

Cotswold Grants

INFORMATION ABOUT COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE COTSWOLDS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY



A number of grants are available to help farmers, landowners, organisations and local communities make environmental improvements. These are administered by various organisations, all working to enhance the landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity of the Cotswolds. Listed on these pages are just some of the grants available. For further information please contact the relevant organisation.

The Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) provides funding for a variety of rural activities. For further information, see www.southwestrda.org.uk. The Rural Enterprise Gateway also helps rural businesses in the south west – see www.regsw.org.uk or call Business Link on 0845 6009966, or for Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and the West of England, Graham Thompson on 01285 889873.

Sustainable Development Fund

A grant scheme administered by the Cotswolds Conservation Board supporting projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the Cotswolds AONB.

Open to individuals, community, voluntary and partnership groups, the private sector, public bodies and local authorities and charities.

Applications can be made for grants ranging from several hundred pounds up to £13,000. The fund can provide up to 75% of the total project costs. In exceptional circumstances 100% may be provided for voluntary bodies.

If you think you have a suitable project, the Conservation Board would like to hear from you; call 01451 862002 for details.

More information is available on our website at: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Gloucestershire Environmental Trust

The Gloucestershire Environmental Trust provides grants from funds generated by the Landfill Communities Fund for the benefit of Gloucestershire, its people and its environment.

Applications have to fit the Landfill Communities Fund objectives and must be approved and registered with ENTRUST www.entrust.org.uk

.....01452 739006
www.glos-environment-trust.co.uk

Friends of the Cotswolds

The Small Grants Fund

Funds raised from our supporters and donors are distributed as grants to groups and organisations doing projects which look after the Cotswolds. Our first ever programme is now open for applications. Groups and organisations can apply for grants of up to £500 to assist in delivering eligible projects.

How to apply

We welcome good ideas for projects within the Cotswolds AONB and surrounding areas. A map of the area can be viewed on the Cotswolds Conservation Board's website at: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

National Grid Pipeline Community Fund

Following consent given to National Grid to construct a new gas pipeline through the AONB from Wormington to Sapperton, a new grant fund for community and environmental projects has become available and will be administered by National Grid. Further details of criteria and eligibility are available from: National Grid Community Relations, Unit 2a Vale Business Centre, Asparagus Way, Vale Park, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 1GN
Email: enquiries@sw-rp.co.uk

.....0800 731 0561

Useful fundraising websites

General fundraising

■ www.grantsnet.co.uk
Easy access to information on grants available to businesses and charities, with the ability to search grant schemes by area, project type or keywords

■ www.access-funds.co.uk
Regularly updated news about sources of funding

■ www.fundraising.co.uk
UK charity and non profit making fundraisers

■ www.ruralnet.org.uk
Details of rural funding sources

Charitable trusts

■ www.acf.org.uk
Trusts and foundations

■ www.funderfinder.org.uk
Information about the Fundfinder software and links to websites of trusts

■ www.dsc.org.uk
Information on the Directory of Social Change, a guide to trust funding

Company giving

■ www.cafonline.org
Charities Aid Foundation supports corporate community involvement

Government funding

■ www.governmentfunding.org.uk
Provides information on grants awarded by government departments

European funding

■ www.dti.gov.uk/regional/european-structural-funds/index.html
Information from the Department of Trade and Industry on European funding

■ www.esf.gov.uk
European Social Fund site

Other useful websites

■ www.charity-commission.gov.uk
Charity Commission publications and charity register

■ www.grantfinder.co.uk
Subscribing to Grantfinder, a leading commercial sourcing organisation, enables you to search its database

■ www.J4bgrants.co.uk
Registering on the website enables you to search for relevant grants and make use of other services

Grant finder services

Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)

Conservation land management grants

■ Avon FWAG0117 959 8522
■ Gloucestershire FWAG01452 627487
■ Oxfordshire FWAG01993 886565
■ Warwickshire FWAG01926 318280
■ Wiltshire FWAG0117 959 8522
■ Worcestershire FWAG01905 362955

Business Link

Business orientated advice and diversification opportunities for South West

■ Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Bath0845 600 9966
Email: enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk
Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest

■ Wiltshire0845 600 9966
Email: enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk
Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest

■ Warwickshire0845 113 1234
Email: info@businesslinkwm.co.uk
Website: www.businesslinkwm.co.uk

■ Hereford and Worcestershire 0845 113 1234
Email: info@businesslinkwm.co.uk
Website: www.businesslinkwm.co.uk

Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)

Register to receive regular updates from the RDA covering your area. Guidance and application forms are available on the Rural Development Gateway website.

www.sw-ruralgateway.info/ Prospective applicants should discuss and register their proposals with SWREG (0845 600 9966) prior to submitting an application for funding.

