

# ECO Fund

## Environmental Community Opportunity Fund



**Great Plains Natural Gas Co.** distributes natural gas and provides related services in 18 western Minnesota communities and Wahpeton, N.D. Environmental stewardship is part of our mission and our daily lives as we produce and distribute these products and services for our customers.

We at Great Plains Natural Gas take seriously our commitments to the communities we serve. We live in your neighborhood and share your environment. As part of our continued environmental commitment, Great Plains Natural Gas – along with its three sister companies – has the ECO Fund to support projects that enhance environmental education and stewardship in communities we serve.

Environmental education projects may include grants for specific teacher training, books or equipment for classroom use, field trips, or special project support in the natural or physical sciences. Community environmental stewardship projects may include such things as nature trail development, wildlife area enhancement, recycling and community cleanup promotion, or the development of “living laboratories” for the use of students and the general public.

**ECO Fund Eligibility Consideration:** This fund will be available only to institutions, organizations and programs recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as qualified recipients of contributions. Generally, contributions are restricted to organizations qualified as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Consideration is only given to charitable institutions,

organizations and programs within the geographic areas where Great Plains Natural Gas conducts business. Generally, no consideration will be given to private individuals, or to athletic, labor, fraternal, veterans, political, lobbying, social or religious organizations, or to regional or national organizations without local affiliation. Requests seeking endowment funds will receive low priority. Grants are limited to a maximum of \$2,500 for each successful applicant.

All grants are subject to annual review and Great Plains Natural Gas reserves the right to defer, alter, suspend or cancel a contribution at any time. If a funded project is canceled or not substantially completed, we may request return of grant monies.

**How to Apply:** Organizations seeking a grant can obtain an application from the company website: [www.gpng.com](http://www.gpng.com), and click on your respective state, then the Community tab. You also can obtain a form by contacting Mark Hanson at (701) 530-1093 or [mark.hanson@mduresources.com](mailto:mark.hanson@mduresources.com). Requests should be submitted to Mark Hanson, P.O. Box 5650, Bismarck, ND 58506, or via email to [mark.hanson@mduresources.com](mailto:mark.hanson@mduresources.com) no later than Oct. 1 of the year prior to the year for which funding is being sought.

### **Award process:**

**Applications received by Oct. 1.**

**Review and select successful applicants by Nov. 30.**

**Awards made by Jan. 15.**