

GRANT APPLICATION

Applying for a
EWEB Greenpower Grant - 2010
From
Eugene Water & Electric Board

Contact Information

Please fill out the contact information below:

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency

NAME OF ORGANIZATION

Sally Markos

CONTACT NAME

Public Affairs Manager

CONTACT TITLE

1010 Main Street

STREET ADDRESS

Springfield, OR 97477

CITY/STATE/ZIP

541-736-1056 ext. 217

TELEPHONE

541-726-1205

FAX

smarkos@LRAPA.org

E-MAIL

www.LRAPA.org

WEB SITE

PROPOSAL TITLE: Go Green, Heat Clean

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$100,000


SIGNATURE

2/19/10
DATE

When to apply

Application deadline - postmarked by:

February 22, 2010

What to send

Applications must include the **Contact Information** and a **Proposal** with the information requested.

Send to:

Greenpower Grant c/o Tom Williams
Eugene Water & Electric Board
500 East 4th Ave.
P.O. Box 10148
Eugene, OR 97440-2148
Tom.Williams@eweb.org
541-685-7160

Proposal

Please provide the information outlined below:
(Maximum 10 pages not including attachments)

1. Background

Overview of your organization including:

- Mission of the organization
- The needs your organization addresses
- The population your organization serves
- A brief description of your current programs & operating budget

2. Project Description

Description of the program/project including:

- Statement of the primary purpose of the project and its relationship to EWEB's mission
- The population you plan to serve and how the population will benefit from the project
- Strategies that you will employ to implement the project

3. Project Evaluation

Please explain how you will measure the effectiveness of the project:

- Your criteria for a successful project or program
- The results you hope to achieve by the end of the funding period
- The method by which effectiveness will be measured

4. Project Management

- A budget for the project for which funds are requested
- Timeline

5. Attachments

- Proof of nonprofit status (a copy of IRS letter)*
 - One-paragraph resumes of key staff working on the project
 - List of board of directors*
 - Amount and source of any other funding support received from EWEB (if applicable)
- *Optional or not needed for public and academic institutions

Go Green, Heat Clean Wood Stove Change-out Project

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency
1010 Main Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541) 736-1056

Contact: Sally Markos
(541) 736-1056 ext. 217
FAX: (541) 726-1205
smarkos@lrapa.org

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) is the local air quality regulatory agency for Lane County, Oregon.

Funding requested: \$100,000
LRAPA Match: \$1,179.80
Total project cost: \$101,179.80

Project period: July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011

Background: Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA):

LRAPA is the local air regulatory agency for Lane County, which covers over 4,600-sq. miles (almost as large as the entire state of Connecticut) stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cascade Mountains. The agency serves a county population of 346,560. LRAPA's mission is to protect public health, quality of life, and the environment as a leader and advocate for the continuous improvement of air quality in Lane County.

The agency is organized by section and current programs include:

Operations — Permitting, Compliance and Enforcement

Permitting - establishes conditions under which regulated industrial sources may operate.

Compliance/Enforcement - assures permitted sources comply with permitting requirements; enforces agency rules and regulations through education and enforcement actions.

Technical Services — Monitoring and Data Management

Monitoring- collects over 240,000 hours/year of ambient air quality data and provides quality assurance.

Data Management - determines whether ambient air quality standards are being met, and provides technical assistance for program priorities and planning.

Administration and Planning — Planning, Finance and Human Resources

Air Quality Planning - identifies present and potential future air quality problems and develops appropriate control strategies.

Finance - provides the agency with full financial management services.

Human Resources - manages agency personnel matters.

Public Information — Public Affairs Program

Public Information/Education - works with all sections of the agency to promote public understanding, education and awareness of the agency and local air quality issues.

LRAPA's funding for general operations comes from federal, state and local sources. The agency's current annual funding resource is \$2,408,330. In addition to the base funding, the agency has been successful in receiving grant monies to conduct special projects developed to reduce pollution from many sources in the communities it serves. These successful projects have brought clean diesel fuel to Lane County, helped long-haul truckers reduce diesel fuel usage, made school buses cleaner and safer for children, and helped Oakridge residents switch from polluting, uncertified wood stoves as a heat source to cleaner burning heating appliances. Grant funding is essential to develop and administer projects like these and the need continues as we face both new and ongoing challenges to our local air quality.