RDAs aim to:

- Improve business efficiency and enable business transformation
- Develop the supply chain and add value
- Manage resources efficiently
- Make the most of our rural environment
- Enhance landscapes and biodiversity
- Develop and maintain strong and inclusive rural communities RDAs administer the RDPE programme. For further information see below:
- South East of England Development Agency (SEEDA)01483 484200
Email: seeda@seeda.co.uk
Website: www.seeda.co.uk
- South West of England Regional Development Agency (SWRDA)0845 6009966
Website: www.southwestrda.org.uk
- West Midlands Regional Development Agency0121 3803500 (Advantage West Midlands) ...0121 5033347
Website: www.advantagewm.co.uk

Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE)

South West England has been allocated more than £156 million from the £3.9 billion national budget to help its land based businesses and rural communities to take advantage of new technologies, to learn new skills, to move into new areas of economic activity and to work collaboratively to develop communities and businesses. In addition the region's farmers can also benefit from national programmes to improve the environment and the countryside. For information on Solutions for Business and the RDPE Resource Efficiency for Farms initiative call 0845 6009966, or the Soils for Profit initiative call Natural England on 03000601244.

The new EU Regulations divide the aims of the programme into three main areas, called Axes:

RDPE Axis 1 – improving the competitiveness of the farming and forestry sector.

Contact Rural Enterprise Gateway on 0845 6009966 or James Lloyd, RDPE Project Facilitator – Gloucestershire First (01242) – 864149, Wiltshire - Heather White 01189 580584



Axis 1 Measures

- Vocational Training
- Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings
- Improving the economic value of forests
- Adding value to agricultural and forestry products
- Cooperation for the development of new products processes and technologies in the agriculture food and forestry sectors
- Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry

Axis 1 Supplementary outputs

- Increase in agricultural gross value added in farming and forestry
- Number of holdings, new products or techniques
- Number of jobs created.

Website: www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/pdf/guidh.pdf

RDPE Axis 2 – improving the environment and countryside (80% of the total budget – mostly to be invested in national schemes such as Environmental Stewardship and The England Woodland Grants Scheme).

Environmental Stewardship

Environmental Stewardship is an agri-environment scheme which provides funding to farmers and other land managers in England who deliver effective environmental management on their land.

Entry Level Stewardship (ELS)

- Open to all farmers and landowners
- Simple and effective land management
Contact 0845 602 4098 or 0800 060 1118
- Organic Entry Level Stewardship (OELS)
- Organic strand of ELS
- Open to all farmers not receiving Organic Farming Scheme (OFS) aid
Contact 0845 602 4093 or 0800 060 1113

Higher Level Stewardship (HLS)

The Cotswolds AONB has been re-targeted for Higher level Stewardship (target areas Cotswolds and Upper Thames Tributaries) to protect Biodiversity, Landscape, Historic Environment, Access, and Resource Protection. Key priorities: **Cotswolds:** limestone grasslands, wetlands, ancient semi-natural woodlands, species-rich hedgerows and wood-pasture and Cotswold Way National Trail. **Upper Thames:** Wet grassland, Breeding Waders, meadows and pastures, ridge and furrow and Thames Path Trail. Maps of target areas can be found at: www.naturalengland.org.uk/planning/grantsfunding/es/hls/targeting/default.aspx

The Cotswolds Farmlands Birds Project is offering HLS to farms which have records of 3 or more rarities from the following list: corn bunting, grey partridge, lapwing, tree sparrow, turtle dove and yellow wagtail with wider benefits for other farmland birds including skylark, yellowhammer, linnet and reed bunting. The project is being run as a partnership between Natural England, The Cotswold Conservation Board and RSPB. For more information please contact Neil Harris on 01905 363455 or by e-mail at neil.harris@naturalengland.org.uk

HLS applications outside the target areas must have at least one of the following themes:

- Improving the resilience of BAP habitats to climate change
- Recovery of farmland birds
- Recovery of BAP species
- Improving water quality
- Protection of national heritage
- Protecting historic buildings
- Reducing damage to archaeology
- Improving people's enjoyment & understanding of the farmed environment

Before applying for HLS you are required to discuss your proposals with a Natural England adviser. Contact your local FWAG office 01452 627487 or telephone Natural England on 08456 024 098 or 0300 0601118.

