

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Summary Sheet

(One page only) Note: If Philanthropy Network Common Grant Application is used, this Summary Sheet MUST accompany application. Please visit our website at www.chescocf.org to obtain an electronic version of this application.

Date: 9/15/2022

Contact Information:

Organization Name: **Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens**
Address: **631 Berwyn Baptist Road**
Devon, PA 19333

Contact Name: **Stephanie Kuniholm**
Contact Title: **Dir. of External Relations**
Contact E-mail:
stephanie@jenkinsarboretum.org
Fax: **N/A**
Year Incorporated: **1976**

Phone: **610-647-8870 ext. 114**

Web Address: **www.jenkinsarboretum.org**

Have you previously received the Miller Grant Award: Yes No

If "Yes", please indicate date and amount of each grant, if any, received from the Foundation:

(1) Year: 2021	Amt Rec'd: \$3,000	(2) Year: 2019	Amt. Rec'd: \$3,000
(3) Year: 2007	Amt Rec'd: \$2,000	(4) Year: _____	Amt. Rec'd \$ _____

Organizational Information:

Geographic Area Served (*If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County municipalities served*): **Greater Philadelphia region**

Annual # of Clients & Description of Population Served: **Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens welcomes 50,000+ visitors to the gardens and 3,000+ program participants each year.**

Mission Statement: **The mission of Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is to preserve natural tranquil woodlands for community enjoyment, to showcase native plants and a world class collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, and to promote environmental horticulture through learning, research, and conservation.**

Organization Description: **Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is one of the region's great horticultural and environmental assets. As a botanical garden, Jenkins maintains a collection of trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and ferns in a tranquil, naturalistic landscape. In addition, Jenkins engages the community through educational programs for people of all ages.**

Annual Budget **\$1,333,202**
66% of budget for program expenses
17% of budget for administrative expenses
17% of budget for fundraising expenses
100 % total

10.5 Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
21 of Board Volunteers
42 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
20,000 of Volunteer Hours

Top 3-5 funding sources: Virginia Cretella Mars Foundation, Pamlela Joy Jensen, Pine Tree Foundation, Meg Boscov and Randall Brown, Armstrong Foundation

Proposal Information:

Grant Amount Requested: **\$2,500**

Description of Grant Purpose: **Conservation Woodland Project**

**MARJORIE L. AND ARTHUR P. MILLER FUND
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Grant Proposal Narrative**

Please provide the following information clearly and concisely.

Proposals of 1 or 2 pages are strongly encouraged.

1. Organization's history, goals, key achievements, and distinctiveness

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens is a 501(c)(3) botanical garden in Devon, PA. The Arboretum is 100% supported by the community and is open with free admission every day of the year. Jenkins opened to the public in 1976 and has since grown to welcome more than 50,000 visitors and 3,000 program participants annually.

While visiting Jenkins, guests enjoy 1.2 miles of trails surrounded by lush woodland gardens, sunny pollinator plantings, and sweeping views of Valley Forge. In addition to the 12 acres of gardens open to the public daily, Jenkins also maintains another 20 acres of forested land known as the Conservation Woodlands. This tract of land is slowly being developed into a site for future garden expansion, offering visitors the opportunity to hike through restored Pennsylvania forest while enjoying plantings of native woodland species. With past help from the Miller Fund and other donors, the Conservation Woodlands are beginning to regenerate after being fenced off from deer damage. Planting projects are also underway, adding beneficial native plants in areas that were once disturbed by invasive plant species.

2. Funding Request

Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens respectfully requests a grant in the amount of \$2,500 from the Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund in support of the Conservation Woodlands Project. If awarded, this funding would provide the resources needed to continue restoration efforts as we work towards a future expansion of the gardens. We hope to offer this section of the garden as an experience of a healthy Chester County forest free from invasive plants and the pressures of deer herbivory. More specifically, this funding would be expended on activities and equipment such as:

- Two volunteer "Hort. Blitz" days in 2023. Our "Hort. Blitz" days are half-day opportunities for community members to work in the Conservation Woodlands

alongside horticulture staff to accomplish a large-scale project such as planting trees and shrubs or invasive plant removal.

