



A joint program of City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks.

**CITY PARKS FOUNDATION AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR PARKS ANNOUNCE
\$375,000 IN GRANTS FOR 69 COMMUNITY GROUPS PROVIDING NEEDED CARE
AND PROGRAMS FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES ACROSS NYC**

**NYC GREEN FUND GRASSROOTS GRANTS WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY
FUNDING TO VOLUNTEER GROUPS DOING THE CRITICAL WORK OF
SUSTAINING LOCAL PARKS**

Funding supports community-based solutions to issues including environmental and social resilience, global heating, and food justice

November 7, 2024 -- New York, NY -- Today, **City Parks Foundation** and **Partnerships for Parks** announced the selection of 50 new grant recipients as well as 19 grantees receiving second year funding through the 2024 fall round of the [NYC Green Fund](#) Grassroots grants program. What started as an emergency response program in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic has expanded into a long-term campaign to provide financial, network, and technical support for open space stewards as we continue to face significant environmental, economic, and social challenges as a city. From cleaning our air, cooling our neighborhoods, and preventing flooding, to benefitting the mental and physical health and social cohesion of our communities, our city's green spaces are critical infrastructure. Many urban green spaces, particularly in historically underserved communities, rely on the support of grassroots volunteers to provide the care and programming needed to ensure they are clean, green, active, and safe.

The current round of the NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program seeks to address this disparity with grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$22,400 to support stewardship and activation of local parks and open spaces across our city with live arts and culture, environmental action, tree canopy expansion, youth development, and health and wellness programming. The Grassroots grants program focuses on Environmental Justice Areas, majority BIPOC-led community groups, and groups with budgets under \$50,000; targeting communities that are vulnerable to excessive environmental harms resulting from historic and ongoing inequities including structural racism and disinvestment.

The vision of the NYC Green Fund is to create a resilient and equitable NYC parks ecosystem for the benefit of all New Yorkers. The Fund is administered by City Parks Foundation with the Grassroots grants program managed by Partnerships for Parks (PfP), a joint program of City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks.

“As we work together with New York City communities to sustain our local parks, we are overjoyed to announce another round of support from the NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program,” said Sabina Saragoussi, director of Partnerships for Parks. “This much-needed funding not only helps our community partners beautify and activate neighborhood green space, but also helps tackle the urgent issues of our time; cooling our city, cleaning our air, and strengthening community health.”

“From an emergency fund created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to a lifeline of support for open space stewards across our city, the NYC Green Fund has had an impact on millions of New Yorkers who use their local green spaces,” said Heather Lubov, executive director of City Parks Foundation. “We are thrilled to be able to support community groups doing the crucial work of green space care with this latest round of grassroots grants.”

The funded projects provide innovative, community-based solutions to our most pressing needs, including environmental and social resilience, global heating, food justice, climate justice, emission reduction, environmental education, health disparities, accessibility, gun violence, teen mental health, and more.

New project highlights:

- **Friends of Colonel Young Park** will transform a neglected, flood-prone corner of a Harlem park into a rain garden with flood-resistant shrubs.
- **Narrows Botanical Gardens Inc** will partner with a visually impaired artist to create a sensory garden that can be enjoyed by people of all abilities in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.
- **St. George Civic Association** will engage community volunteers and local businesses to rehabilitate neglected tree beds along a busy shopping corridor on Staten Island.
- **Astoria Pug** will expand their composting collection and soil revitalization work, using locally generated food waste to care for neighborhood trees in Queens.
- **Washington’s Walk Coalition** in the Bronx will hire local youth leaders to aid with urban forestry education and ongoing tree care throughout next summer.
- **Rodale Pleasant Park Community Garden** in East Harlem will establish a new food scrap drop-off program, collaborate with the local park to repurpose leaf debris into garden mulch, and hold workshops on at-home composting.
- **Are You Ready Community Outreach Inc** will offer chess workshops for at-risk youth and pay youth leaders to carry out group beautification projects before and after each event in Bed Stuy, Brooklyn.
- **Friends of Livonia Park** will organize a series of discussions and stewardship events for local teens to share and learn from one another about the issues of gun violence, mental health, and body image in Brownsville, Brooklyn.