- Targeted environmental management

- Capital work plans
Contact 0800 060 1118

Environmentally Sensitive Area Scheme

(not open to new entrants)

- Capital work plans
Contact your Natural England Advisor

Countryside Stewardship Scheme

(not open to new entrants)

- Capital work plans
Contact your Natural England Advisor

www.naturalengland.org.uk/planning/grants-funding/default.htm

Campaign for the Farmed Environment

In order to retain and exceed the environmental benefits that used to be provided by set aside, every farmer and land manager should consider participating in the CFE to ensure that it is a success to avoid compulsory environmental regulation. There are a new suite of options under Environmental Stewardship to help deliver a healthy environment that is essential for sustainable farming. Environmental Stewardship can help with the delivery of this voluntary campaign.

www.fwag.org.uk or www.cfeonline.org.uk

The England Woodland Grant Scheme

The Cotswolds AONB is one of four Ancient Woodland Priority Areas established in the South West by the Forestry Commission to benefit from the England Woodland Grant Scheme which provides landowners with help in meeting the costs of managing existing woodlands and creating new ones. Within these priority areas enhanced grant rates are available.

The Forestry Commission is eager to talk to landowners who may be interested in using the grant scheme to bring their woodlands into management or to create new ones.

To find out more visit the Forestry Commission's website www.forestry.gov.uk/england-swe or phone James Fry, the woodland officer for Gloucestershire, on 01594 810983.

Forestry Commission England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS)

The England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS) is the Forestry Commission's suite of grants designed to develop the co-ordinated delivery of public benefits from England's woodlands. The scheme is now open to applications for payment year 2009-2010. Closing dates for all regional grants can be found on the Regional Prospectuses page. See www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs

The aims of EWGS are to:

- sustain and increase the public benefits given by existing woodlands, and
- help create new woodlands to deliver additional public benefit.

Grants for stewardship of existing woodlands:

- Woodland Planning Grant (WPG)
- Woodland Assessment Grant (WAG)
- Woodland Regeneration Grant (WRG)
- Woodland Improvement Grant (WIG)
- Woodland Management Grant (WMG)

Grants for creation of new woodlands:

- Woodland Creation Grant (WCG)
For more information contact the Forestry Commission in your area:
Oxfordshire01296 696543
Wiltshire01672 511767
Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset01594 810983
Warwickshire and Worcestershire01905 532200

Website: www.forestry.gov.uk

For other grant funding information from Natural England including links to European Funding visit: www.naturalengland.org.uk/grantsfunding/findagrant/default.aspx

For other funding from the Forestry Commission visit www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infid-6dfk2u

Environment Agency and the delivery of the Water Framework Directive
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/planning/33106.aspx

RDPE Axis 3 – improving the quality of life in rural areas and promoting diversification of the rural economy – including Local Action for Rural Communities.

For help with applications to Environmental Stewardship and England Woodland Grant Schemes and cross compliance contact your Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) or visit the website www.fwag.org.uk

- Avon FWAG – 0117 959 8522
Government Buildings, Block 3, Burghill Rd, Westbury on Trym, Bristol BS10 6NJ.
- Gloucestershire FWAG – 01452 627487
Saw Mills End, Corinium Avenue, Gloucester GL4 3DE.
- Oxfordshire FWAG – 01993 886565
Unit 11, Blenheim Office Park, Long Hanborough, Witney, Oxford OX29 8LN.
- Warwickshire FWAG – 01926 318280
Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL.
- Wiltshire FWAG – 0117 959 8522
Government Buildings, Block 3, Burghill Rd, Westbury on Trym, Bristol BS10 6NJ.
- Worcestershire FWAG – 01905 362955
Government Buildings, Whittington Road, Worcester WR5 2LQ.

Axis 3 Measures

- Diversification into non-agricultural activities
- Business creation and development
- Encouragement of tourism
- Basic services
- Village renewal and development
- Conserving rural heritage
- Training and information
- Skills acquisition

Axis 3 supplementary outputs

- Increase in non agricultural gross value added
- Gross number of jobs created
- Additional number of tourists
- Improved services

Website: www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/pdf/guidh.pdf

The Energy Crops Scheme

Natural England offers grants to farmers in England for the establishment of miscanthus and short rotation coppice from a £47million fund, giving grants 40% of actual costs.