Project description

LRAPA is proposing a wood stove change-out and energy efficiency project targeting low-income residents in the area served by EWEB. The project will replace uncertified wood stoves with cleaner burning pellet stoves. The project will also offer weatherization to increase energy efficiency and reduced fuel usage. The project supports EWEB's mission of *"being an outstanding provider of energy and water products that meet customer needs and benefit the citizens of Eugene."* The use of clean-burning pellets as a renewable fuel promotes sustainability and fits into EWEB's energy future portfolio. Derived from renewable resources, pellets are recognized by federal and state government as a sustainable source of fuel. Wood pellets are also considered to be a "carbon neutral" fuel.

Pellet stoves run on small and highly dried pellets made from biomass materials such as wood chips and sawdust. Since pellets contain much less water than even the best seasoned fire-wood, they burn more efficiently with less smoke and produce more heat pound-per-pound than split wood. Wood pellets are the most common and most efficient of the manufactured biomass fuels today. This has been recognized by Oregon Department of Energy, which offers a tax credit of 25% of the cost, up to \$300.00, for a high efficiency pellet stove and \$10.00 tax credit per ton of pellets purchased. Through December 2010, the federal government is also offering a 30% tax credit, up to \$1,500.00 for the purchase and installation of a 75% efficient stove.

Because wood stoves last a long time, and wood is readily available as a fuel source, there are still thousands of old, inefficient, high polluting wood burning devices in Eugene that contribute to unhealthy air. According to a recent survey conducted for LRAPA, 18% of residences have a wood stove and approximately 30 percent of the stoves are uncertified. Many residents use wood stoves as a heat source to save money by reducing their use of electricity, heating oil, natural gas, or propane.

Wood stove replacements result in significant emission reductions. Uncertified woodstoves emit, on average, 182 pounds of particle pollution per year, as opposed to a pellet stoves that emit 16 pounds of particle pollution per year. The goal of this project will be to replace at least 33 old, uncertified stoves with clean burning pellet stoves for a total reduction of over 5,000 lbs. of fine particulate per year from the airshed. Combining home weatherization with heating upgrades has the potential to reduce energy usage by an additional 25%.

Project Benefits

In neighborhoods throughout Eugene, wintertime residential wood burning is a significant source of air pollution, including fine particulate and air toxics. At times, heavy smoke from residential wood burning in a community can exceed federal air quality health standards for particulate matter. According to LRAPA's emission inventory, residential home wood heating smoke accounts for 40 percent of all particulates emitted in Lane County.

Uncertified wood stoves can also contribute to poor indoor air quality. A study conducted by the University of Montana revealed particulate levels in a home with a poorly used stove can be as much as four times higher than the ambient air quality standard of 35 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m³). The study showed dramatic results with indoor air becoming cleaner by more than 72% after a change-out.

Particulate matter in wood stove smoke can be easily inhaled and reach the deepest part of our lungs. It is known to cause or contribute to respiratory disease, asthma attacks, heart problems, and premature death. Wood smoke also contains toxic organic compounds known to cause cancer. Reducing wood stove emissions will protect public health, especially those in our community who are most vulnerable: children, the elderly, and people with pre-existing medical conditions and disabilities.

Removing uncertified wood stoves from homes also addresses concerns about safety. Many of the old, uncertified stoves have been improperly installed or are in such disrepair they can be hazardous to users. Because uncertified wood stoves produce more creosote than pellet stoves, this can lead to excessive buildup in chimneys. Replacing the uncertified stove and installing a new pellet stove eliminate this potential fire hazards.

Wood stove change-outs benefit entire communities. Eugene currently meets the federal ambient air quality standard for fine particulates, a major component of wood smoke. In 2006, the standard was tightened from a 24-hour average of 65 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m³) to 35 ug/m³. Local air pollution control strategies have been very successful in reducing particle pollution levels during 1985-2010, and Eugene has consistently met the 65 ug/m³ standard since 1996. However, the new, more protective 35 ug/m³ standard is being met in Eugene with only a very small margin of safety. Wood stove replacements, along with a strong daily green-yellow-red advisory program, are key strategies for keeping the Eugene area in attainment and protecting public health for all residents.

