



CHNEP Conservation Grant Application FY2024

Instructions: The CHNEP provides Conservation Grants (up to \$4,999) to community organizations for projects that address clean water, wildlife habitat protection and restoration, and outreach priorities in the CHNEP area, as outlined in our Strategic Plan, the [Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#). Before applying, please read through specifications outlined in this cover sheet.

Match is not required, but proposals showing matching fund commitment through in-kind services (such as volunteer hours), or direct funding from other sources will receive special consideration. Preference will also be given to projects in communities that have been historically underserved by CHNEP grants as well as new applicant and projects.

Please read the following restrictions regarding eligibility carefully. The CHNEP does **NOT** fund:

- Events or services for which there is an admission fee or charge; CHNEP will consider providing support for scholarships to allow participation by those who would not otherwise be able to attend;
- Restoration or improvements on private property;
- Projects that personally benefit the applicant;
- Political action or legislative advocacy;
- Fundraising activities;
- Projects completed prior to the award of the grant;
- Items that will be sold by the grant recipient;
- Reprinting of existing material unless part of a larger educational program;
- Capital improvement or endowment funds, or usual operating costs;
- Conference registrations and travel;
- Gift cards or certificates, and;
- Any activities related to permitting.

We encourage requests for funding in the \$500 to \$4,999 range. All funding is reimbursement based; no funding will be fronted for the project. The timeline for Fiscal Year 2024 is October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Projects should conclude by or before Sept. 1, 2024.

Reimbursement for Conservation Grants are based on 'Deliverables' or 'Outcomes' provided through the project, rather than cost receipts. Deliverables will include a final report that includes photos, metrics for measuring success, etc. which will be reviewed and approved by CHNEP staff to ensure they meet the specifications provided through the initial application.

Once your application is received, it will be evaluated based on the information provided. CHNEP will notify you by e-mail about the status of your application.

Fall Deadline is August 1, 2023 for a October 2023 award notice

Applications should be submitted via email to Grants@chnep.org, by 5:00 pm on August 1, 2023. Questions should be directed to Lisa Pedigo, CHNEP Finance & Grants Manager, by emailing lpedigo@chnep.org or calling (941) 833-6581.

The application on the following pages allows you to tell us about your project. Please complete all fields for the application to be evaluated for funding. If a field does not apply to you or your organization, please type in "NA".

Contact Information

Project Title	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website
Short Description of Project (2-3 sentences)	Support the domain registration and hosting of above which is an educational resource about the watershed and supports the CHNEP mission.
Contact Name and Title	James "Chris" Oliver, Environmental Specialist II
Street Address	11843 S. Tamiami Trail
City, State, ZIP Code	Osprey, FL 34229
Phone	(941) 882 7206
E-Mail Address	James.oliver@dep.state.fl.us
Organization Name	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC)
Web address	myakkarivermanagement.org
Amount requested	\$220.00
Total Cost of Project	\$220.00
Name of Entity that will accept Conservation Grant reimbursement (W-9 form is required)	Otter Water Webs/ Steven P. Brookman (W-9 should be on file.)

Critical questions

I agree to complete the project and submit the final report before September 30, 2024: Yes No

Has the CHNEP provided financial support to you or your organization in the past 5 years? Click or tap here to enter text.

Yes (please describe below) No

Date	Project Description	Award Amount
FY23	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website	\$220.00
FY22	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website	\$220.00
FY21	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website	\$220.00
FY20	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website	\$220.00
FY19	Myakka River Management Coordinating Council (MRMCC) Website	\$220.00

Link to CHNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Check **ALL** the appropriate descriptions of how the project benefits the CHNEP in efforts to further the CCMP. You are welcome to mention other project benefits here. Visit <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants> to learn more.