- Purchase of native trees and shrubs for replanting the Conservation Woodlands.
- Tools and materials for general upkeep of the Conservation Woodlands which could include fence maintenance, safety pruning of trees, invasive plant species removal, or managing the growth of regenerating vegetation and young trees.

A. Specific Chester County needs and issues addressed

Chester County is experiencing an increase in population growth along with an increase in suburban development. Residents of our county need places for recreation, restoration, and inspiration. Jenkins offers a safe and welcoming greenspace for all Chester County residents, regardless of age or background. By restoring the Conservation Woodlands and opening the area to the public, Jenkins will offer expanded space for people in our community to experience the healing qualities of being immersed in a thriving forest.

Along with increasing development in our county comes an increase in problems associated with stormwater runoff. The Conservation Woodlands help to slow down and soak up water along a stream corridor that is notorious for flash flooding. By increasing the health of this piece of land, we become better neighbors to residents living downstream and help address a major environmental issue in our county.

B. Project impact

A grant from the Miller Fund would provide the resources needed to continue working towards our goal of opening the Conservation Woodlands to the public. This multi-year project requires a consistent input of resources, so any funding along the way will move us closer to realizing our goal. Through this project, we anticipate doubling the amount of garden open to the public. Even before this section of the garden opens to the public, this project will positively impact the health and resilience of our landscape and the storm water that moves through the region.

C. Overall strategies to implement the organization's mission (or project)

Expansion of the public gardens into the Conservation Woodlands section of Jenkins is in perfect alignment with our founder's vision to, "preserve natural tranquil woodlands for community enjoyment." Expanding visitor access to this area would double the size of the gardens and double the opportunity for visitors to engage with nature.

D. Why it is important to fund this now

With the growing pressures of climate change, increased stress from a global pandemic, heightened social unrest, and rising economic disparities, our community is in desperate need of accessible greenspaces. This project will take several years to accomplish, and it is critical that we take steps now to begin restoring this site for future expansion. The sooner we make progress on this project, the sooner we will be able to open this section of the garden to the public.

E. *How do you intend to meet the challenge component of this grant?*

The challenge component of this grant will be met through volunteer support of our Volunteer Hort. Blitz days and our ongoing volunteer crew working in the Conservation Woodlands. In addition to volunteer support, we hope to obtain in-kind services from a professional arborist to help maintain the canopy in the Conservation Woodlands.

3. Timetable, with anticipated outcomes and their relevance to the nonprofit's mission

In 2023, we expect to offer at least two volunteer "Hort. Blitz" days along with regularly dedicated staff and volunteer time working in the Conservation Woodlands. By the end of 2023, we expect to have made continued progress in the removal of invasive plant species and will have replanted those areas with native trees and shrubs. This will lay the groundwork for planning trails and opening this area to the public.

4. How impact and results will be demonstrated

A written report along with photos will be provided at the end of 2023 to demonstrate the impact of this grant. Additionally, we would be honored to take the Millers on a tour of the Woodlands to demonstrate the impact of their philanthropy first-hand.

ATTACHMENTS

Please attach the following support information:

1. Copy of 501 (c) (3) federal tax-exempt letter
2. List of Board of Directors, with their affiliations
3. Most recent annual report and financial statement, audited if available
4. Itemized organizational operating budget with actual results for prior fiscal year and current fiscal year to date
5. Itemized project budget (if applying for project-specific grant)

Note: The Philanthropy Network Common Grant Application may be submitted with CCCF Summary Sheet.

Please visit our website at www.chescocf.org to obtain an electronic version of this application. E-mail applications are strongly encouraged.

***Please send completed applications to:
grants@chescocf.org
(610) 696-8045
THANK YOU!***