Project strategies

The economic situation of most low-income residents will require the project to cover the full cost of replacing and installing a new pellet stove, estimated at \$2,700 per replacement. (This cost is based on the heating requirements for a 1,500 square foot residence.) The cost includes the stove, permit, installation, and venting.

In addition, the low-income change-out project would be supplemented by a partnership with local programs and assistance organizations to weatherize homes and reduce the amount of fuel needed to heat a home. EWEB would be included as a key partner. LRAPA proposes a “one stop shopping application” modeled after its successful Warm Homes, Clean Air project. Residents can use the application to request assistance to weatherize a home or change out a woodstove.

To ensure the success of a change-out project, homeowners must meet specific criteria, including:

- 1) The device must be in the owner-occupied residence;
- 2) The uncertified wood-burning appliance must have been routinely used during the heating season;
- 3) Providing documentation of the disposal of the old wood-burning device at a metal recycling facility; and
- 4) Providing documentation that the applicant or installer obtained a building permit for installation of the new unit; and photographic documentation of new installation.

Strategies for success:

- Identify and target low-income residences with home wood heating exemptions.
- Partner with Centro-Latino for outreach to low-income Spanish-speaking residents
- Market the project to a broader group of EWEB customers, especially in areas of Eugene with historically high particulate levels and heavy use of wood stoves (utility bills inserts, advertising)
- Partner with EWEB, Housing and Community Services Agency of Lane County, and others to provide weatherization services to income-eligible homeowners
- Conduct home visits to verify the home meets project criteria and qualifications
- Partner with local pellet stove dealers and the Hearth, Patio, and Barbecue Association to negotiate prices on selected stove models.
- Conduct a follow-up survey with change-out participants to measure satisfaction with the project and their new heating appliance

This proposal provides many opportunities to leverage resources and additional funding. LRAPA's comprehensive monitoring network will provide accurate reporting data. Using

a proven program model, Warm Homes, Clean Air, will reduce LRAPA's administrative costs to a minimum. Partnering with other agencies for weatherization services will add additional resources and services to homeowners. There will also be an opportunity to leverage this funding with additional money for wood stove change-outs from the Oregon Department of Energy via the current federal stimulus program. This project will also benefit local businesses that sell and install the stoves.

Criteria for a Successful Project

To be successful, a project in Eugene would be similar to LRAPA's Warm Homes, Clean Air program developed for residents of Oakridge. The program partnered LRAPA with seven other local, state, and federal government agencies to offer assistance for home repairs and improvements, weatherization, and heating upgrades. Through the partnerships, LRAPA leveraged over \$675,000 of funding for the program. Over 160 families received assistance. The Warm Homes Program has been recognized nationally as successful model in community outreach and emission reductions.

The same criteria that made Warm Homes, Clean Air successful would apply to a similar program in Eugene. The criteria include: making it easy for homeowners to apply for assistance, LRAPA staff working one-on-one with residents, developing an excellent working relationship with project partners and local government, measurable improvements in air quality, and accurate reporting of results.

Desired Results:

- Increased home heating efficiency by at least 25%;
- Reduction in use of fossil fuels;
- Reduced levels of fine particulate, air toxics, and greenhouse gases;
- Improved public health for homeowners and all Eugene residents;
- Cleaner, safer homes;
- Increased public awareness and support for sustainable, renewable energy;
- Measurable improvements in air quality.

Methods for Measuring Effectiveness

The project's effectiveness will be measured by the number of uncertified woodstove change-outs finished, home weatherization work completed, and public acceptance of the program. Air quality improvements and staying in compliance with federal air quality standards even with continued growth and development in Eugene will be a major measurement of success. Survey results from participating residents will also be used to measure the success of the change-out and their experience working with the project partners.