- Maintain or improve water quality
- Protect, enhance, or restore native habitat
- Increase conservation, preservation, or stewardship of lands or waters
- Support public involvement in watershed management
- Provide opportunities for citizen participation in research, monitoring, or restoration
- Produce watershed and estuary communication tools
- Implement conservation landscaping or home best management practices
- Educate children and adults about estuary stewardship
- Target community(ies) historically underserved by CHNEP Grants

Other (please state) Supports continued development of watershed BMPs through stakeholder driven updates to DEP Myakka Wild and Scenic River Management Plan.

Geographic Area (check all that apply)

Map of CHNEP area can be found here: <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants>

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dona & Roberts Bays | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charlotte Harbor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Myakka River | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine Island Sound |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> Caloosahatchee River |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peace River | <input type="checkbox"/> Estero Bay |

Attachments included in submission email with application

- Please attach a one-page resume for the project lead or organization.
- Please attach a Project Timeline

Project description

Describe the project. If it is an event, include location and date. Provide information on the: **who, what, how, where** and **when** of the project. Is this project part of an ongoing project? Who will be participating and/or partnering in the project? What is the timeline of the project? Feel free to attach pages, if necessary.

The total cost for 12 months of support for the MRMCC website is \$220.00. The MRMCC was established in 1985 by the Myakka River Wild and Scenic Designation and Preservation Act to provide inter-agency and intergovernmental coordination in the management of the Myakka River. The MRMCC reviews and make recommendations on all proposals for amendments to the Designation Act, the Myakka Wild and Scenic River (MWSR) Management Plan, and the Myakka river Wild and Scenic River Rule (Chapter 62D-15), as well as other matters which may be brought before the Council by the Department, any local government, or any member of the Council. The Council can then render its non-binding advisory opinion to the SWFWMD, FDEP, and affected local governments. This project would support the continuation of the MRMCC website to provide citizens, as well as the Council members with meeting minutes, Council archives, current Council member list, and other important watershed updates. Otter Water Web is responsible for the current hosting of the MRMCC website and updates are made by Otter Water Web upon request from the Myakka River Management Office. Payment of an invoice from Otter Water Web would be sent directly to the company. No other financial support is necessary.

Project results (outcome)

Briefly describe the project expected result(s), and how you will measure success. Why is there a need for the project? What are the goals of the project? such as: “500 students will understand how stormwater ponds work, more than 3,000 people each year will visit the site and learn how to garden with native plants”, etc. Feel free to attach pages, if necessary.

Other examples of measurable restoration outcomes, benefits, or metrics:

- Number of plants installed/acres restored
- Tons of bagged oyster shell or Vertical Oyster Gardens installed
- Number of volunteer events completed/Number of volunteers involved in project implementation
- Total weight of trash collected

The product is information, views, and downloads through the continuation of support of the MRMCC website. Many aspects of people interacting with myakkarivermanagement.org are tracked and can serve as deliverable.

Project products (outputs/deliverables)

A Final Report will be included in the 'Deliverables' for the project and is required for reimbursement. It will include a written summary of project and results, as well as any other documentation of outcomes proposed below. Please include a description of what outcomes will be documented in this report and any other deliverables that will be provided at the close of the project. These could be any of the following: a summary of data collected or analyses conducted during a research project, photos from event or products created/areas restored, maps, event attendee lists, pamphlets, interpretative signs, etc. Describe why your organization will be successful at implementing your project. Feel free to attach pages, if necessary. An example Final Report can be found here: <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants>. In certain instances, Conservation Grant applicants have made presentations on their projects at CHNEP meetings, please let us know if your group would be interested or available to do so.

It is expected that many staff from state and local agencies, NGOs, HOAs, and citizens will visit myakkarivermanagement.org to acquire information that may help them to be more informed about the Myakka River Watershed and water issues more generally. Ideally this information can assist MRMCC members and other citizens in the process of making the best management decisions for the watershed and other resources. The upcoming cycle, we can assume, will be similar to previous website visitation patterns.