For more information contact Yvonne Mills on 01905 362703 or email: ecsqueries@naturalengland.org.uk

Netregs

The first UK website designed to help farmers and other small businesses navigate the maze of environmental legislation.

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/netregs

FWAG also offers Environmental Cross Compliance Health Checks for farmers claiming on Single Payment and Environmental Stewardship Schemes.

English Heritage

Most of its grant schemes are administered by staff in regional offices who can advise you whether your project is likely to be a priority for support.

Priorities

There is a very high demand for English Heritage grants, which means that it is not able to offer grants to every project that qualifies for support and has therefore identified priorities for the type of projects that it will fund:

- Significant elements of the historic environment which are at risk. It considers property to be at risk if it is either on the Buildings at Risk Register or it can be demonstrated that it is at serious risk from neglect or disrepair.

- Projects where there is a lack of alternative sources of funding. In order to qualify for a grant under this heading the project cannot be eligible for any other obvious sources of public or charitable funding, for example from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Single Regeneration Budget and specific funding (such as funding for coalfields or housing).

Grants are available for repairs to historic sites and buildings and to help preserve or improve the character and appearance of designated conservation areas. Contact regional offices to discuss before applying:

- South West – 0117 975 0700
- South East – 01483 252000
- West Midlands – 0121 625 6820

Website: www.english-heritage.org.uk A free and regularly updated on-line guide to relevant sources of funds is published by the Architectural Heritage Fund on the Funds for Historic Buildings website at www.ffhb.org.uk

Available grants:

- Historic buildings, monuments and designed landscapes
- War Memorials Grant Scheme
- Repair Grants for Places of Worship in England
- Grants to establish conservation staff (partnership)
- Grants to local authorities to underwrite urgent work notices
- Acquisition grants to local authorities to underwrite repair notices

Rural Community Councils (RCCs)

RCCs provide help in putting together Rural Community Council grant applications, especially to the Community Fund. They also administer many grants on behalf of other organisations:

- County council grant fund for village halls
- Village shop/hall improvement grants
- Rural Initiative Fund grants on behalf of Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society
- Allocating funds from Landfill Tax Credits for improvements to village halls
- Gloucestershire Rural Community Council01452 528491
Website: www.grcc.org.uk
- Community Action – Avon area/ South Gloucestershire.....01275 393837
Website: www.community-action.org.uk
- Community First Wilts and Bath01380 722475
Website: www.communityfirst.org.uk
- Oxfordshire Rural Community Council01865 883488
Website: www.oxonrcc.org.uk
- Warwickshire Rural Community Council02476 303232
Website: www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk
- Community First Hereford and Worcester01684 312730/01432 267820
Website: www.comfirst.org.uk
- Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE)01285 653477
Website: www.acre.org.uk

South West Market and Coastal Towns Network

A community planning programme which helps local people to design the future of their town and surrounding areas. For more information call Dan Judpes on 01242 864144.

Website: www.swmctn.com

Miscellaneous grants

General Business Support Grants

For your region and county, the best guide to grants is normally maintained by your local

Business Link office. Business Link advisers are able to provide you with guidance on selecting suitable grants.

Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest

Grantscape is an environmental grant making charity whose aim is to improve the life of communities and the environment have launched the 'Working with nature fund.'

Website: www.grantscape.org.uk

Tree Planting

The Royal Forestry Society has produced a booklet listing possible sources of grants for tree planting.01442 822028

Website: www.rfs.org.uk

Million Ponds Project

The million ponds project is a visionary initiative to reverse a century of decline in Britain's ponds by making new ponds for wildlife.

Website: www.pondconservation.org.uk

Froglife

Great Crested Newt and similar conservation projects

.....01733 558960

Website: www.froglife.org

British Ecological Society

Small Ecological Project Grants are available for habitat management, monitoring and survey.

British Ecological Society, 26 Blades Court, Deodar Road, Putney, London SW15 2NU

.....020 8871 9797

Website: www.britishecologicalsociety.org

WWF

Contact to discuss possible funding.

