvalsoilandwater.com, or call (904) 994-5153.

Respectfully,



Jennifer Casey
Chair, Duval Soil and Water Conservation District

EXHIBIT B - PROJECT BUDGET

DSWCD Natural Resources Education Activities

		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	3 Year Total
Envirothon	Every High School!				
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Incentives	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$850.00	\$2,550.00
	Agency Support				
	Travel, Stipends, Fees	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
	Prizes				
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,200.00
	Medals for top 3 teams	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$1,050.00
	Traveling Trophy	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$150.00
	Conservation Teacher of the Year				
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Awards for Winning Teacher & Principal	\$725.00	\$725.00	\$725.00	\$2,175.00
Total Envirothon	\$3,175.00	\$3,175.00	\$3,175.00	\$9,525.00	
Speech Contest	Cash Prizes	\$525.00	\$525.00	\$525.00	\$1,575.00
	Certificates of Participation	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$150.00
	Gift Baskets	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$300.00
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$300.00
	Total Speech Contest	\$925.00	\$925.00	\$925.00	\$2,775.00
Poster Contest	Cash Prizes	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Certificates of Participation	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$210.00
	Gift Basket	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$90.00
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Total Poster Contest	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$1,200.00
Land Judging	Hosting 4-H Event	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$300.00
	Entry Fee & Travel	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$750.00
	Graphic Design, Printing	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$450.00
	Total Land Judging	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
Start Farming	Curriculum & Materials	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
	Graphic Design & Promotion	\$380.00	\$380.00	\$380.00	\$1,140.00
	Gift Baskets	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$120.00	\$360.00
	Total Start Farming	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,500.00

Regeneration Park	Curriculum & Materials	\$2,850.00	\$2,850.00	\$2,850.00	\$8,550.00
	Graphic Design & Promotion	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$1,350.00
	Incentives	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$3,600.00
	Total Regeneration Park	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$13,500.00
Total Request for Funding to Enhance Natural Resources Education in Duval County					\$36,000.00