



MUNICIPAL UTILITIES FRIDAY PACKET

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Water Fund Grants Provide Seed Money for School Gardens

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Tempe's Water Conservation Program offers a School Garden Grant that helps create sustainable and edible gardens with educational components. Schools participating in this partnership can qualify for as much as \$1,000 in grant money for implementing a garden project (on a new or existing garden) that demonstrates water conservation techniques, ideas and practices.

Since 2017, approximately \$12,000 in grant funds have been distributed to support gardens at 10 Tempe elementary schools.



Students construct a tower garden in which vegetable seeds are planted. Tempe grant funding, through the Water Fund, helps establish and maintain these gardens.

To participate, teachers submit a basic garden plan with an appropriate budget. Upon receiving grant monies, teachers are encouraged to submit reports from their students, describing their gardening experiences using water as a resource. At the end of the year, teachers are asked to submit a letter detailing the effectiveness and lessons learned in the project.

Upon request, Tempe Water Conservation staff provide horticultural assistance, classroom presentations or Demonstration Garden tours to support the educational component or garden planning.

People can learn more about this program, or apply for grant funds, by visiting the "Education" link at tempe.gov/conservation.



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