WWF, Panda House, Weyside Park, Godalming GU7 1XR

.....01483 426444

Website: www.wwf.org.uk

DTI Envirowise

Helps businesses 'get wise' to the benefits of good environmental practice – through free advice – open to most organisations and local authorities.....0800 585 794

Website: www.envirowise.gov.uk

Renewable energy

Severn Wye Energy Agency

Advice on all aspects of renewable energy and grants.....01594 545360

Website: www.swea.co.uk

The RDA's are developing a theme of community and social enterprise to help delivery of basic services to rural communities. Contact Gloucestershire First on 01242 864181

Energy Grants Special

For the Department of Energy and Climate Change visit: www.decc.gov.uk

The UK Renewable Energy Strategy (RES) sets out a path towards achieving the UK's target of sourcing 15% of overall energy consumption from renewable sources by 2020. The lead scenario set out in the RES suggests that over 30% of our electricity (including 2% from small scale generation) and 12% of heat demand could come from renewable sources.

The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme will be the first of its kind for renewable heating anywhere in the world and is intended to implement this by April 2011. Proposals on the design and operation of the scheme include:

- Accessing the RHI;
- Eligibility;
- Tariff setting;
- Reviews
- Interaction with other policies.

The Feed-in Tariff (FIT) for small scale low carbon electricity effective from 1 April as part of a wider initiative on the Renewable Electricity Financial Incentives (REFI). Key highlights include:

- FITs will be applicable to installations up to 5MW (2kW for non-renewable CHP);
- Wind, solar PV and hydro projects of 50kW or less, and microCHP projects supported through the pilot will be required to use the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) eligible products installed by MCS accredited installers to claim FITs support;

- All tariffs will be linked to the Retail Price Index (RPI);

- Electricity supply companies to make FITs payments to eligible generators;

- FITs income for domestic properties will be exempt from income tax;

- Ofgem will act as the FITs scheme administrator;

- A levelisation process, undertaken by Ofgem, to share the cost of the scheme across all licensed suppliers in proportion to their share of the UK electricity supply market; and

- Regular reviews of the scheme, the first one in 2013.

These measures take forward powers granted in the Energy Act 2008 to establish financial incentives schemes to facilitate and encourage small-scale low-carbon generation of electricity and renewable generation of heat.

Cash Rewards for Low Carbon Electricity and Heating

Low carbon building programme call helpline08704 232313

www.lowcarbonbuildingsphase2.org.uk

All products and installers must be accredited under the new Microgeneration Certification Scheme www.microgenerationcertification.org.uk

Big Lottery Fund

The Community Sustainable Energy Programme. Community Buildings, charities, Parish Council, schools and churches are all eligible for CSEP grants.

.....Helpline 08453671671

www.communitysustainable.org.uk/

Grassroots Funding

Limited funding may be available for community buildings via the national Grassroots scheme, administered locally by the Gloucestershire Community Foundation.

www.gloucestershirecommunityfoundation.co.uk/pages/recvieing_grassroots.htm

Energy Suppliers –Green Tariff Funds

Most large UK energy suppliers now offer 'green tariffs' including E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund 02476181945

source@eon-uk.com

EDF Green Fund 0800 051 1905

greenfund@edfenergy.com

The Carbon Trust's energy efficiency loan scheme has saved UK businesses £100m and 615,000 tonnes of CO2 by funding equipment replacement projects.

Warm and Well

The Warm and Well scheme is a partnership between the councils of Gloucestershire (including Cotswold District Council) and the local Energy Efficiency Advice Centre. Warm and Well offers a range of grants and discounts to homeowners and private tenants to help pay for loft and cavity-wall insulation and heating improvements. For further details or to make an application please contact the Warm and Well hotline:0800 512 012

Warm Front

Grants are available for insulation, draught proofing and oil or gas central heating. The Warm Front grant is managed by the Eaga Partnership on behalf of the Government. Grants are available to homeowners and private tenants www.direct.gov.uk and www.government-grants.co.uk/?gclid=CITy7Irs16ACFVRm4wodvDiNdQ

Trees for Schools and Community Trees

The Tree Council's two grants programmes, the 'Trees for Schools' and 'Community Trees' funds are available for schools and community groups within the UK who are able to show that children under the age of 16 will be actively engaged in the planting projects.

www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=grants

Heritage Lottery Fund

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) enables communities to celebrate, look after and learn more about our diverse heritage.

Projects might include nature conservation,

historic buildings, museum and archive collections, spoken history records, cultural traditions, and objects and sites relating to the UK's industrial, transport and maritime history. They must also benefit the wider public.

