

Earth Day Mini Grant Applications

An initiative for youth to advocate for healthy living

Important Dates

Funding Announcement:	March 31, 2016
Application Deadline:	April 15, 2016
Notification of Funding:	Immediately
Cigarette butt litter clean up	Week of April 18 – 22, 2016 Earth Day is April 22, 2016
Final Report:	April 28, 2016

Introduction

How does stepping on ammonia, butane, arsenic and stearic acid sound? It sounds gross, absolutely gross. When you accidentally step on a littered cigarette butt, those are just a fraction of chemicals that are under your foot.

Youth play a critical role for the work of the La Crosse Area Health Initiative. The La Crosse Area Health Initiative (LAHI) is excited to announce the availability of a mini grant of \$100. This initiative is to engage youth in a tobacco butt litter clean up that lead toward environmental and policy change for tobacco free living. The cigarette litter clean up must occur at a park, beach or recreation area within the [City of La Crosse](#). Details of the project are listed, however new ideas are welcomed and encouraged as long as the proposed project meets LAHI's expectations.

Requirements

- Answer each question in the application, pages 2 and 3
- Complete the cigarette butt litter cleanup per instructions, pages 4 and 5
- Coordinate a press release with Rebecca Graham, Project Coordinator, La Crosse County Health Department by either phone, e-mail, or in person
- Complete a final report before April 28, 2016

Goals of the Grant

- To educate the community on the harmful effects of tobacco and advocate for policies to improve the health of their community.
- To cultivate an interest among youth for improving the health of their community that will have lasting effects.
- Youth to gain advocacy skills to make environmental changes that support healthy living.
- To strengthen partnerships between youth, adults and community organizations to make positive change.

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Contact Information

Name of School or Organization

Name of Contact person

Mailing Address

Email

Phone Number

Phone Number

Project Description

The age and the number of youth involved

Describe how youth will be involved in the planning and implementation of the cigarette butt litter cleanup

Estimate materials and expenses to complete the project

For example: x amount of money for food for meeting to celebrate completing the project, markers and paper for posters. How will you spend money not needed for the project? Bags, gloves and a clear jar will be provided.

Signed Commitment Form

By signing this commitment form I/We agree to the following:

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- A. To use the La Crosse Area Health Initiative (LAHI), if needed, for any resources or technical assistance throughout the group work. Note, that Rebecca Graham is available to attend a meetings or events to help support your group's project.
- B. Coordinate a press release with Rebecca Graham, Project Coordinator, La Crosse County Health Department by either phone, e-mail, or in person
- C. Use the mini grant funding as proposed in your application.
- D. Complete the cigarette butt litter cleanup per instructions
- E. Complete a final report before April 28, 2016
- F. The PROVIDER agrees to the fullest extent permitted by law, to indemnify, defend and hold harmless, the PURCHASER, and it agents, officers and employees, from and against all loss or expense including costs and attorney's fees by reason of liability for damages including suits at law or in equity, caused by any wrongful, intentional, or negligent act or omission of the PROVIDER, or its (their) agents, employees and/or subcontractors which may arise out of or are connected with the activities covered by this Contract.

First/Last Name/Title

Contact for any information or questions

Rebecca Graham, 608-785-6434 RGraham@lacrossecounty.org

The La Crosse Area Health Initiative works to improve the health and quality of life in La Crosse County by promoting tobacco-free communities through education, collaboration and community action.

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Cigarette Butt Cleanup

Instructions

Identify a group of youth to help with planning.

Depending on your local group's size, this could be just a few key members or your entire group. This group will:

1. Recruit and train youth volunteers.

- Provide volunteers with a brief overview of the problem of cigarette butt litter. Give volunteers instructions in advance:
 - Provide brief overview of the cigarette butt impact on the environment
 - Gloves must be worn when handling cigarette butts
 - Keep count the cigarette butts that you collect and write the final total on your bag
 - When you're finished, bring your bag to your adult advisor
- Volunteer incentives may include:
 - a reward for the volunteer that collects the most cigarette butts
 - a small after party with food (optional),
 - an opportunity to earn documented volunteer service hours (optional),
 - extra credit for any relevant classes (optional)
- Designate at least 1 person as the media coordinator to take pictures and video during the cleanup

2. Organize the cleanup.

- Determine when and where the cleanup will occur; the park, beach or recreation area must be within the [City of La Crosse](#)
- Cleanup events are typically about an hour long:
 - 30 minutes for the actual cleanup time
 - About 15 minutes before for other announcements and orientation
 - About 15 minutes after for counting and putting away supplies
 - Allow more time if your group plans to have an after party
- Make sure that there are enough supplies for all cleanup volunteers. A starter kit will be provided.
 - 1 pair of gloves for each volunteer (have extras available in case they tear)
 - 1 clear plastic bag (about 1 quart sized "freezer bag") for each volunteer (have extras available)
 - A few permanent markers to write the cigarette butt totals on the bags
 - A few large, clear glass jars with lids to gather and display all of the cigarette butts in (optional)
- Have each individual write his or her final collected cigarette butt total on their bag with a permanent marker.
- Gather all volunteers' collected cigarette butts in a large, clear glass jar and estimate how many were collected. This is a great visual for public display and media coverage.

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3. Disseminate the results.

- Select where to publically display the jar and how to report their final numbers to their school (morning announcements, posters, newsletters, display case, Facebook).
- The final numbers and photos and/or video should be sent to Rebecca Graham. (We'll be excited to see them!)
- Once a group receives a mini grant they will also have an opportunity to win an additional prize valued at \$100. The winner will be announced on Earth Day, April 22, 2016. Because of the importance to spread the word about the impact tobacco litter has on our health and community, groups can earn points by completing a variety of additional activities to promote the results of their litter clean up and promote healthy living. More information about this exciting option will be included in your introductory kit.

Examples of Optional activities:

- Social Media Post with Litter Butt Pick up results –Tagging LAHI
- Peer to Peer education
- Creating an educational flyer/poster to distribute
- Creating a post litter butt pick up display
- Writing a letter to the editor
- More info. provided in the Introductory Kit