

GREAT LAKES

Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program



The Great Lakes Thriving Communities Grantmaking (TCGM) Partnership will award environmental justice grants to organizations working in and for underserved communities throughout the Great Lakes region. The partnership includes the Midwest Environmental Justice Network, the Minneapolis Foundation, RE-AMP, and NDN Collective.

These grants are made possible by funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). \$40 million will be distributed to community-based nonprofits and other eligible organizations in Region 5 of the EPA. This area includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, and 35 federally recognized tribal nations. We expect to award 206 grants from Fall 2024-Fall 2026.

GRANT OVERVIEW

Applicants can apply for any or all of the following tiers, in any order. However, no organization or fiscally-sponsored project may receive more than two TCGM grants.

Tier One: Assessment

We will award one-year grants of up to \$150,000 for project assessment. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing curricula, community mapping, and research. Through a noncompetitive process, we will also award grants of up to \$75,000 to groups we identify as severely capacity constrained.

Tier Two: Community Education and Planning

We will award one- to two-year grants of up to \$250,000 for project planning. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Developing communications and outreach plans; conducting workshops and trainings; or other community planning and visioning efforts.

Tier Three: Project Development and Implementation

We will award two-year grants of up to \$350,000 for project development. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to: Strengthening cumulative impact, public health, or environmental justice protections; developing community gardens; or creating community resilience hubs.



ISSUE AREAS



Grants will support projects that focus on issues including, but not limited to:

- Environmental health
- Air, soil, and water quality
- Healthy homes
- Access to healthy food
- Stormwater and green infrastructure
- Emergency preparedness
- Disaster resilience
- Environmental job training

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must work on environmental justice, climate, or public health issues in the Region 5 area of the EPA. Eligible applicants include:

- Tribal governments (both federally and state-recognized)
- Nonprofit organizations, including grassroots/community-based, philanthropic, and civic organizations
- Local governments
- Institutions of higher education



- Tribes and Indigenous groups and communities, including in rural, remote, and urban areas.
- Rural and remote communities (with populations under 50,000).
- Urban communities (with populations over 50,000).



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Visit greatlakestcgm.org for more details and to sign up for email notifications. For questions, email greatlakestcgm@mplsfoundation.org.

GREAT LAKES TCGM PARTNERSHIP