West Midlands.....0121 616 6870

South East.....020 7591 6171

South West.....01392 223950

Website: www.hlf.org.uk

Head office, tel: 0207 591 6000

Your Heritage Fund

Grants between £3,000 and £50,000 are available for projects which will conserve and enhance heritage or encourage communities to identify, look after and celebrate their heritage.

Projects could include building repairs and conservation work and buying land or buildings important to our heritage as long as they also ensure that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage.

Heritage Grants

This programme offers grants of over £50,000 to organisations that aim to conserve and enhance the UK's heritage; encourage more people to be involved in their heritage; and improve access to and enjoyment of heritage.

Repair Grants for Places of Worship in England

In partnership with English Heritage, a special programme for repair grants for places of worship in England, which will mainly help conserve and sustain heritage at risk.

Townscape Heritage Initiative

The Townscape Heritage Initiative helps communities to regenerate the historic parts of their towns and cities. The programme is designed to address problems in areas of particular social and economic need throughout the UK.

It encourages partnerships to carry out repairs and other works to a number of different historic properties within those areas to improve the quality of life for all those who live, work or visit there.

Parks for people

This joint initiative with the Big Lottery Fund helps with the restoration and regeneration of historic parks and gardens, wherever they are, including urban squares and cemeteries.

Projects must also enhance public access and involvement and may involve improving facilities.

Applications that serve socially and economically deprived communities remain a priority.

Landscape Partnerships

This initiative allows partnerships representing a range of heritage and community interests to tackle the needs of landscapes.

It caters for applications based around a portfolio of projects, which provide a package of benefits to an area, its communities and its visitors.

Areas must have a strong landscape identity, recognised by the communities there.

The initiative mainly helps to promote heritage conservation as an integral part of rural regeneration.

Young Roots

Young Roots promotes the involvement of 13-20 year olds in their heritage. It supports heritage projects targeted directly at the needs and interests of young people.

The Big Lottery Fund

For information about priorities and funding streams contact.....0207 211 1860

Big advice line.....08454 10 20 30

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

.....phone 01392 849700

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/southwest

.....phone 01483 462900

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/southeast

.....phone 0121 3457700

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/westmidlands

The Big Lottery Fund is responsible for giving out half the money for good causes raised by the National Lottery and is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need.

Among the programmes currently open are:

Reaching Communities

Aims to involve people in projects that will improve the lives of the communities most in need, including those hard to reach. Supports projects that respond to the needs of communities and actively involve them.

Children's Play

Funding to develop free, open-access supervised play provision focusing on areas with most need.

Family Learning

The Family Learning programme aims to increase high-quality family learning opportunities and to make them more accessible to families who face barriers to learning. We will fund projects that involve adults and children learning together.

Awards for All

Awards for All England is supported by Arts Council England, the Big Lottery Fund, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England.

Grants are awarded for between £300 and £10,000 for people to take part in arts, sports, heritage and community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community ...0845 600 20 40

Website: www.awardsforall.org.uk

The Big Lottery Fund will fund these organisations:

- The Royal Society of Wildlife Trust's Local Food scheme. The RSWT has been awarded £50 million to run an open grant scheme on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund. This scheme supports a variety of local food-related projects that help to strengthen local communities across England.

For an application form go to

www.localfoodgrants.org

- Community Spaces is a £50 million open grants programme that is managed by Groundwork UK as an Award Partner to the Big Lottery Fund. The programme helps community groups create or improve green and open spaces so that the quality of life in neighbourhoods across England is enhanced. Grants start at £10,000. For further information about the programme and who can apply visit: www.communityspaces.org.uk

Access to Nature

Natural England's Access to Nature scheme Natural England has been awarded £25 million to run an open grant scheme on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund. This scheme will encourage people from all backgrounds to understand and enjoy the natural environment.

Access to Nature will be open to applications until June 2010, although Flagship Projects will have a different time scale. (Further guidance on Flagship Projects application deadlines can be found on the website). Funding decisions will be spread out over three years, so applicants have time to develop their project ideas and application.

South West

Jo Lewis.....0117 959 8567

jo.lewis@naturalengland.org.uk

South East

Heather Whetter.....0118 939 2657

heather.whetter@naturalengland.org.uk

www.naturalengland.org.uk/accesstonature

Community focused grants

Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund

The tax aims to reduce the demand for primary aggregate, and compensate local communities for the impact of aggregate extraction.