- **Amsterdam Houses Gardeners** will beautify the garden spaces that dot their 9-acre, 13-building public housing complex of over 1,000 units on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

Full list of Fall 2024 NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant recipients

The Bronx

Bronx Institute for Urban Systems**
 Bronx River Community Garden**
 Eastchester Road Community Garden
 Friends of 4 Parks Alliance, Inc.**
 Jardin La Roca*
 Orisha Wholeness Corp
 Rainbow Garden of Life & Health, Inc.
 Target Bronx Community Garden
 Washington's Walk Coalition*

Brooklyn

Amboy St. Community Garden
 Are You Ready Community Outreach Inc.
 Arts & Democracy, Inc.**
 Brooklyn FAM: Festival of Arts and Music Inc.
 El Grito
 Erasmus Green Team*
 F.E.A.S.T. Organization & Network Inc.
 Friends of Asser Levy Park*
 Friends of Garden Kitchen Lab**
 Friends of Jackie Robinson Park Playground*
 Friends of Livonia Park
 Garden of Angels
 Greene Acres Community Garden
 Marine Park Alliance**
 Narrows Botanical Gardens Inc
 Phoenix Community Garden*
 Planting Positivity Project
 Prospect Farm
 Red Hook Boaters
 The 462 Halsey Community Farm
 The Amazing Garden

The Friends of Brownsville Parks**

Manhattan

Amsterdam Houses Gardeners
 Courtney's Stars of Tomorrow
 Friends of Colonel Young Park/Malcolm X Community Improvement Association
 Friends of Peck Slip Park
 Goodvibesinthepark
 Hell's Kitchen Conservation Corps
 Inwood Art Works, Inc.
 The Japanese Folk Dance Institute of New York**
 JumpShots Over GunShots**
 Lydia's Magic Garden
 Neighbors United of West 132nd Street Block Association (NUW)*
 PROJECT HARMONY, INC**
 Rodale Pleasant Park Community Garden*
 Salsa Stories**
 Seward Park Conservancy*
 Uptown Paddling, Inc
 Walter Miller III Memorial Garden
 West 123rd St. Community Garden**
 West 132nd Street Community Garden**

Queens

Abuela Neighborhood Maintenance**
 Astoria Pug*
 Edgemere Farm Works
 Kissena Synergy Velodrome Friends Group*
 Kunqu Society, Inc.
 Long Island City Community Boathouse
 LONG LIVE LINDEN**
 Malcolm X Community Garden
 Mindful Astoria
 Moore Jackson Community Garden**
 Queensboro Dance Festival**

Staten Island

Conference House Park Conservancy Inc **
 Distinguished Gentlemen Group Inc.



Friends of Mahoney Playground
Friends of North Shore Esplanade
Friends of Tompkinsville Park**
Kayak Staten Island
New Brighton Civic Association
St. George Civic Association Inc*

*These grantees are helping to sustain and expand the tree canopy thanks in part to the NYC Green Fund's Urban Forest Grants, brought to you by Con Edison.



**These grantees are receiving second-year funding

About the NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program

The NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program is intended to advance the viability of grassroots initiatives across parks and open spaces in all five boroughs and to foster a resilient network of equitable public green spaces. The NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program provides support for a range of programming areas including open space stewardship, tree canopy expansion, environmental action, organizational development, health and wellness, youth development, and arts and culture. With direct funding and technical assistance, diverse community groups receive support in their work to activate and enrich parks and open spaces across NYC. To contribute to the NYC Green Fund [donate now](#) or contact greenfundgrassroots@cityparksfoundation.org for more information.

Generous private support for the NYC Green Fund is provided by the Albert Giving Fund, Altman Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, The Charles H. Revson Foundation, Con Edison, Essex Avenue Foundation, The J.M. Kaplan Fund, The JPB Foundation, Klein Family Foundation, Leon Levy Foundation, The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, Libra Fund, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, The Monarch Foundation, The New York Community Trust, and The Thompson Family Foundation.

For more information on the NYC Green Fund, visit cityparksfoundation.org/nycgreenfund.

About City Parks Foundation

At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community building and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in more than 320 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach over 278,000 people each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.



About Partnerships for Parks

Partnerships for Parks is a unique public-private partnership between City Parks Foundation and NYC Parks that supports and champions neighborhood volunteers to advocate and care for neighborhood parks and green spaces. We equip people, organizations, and government with the skills, tools, and resources to ensure these spaces are dynamic community assets. More information about Partnership for Parks is available at partnershipsforparks.org.

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