Biographies of LRAPA staff

Sally Markos manages public affairs and education for LRAPA. Sally came to LRAPA in 2005 after working for 11 years in the City of Eugene's stormwater education program. She has helped develop and administer a number of projects for LRAPA, including the Warm Homes, Clean Air wood stove change-out program for Oakridge, Oregon. She oversees the home wood heating advisory and complaint programs. Sally also participates in a number of professional organizations that focus on pollution prevention and is a member of the City of Eugene's Climate Change workgroup. Sally graduated from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse with a degree in biology.

Debby Wineinger joined LRAPA in March of 2008 with 17 years of finance and bookkeeping experience with more than 10 years of that in construction business. Debby has outstanding skills in spreadsheet development and will handle all data input and analysis for this project. Debby will be responsible for record keeping for this project.

Sophie Grow is a recent graduate of the University of Oregon. She graduated with a bachelor of arts in History and Humanities with honors with distinction. As a work-study student, she helped maintain and update documents for LRAPA's Everybody Wins program. Currently a public relations intern, Sophie assists Sally Markos with public outreach and administration of LRAPA's Warm Homes program, record archival, event planning, and home wood heating complaint and investigative operations.

Budget:

EWEB Greenpower Grant Budget Detail July 1, 2010- June 30, 2011 (12 month Summary)

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS:	EWEB Grant	Cost Sharing	TOTAL
Salaries and Wages			
(1) Project Manager (Public Affairs Mgr.) 8hrs/months for 12 months			
\$31.90 x 96 hours = \$3,062.00	2,297.00	765.80	3,062.80
(2) Staff Helper (Student Intern) 19hrs/month for 12 months			
\$10.00/hr x 228hours = \$2,280.00	2,280.00		2,280.00
(3) Staff Assistant (Finance Specialist) 5hrs/months for 12 months			
\$16.87/hr x 60 hours = \$1,012.00	1,012.00		1,012.00
Sub-total Salaries & Wages	5,589.00	765.80	6,354.80
Fringe Benefits @ 40% of direct Salaries			
- Retirement, health insurance, FICA, SUI, workers comp and others	2,235.70	306.30	2,542.00
Sub-total Fringes	2,235.70	306.30	2,542.00
Total Personnel	7,824.70	1,072.10	8,896.80
Indirect Cost @ 10% of Salaries & Fringes			
- Includes overhead and support services not otherwise as part of the above	785.30	107.70	893.00
Sub-total Indirect cost	785.30	107.70	893.00
Travel: Staff reimbursements at current IRS rates of 58.5 cents per mile			
(1) Project Manager (LRAPA Public Aff. Manager) 65 miles/month for 12 months			
\$.50/mile x 780 Miles = \$390.00	390.00		390.00
Sub-total Travel Costs	390.00	0.00	390.00
Total Administrative Costs	9,000.00	1,179.80	10,179.80
Marketing/Advertising			
(1) Marketing and Advertising Cost			
All type media	1,000.00		1,000.00
Sub-total Travel Costs	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Direct Stove Replacement Cost			
(1) Pellet stove, including installation, venting and permit			
\$2,700/each x 33 stove = \$89,100	89,100.00		89,100.00
\$27.28/each x 33 Misc. cost = \$900	900.00		900.00
Sub-total Stove Replacement Costs	90,000.00	0.00	90,000.00
Total Direct Project Costs	91,000.00	0.00	91,000.00
Total Project Costs	100,000.00	1,179.80	101,179.80

Timeline:

Prior to July 2010

Develop marketing and media campaign for project

Contact local retail woodstove dealers and negotiate stove prices

Set up initial meeting with EWEB, HACSA, Central Latino and other potential partners

Develop criteria for qualifying residents (income level, disabilities, etc.)

Review project application form with project partners

July 2010

Make application form available to public at selected outlets, via LRAPA website, and by request

Begin screening applications with project partners and have appropriate agency contact residents who qualify for the project

August 2010 – June 2011

Begin home visits to confirm applicant's qualification for the project and begin process of filling out paper work and arranging for wood stove replacement, home repair and weatherization (if requested)

Develop a spreadsheet to track work that has been completed by all partner agencies

Schedule quarterly progress meetings with project partners

Develop and distribute survey to all project participants