The DEFRA grant funding is administered by Natural England. DEFRA contact – e-mail alex.comber@defra.gsi.gov.uk Natural England contact: Ian Williamson.....01476 584835 or 584821

email: ian.williamson@naturalengland.org.uk alsfgrants@naturalengland.org.uk

Landfill Communities Fund (LCF)

Tax on landfill waste was introduced in 1996 as a means to reduce the amount of landfilled waste and to promote a shift to more environmentally sustainable methods of waste management.

The LCF is an innovative tax scheme enabling operators of landfill sites to contribute money to enrolled Environmental Bodies (EBs) to carry out projects that meet environmental objectives contained in the Landfill Tax Regulations.

The government saw the LCF as a way for Landfill Operators (LOs) and EBs to work in partnership, to create significant environmental benefits and jobs, and to undertake projects to improve the lives of communities living near landfill sites.

LOs can contribute up to 6.6% of their landfill tax liability to EBs and reclaim 90% of this contribution as a tax credit. They may bear the remaining 10% themselves, or an independent third party can make up this 10% difference to the LO. Projects eligible for LCF funding:

- involve reclaiming land, the use of which has been prevented by some previous activity;
- reduce or prevent pollution on land;
- provide or maintain public amenities or parks within 10 miles of a landfill site;
- deliver biodiversity conservation for UK species habitats;
- restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest within 10 miles of a landfill site;
- fund the cost of administrative, financial or other similar services, supplied to other enrolled environmental bodies.

For more information on LCF contact:

Entrust, Head Office, 2nd floor Acre House,
2 Town Square, Sale, Cheshire M33 7WZ
.....0161 972 0044
Website: www.entrust.org.uk

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)

There are an enormous number of community grants available nationwide – for a fact sheet and further information, you can become an associate member of BTCV (£25).

BTCV, Sedum House, Mallard Way, Potteric Carr, Doncaster DN4 8DB01302 388 883
Website: www.btcv.org

Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The award recognises outstanding achievement by groups that volunteer their own time to enhance and improve the quality of life and opportunities for others

.....020 7781 2397
Website: www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk

Women in Rural Enterprise (WiRE)

WiRE is a very successful networking and business club, with over 2,000 business members. WiRE offers a grant finding service

Promoting access to great outdoors

OXFORDSHIRE County Council and the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment have joined forces to fund projects that will boost access to the great outdoors.

The Places for People scheme is inviting bids for grants of up to £5,000 and, for exceptional projects, £10,000. Projects could involve replacing stiles with pedestrian gates to improve access, new notice boards directing visitors to an area's key attractions and new surfacing to make routes more accessible.

Information packs and application forms are available from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment, telephone 01865 883488 or email toe@ruralnet.org.uk or www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/placesforpeople

appropriate to women members establishing or growing rural businesses.

Website: www.wireuk.org

Local authorities

Many local authorities within the Cotswolds AONB offer grants for a variety of projects that benefit the long-term health of the area. Because funding streams, job titles and grants are continuously changing you are advised to contact your local councils at an early stage in the development of ideas.

It is important to realise that many grants today are aimed at projects with community involvement and/or involving a partnership approach between different bodies and private individuals.

Funds available from councils vary between 30% and 50%. Grants tend to operate on a first-come, first-served basis; however the different grant schemes are administered in a variety of ways.

Overleaf is a list of local authorities within the AONB. For further information please contact the relevant council.

Key questions to consider

1. Which are your local councils?
2. Are there other partners (government agencies, grant giving bodies, voluntary organisations, educational establishments, private individuals, businesses etc) who could be involved?
3. What other financial support and volunteer time can you offer to match funds?
4. What type of project are you involved in?
 - Wildlife conservation
 - Historic buildings
 - Youth and community
 - Education
 - Transport
 - Recreation and public access (open spaces)
 - Sport
 - Arts
 - Local history
 - Economic development
 - Archaeology

Bath & North East Somerset Council (B&NES)

.....01225 477000
Website: www.bathnes.gov.uk

The council funds voluntary organisations to provide specific services. These services must meet council objectives and priorities and must benefit the residents of B&NES.

To apply for funding, organisations have to complete an application form, normally on an annual basis, to show how they meet the funding criteria.

For further information contact:

.....01225 477579
Email: jane_briggs@bathnes.gov.uk

Cheltenham Borough Council

.....01242 262626
Website: www.cheltenham.gov.uk
Offers £200 grants to organisations. Also offers advice on fundraising.