Requested Amount by Deliverable and Budget Justification

Task Description	Deliverable	Requested Amount & Justification	Cash Match or In-Kind*	Total
Annual website domain	Domain registration	\$25.00	\$0	\$25.00
Hosting and website management	Server space and management of site	\$195.00	\$0	\$195.00
TOTAL		\$220.00	\$0	\$220.00

*Match is not required, but proposals showing matching fund commitment through in-kind services (such as volunteer hours), or direct funding (such as donations) will receive special consideration.

**Volunteer Hours rate: [As of 2022, volunteer hours are valued at \\$29.95.](#)

Agreement and Signature

- By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. If a Conservation Grant is awarded, you will be asked to agree to acknowledge CHNEP in any media related to your project, and include CHNEP logo on any signage, publications, social media posts etc. Additionally, you will be asked to provide image/photo files upon request (high resolution preferred) and allow CHNEP to use those images and photos in its communications.
- Awardees will be asked to agree to complete the project and submit the Final Deliverable(s)/Report and Invoice on your organization letterhead (see example attached) requesting reimbursement by September 1, 2024.

Name (printed)	J. Chris Oliver
Signature	<i>James Oliver</i>
Date	9/14/2023

Thank you for completing the CHNEP Conservation Grant application!

Applications should be submitted via email to Grants@chnep.org, by 5:00 pm on August 1, 2023. CHNEP staff will review and notify you of the status of your application. Funding will be awarded based on the information you have provided and the funds available. Questions should be directed to Lisa Pedigo, CHNEP Finance & Grants Manager, by emailing lpedigo@chnep.org or calling (941) 833-6581. Please include a copy of W-9 and 501c3 if applicable, with submission.



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Match is not required, but proposals showing matching fund commitment through in-kind services (such as volunteer hours), or direct funding from other sources will receive special consideration. Preference will also be given to projects in communities that have been historically underserved by CHNEP grants, as well as new applicant and projects.

Note that the CHNEP does **NOT** fund the following:

- Restoration or improvements on private property (incl. in HOAs)
- Events or services for which there is an admission fee or charge (with exception of for need-based scholarships for youth to attend environmental education camps/events)
- Projects that personally benefit the applicant
- Political action or legislative advocacy
- Fundraising activities
- Projects completed prior to the award of the grant
- Items that will be sold by the grant recipient
- Reprinting of existing material unless part of a larger new educational program
- Capital improvement or endowment funds, or to be used towards usual operating costs
- Conference registrations and travel
- Gift cards or certificates
- Any activities related to potential regulatory permitting of a project

The requests for funding should be in the \$500 to \$4,999 range. All funding is reimbursement-based once project is complete and all deliverables are provided. Conservation grant funding is based on 'Deliverables' provided in relation to the project, not cost receipts for materials, supplies, etc. Deliverables will include a final report that includes photos, metrics for measuring success, etc., which will be reviewed and approved by CHNEP staff to ensure they meet the specifications provided through the initial application.

The timeline for Fiscal Year 2024 is October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Once your application is received, it will be evaluated based on the information provided. CHNEP will notify you by e-mail about the status of your application. Conservation Grant funds are awarded three times per year. ***The next Winter cycle deadline is December 1, 2024, for a January 2024 award notice.*** Applications should be submitted via email to Grants@chnep.org, by 5:00 pm on December 1, 2023. Questions should be directed to chnep@chnep.org or calling (941) 833-6580. Please include copy of W-9 in submission. Projects should conclude before Sept. 1, 2024, with all deliverables and invoices provided by that day for review and processing.

The application on the following pages allows you to tell us about your project. Please complete all fields for the application to be evaluated for funding. If a field does not apply to you or your organization, please type in "N/A".

Contact Information

Project Title	Implementing the Healthy Lakes Initiative at Heritage Oaks
Short Description of Project (2-3 sentences)	Our lakes (stormwater ponds) are 20+ years old, and we wish to obtain ecologically stable ecosystems that are sustainable with reduced chemical dependence and to minimize noxious algae and periodic fish kills due to an imbalance of oxygen and chemical makeup. Transitioning from an algae-based system to a macrophyte-based system with littoral plantings is our objective with the Healthy Lakes Initiative.
Contact Name and Title	Dr. Michael Barbour, Chair of Lakes & Wetlands Team
Street Address	4577 Legacy Ct
City, State, ZIP Code	Sarasota, FL 34241
Phone	941-374-4903
E-Mail Address	michaeltbarbour@yahoo.com
Organization Name	Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club
Web address	https://www.heritageoaksgcc.com/
Amount requested	\$4,500
Total Cost of Project	\$14,500
Name of Entity that will accept Conservation Grant reimbursement (W-9 form is required)	Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club

Required Responses

I agree to complete the project and submit the final report before September 1, 2024: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Has the CHNEP provided financial support to you or your organization in the past 5 years? Click or tap here to enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please describe below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

	Project Description	Award Amount
Date 5/6/2024	Planting aquatic vegetation (duck potato, pickerelweed, spike rush) along the littoral shelves in our lakes is our goal. With a grant of \$4,500, we anticipate about 3,600 plants for one of our lakes (lake #10) having a perimeter of 1,974 ft. We would plant at the beginning of the rainy season when the plants are mature enough to take hold and survive with minimal loss.	\$4,500
Click or tap to enter a date.	Click or tap here to enter description.	Click or tap here to enter amount
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Link to CHNEP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP)

Check **ALL** the appropriate descriptions of how the project benefits the CHNEP in efforts to further the CCMP. You are welcome to mention other project benefits here. Visit <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants> to learn more.

- Maintain or improve water quality
- Protect, enhance, or restore native habitat
- Increase conservation, preservation, or stewardship of lands or waters
- Support public involvement in watershed management
- Provide opportunities for citizen participation in research, monitoring, or restoration
- Produce watershed and estuary communication tools
- Implement conservation landscaping or home best management practices
- Educate children and adults about estuary stewardship
- Target community(ies) historically underserved by CHNEP Grants
- Other (please state) _____

Geographic Area (check all that apply)

Map of CHNEP area can be found here: <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants>. Please click on which basin(s) your project is located in:

- Dona & Roberts Bays
- Myakka River
- Lemon Bay
- Peace River
- Charlotte Harbor
- Pine Island Sound
- Caloosahatchee River
- Estero Bay

Attachments to be included in submission email with application

- One-page resume of the project lead for Heritage Oaks.
- Project Timeline
- Brief overview of the benefits of the Healthy Lakes Initiative
- W-9 for 2022 of Heritage Oaks Golf & Country Club

Project description

Describe the project. If it is an event, include location and date. Provide information on the: **who, what, how, where** and **when** of the project. Is this project part of an on-going project? Who will be participating and/or partnering in the project? What is the timeline of the project? Feel free to attach pages, if necessary.

The Healthy Lakes Initiative of Heritage Oaks is an ongoing project to revitalize our 25 lakes (stormwater ponds). We have a Lakes & Wetlands Team that have been working on this project for the last 3 years. But, with limited funds, we have been only slowly accomplishing our goal. The Healthy Lakes Initiative consists of developing a 3-ft buffer zone (no mow zone) around the perimeter of each lake to stabilize the banks from further bank failure and to ameliorate nutrient and pesticide runoff from land management; develop a functional littoral zone of aquatic vegetation to transform our lakes from an algae-based ecosystem to a macrophyte-based ecosystem to better assimilate nutrients and prevent algae blooms. Attached is a brief overview of our Healthy Lakes Initiative.

Project results (outcome)

Briefly describe the project expected result(s), and how you will measure success. Why is there a need for the project? What are the goals of the project? such as: "500 students will understand how stormwater ponds work, more than 3,000 people each year will visit the site and learn how to garden with native plants", etc. Feel free to attach pages, if necessary.