Cherwell District Council

.....01295 252535
Website: www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Landscape conservation grants for tree planting, hedgerows, pond restoration, willow pollarding, artefact restoration, tree surgery, school nature conservation areas, community nature areas, funding for conservation works on local sites of wildlife interest.

Grants are available to parish councils, landowners, farmers, schools and community groups.

The grants are intended to enable applicants to go ahead with small schemes that may otherwise not be undertaken.

Grant rates may vary due to the details of the project, up to a maximum of 50% of the total information in this publication is accurate but

you are advised to check project costs. Eligible schemes will have a total project cost of between £100 and £2,000. Grants will not be given retrospectively.

Cotswold District Council

.....01285 623000
Website: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Gloucestershire County Council

.....01452 425000
Website: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk

Wiltshire Council

.....0300 456 0100
Website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Grants and advice on developing projects are available. The funding available is to help pump-prime, support and encourage a wide range of local projects.

Any award in excess of £500 will not represent more than 50% of the total project funding.

■ Charities Information Bureau – Wiltshire – the CIB is a charitable organisation set up to offer help and advice on funding and charity law to groups and individuals throughout Wiltshire.

.....01380 729279
Website: www.cibfunding.info



■ Community First manages a number of schemes providing grants for individuals and groups to support a range of community projects meeting clearly identified community needs. Both capital and revenue support is available.

.....01380 722475
Website: www.communityfirst.org.uk

■ Communities First administers the Village Hall Grant Scheme on behalf of Wiltshire Council for local communities wishing to provide, extend or refurbish village halls.

Grants are available for major capital projects, to help with the purchase of sites and buildings, expenditure on new buildings, improvements and extensions, the initial purchase of equipment and furniture and relevant professional fees. A major capital project is one costing more than £5,000.

Applicants will be expected to find at least 30% of the total cost of the project.

Contributions from parish and town councils may be counted as part of the applicant's share of the project cost, as will grants from other bodies.

Katie Griffin 01380 722475
Email: kgriffin@communityfirst.org.uk
Website: www.communityfirst.org.uk

Oxfordshire County Council

..... 01865 792422
Website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

South Gloucestershire Council

..... 01454 868009
Website: www.southglos.gov.uk

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

..... 01789 267575
Website: www.stratford.gov.uk

Stroud District Council

..... 01453 766321
Website: www.stroud.gov.uk

Tewkesbury Borough Council

..... 01684 295010
Website: www.tewkesbury.gov.uk

Warwickshire County Council

Website: www.warwickshire.gov.uk
Warwickshire County Council Community Development Fund – help for 'one-off' projects that meet local needs and address issues of particular concern to the community. Applications are invited between May and August each year from community and voluntary groups for grants of up to £5,000. The support and endorsement of your local county councillor is essential .. 0845 090 7000
The Community Development Fund – made available by the Learning and Skills Council to offer learning opportunities to local people aged 16+ and to support organisations' involvement in adult and community learning, literacy and numeracy programmes, IT learning, family learning days or craft based learning.

West Oxfordshire District Council

.....01993 861000
Funding guide available on-line: Website: www.westoxon.gov.uk

■ Landscape Conservation Grant Scheme
.....01993 861662
email: planning@westoxon.gov.uk

■ Building Conservation01993 861666
email: planning@westoxon.gov.uk

■ Rural Community Grants.....01993 861484
email: sara.anthony@westoxon.gov.uk

■ Village Hall Grants.....01865 883488
email: leisureandtourism@westoxon.gov.uk

Worcestershire County Council

.....01905 763763
Website: www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Wychavon District Council

.....01386 565000
Website: www.wychavon.gov.uk

Cotswolds Conservation Board



The Cotswolds Conservation Board works:

- to conserve and enhance the AONB;
- to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB.

In fulfilling these roles, the Board seeks to foster the economic and social wellbeing of local communities within the AONB.

Cotswolds Conservation Board

Fosse Way
Northleach
Gloucestershire GL54 3JH
Tel: 01451 862000
Fax: 01451 862001
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group.

Tel: 01452 627487
www.fwag.org.uk

The information in this publication has been collated for the Cotswolds Conservation Board by Gloucestershire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG). FWAG has 66 local groups throughout the UK and provides farmers and landowners with independent, practical advice on making adjustments to farm operations and enhancing farm features to support wildlife, landscape, archaeology, access and other conservation issues.