Examples of measurable restoration outcomes, benefits, or metrics of this project:

- Approximately 3,600 plants from this grant in one lake plus about 8,000 plants from matching funds from Heritage Oaks for plantings in two other lakes.
- Furthering the communication and education of residents within our 850-unit community on the value and benefit of our Healthy Lakes Initiative. Demonstrating the cost/benefit savings by establishing a more ecological lake management program.
- Becoming an example of a good lake management process for Sarasota County and associations discharging within the Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership jurisdiction.

The above project results are key to our Healthy Lakes Initiative and will establish a precedent for transforming current lake management practices to a more ecologically sustainable process that will benefit not only our community but the Dona Bay watershed, as well.

Project products (outputs/deliverables)

A Final Report will be included in the 'Deliverables' for the project and is required for reimbursement. It will include a written summary of project and results, as well as any other documentation of outcomes proposed below.

Please include a description of what outcomes will be documented in this report and any other deliverables that will be provided at the close of the project. These could be any of the following: a summary of data collected or analyses conducted during a research project, photos from event or products created/areas restored, maps, event attendee lists, pamphlets, interpretative signs, etc. Describe why your organization will be successful at implementing your project. In certain instances, Conservation Grant applicants have made presentations on their projects at CHNEP meetings, please let us know if your group would be interested or available to do so. Feel free to attach pages, if necessary. An example Final Report can be found here: <https://www.chnep.org/conservation-grants>.

The project will be monitored from initial planting to the completion date of September 30 followed by a final report to document growth and success of the project. Pictures will be provided as evidence of the project and seasonal trends. While water samples are not planned for this lake, we do have a nearby lake being measured by Florida Lakewatch whereby we can provide data on the success of littoral plantings. The final report will consist of the following sections – (1) full description of the lake and the plantings providing pictures of the chosen plants and brief explanation of their use in these situations; (2) water chemical data from a nearby lake to describe the seasonal trends in reduction of nutrients having developed a littoral shelf planting; (3) summary of conclusions of our project with recommendations and beneficial outcomes.

Requested Amount by Deliverable and Budget Justification

Task Description	Deliverable	Requested Amount & Justification	Cash Match or In-Kind*	Total
Littoral plantings (duck potato, pickerelweed, spike rush)	11,600 young plants to be delivered and planted by Lake Management firm in May	\$4,500 (\$1.25/plant)	\$10,000 (\$1.25/plant)	\$14,500
Water Sampling of nearby lake for chemical data analysis	Water sampling report out as part of final report	\$0	\$954 (2 volunteers for 3 hrs per month for 5 mo. to collect and process samples)	0

Monitoring through pictures of progress and outcome	To include in Final report as discussed above	\$0	\$636 (Volunteer time of about 1-2 hrs to take and catalog pictures every two weeks)	0
Deliverable – Final Report (required)	Prepare the final report as above	\$0	\$382 (Volunteer time of about 10-12 hrs for drafting and internally review final report)	0
TOTAL		\$4,500	\$11,972 (\$16,472 total)	\$16,472

*Match is not required, but proposals showing matching fund commitment through in-kind services (such as volunteer hours), or direct funding (such as donations) will receive special consideration.

**Volunteer Hours rate: [As of 2023, volunteer hours are valued at \\$31.80/hour.](#)

Agreement and Signature

- By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. If a Conservation Grant is awarded for my proposed project, I understand and agree to acknowledge CHNEP in any media related to my project, and to include CHNEP's logo on any signage, publications, social media posts, etc. Additionally, I agree to allow CHNEP to use provided images and photos in its communications. I also agree to complete the project and submit the Final Deliverable(s)/Report and Invoice on my organization letterhead no later than 5 pm on September 1, 2024.

Name (printed)	Michael T Barbour
Signature	Michael T Barbour
Date	11/22/2023

Thank you for completing the CHNEP Conservation Grant application!