

## **River Friendly Living Grant (Excluding Camp Verde, AZ) Businesses & Organizations**

*The work of Friends of the Verde River is rooted in the belief that our communities and our rivers need each other. We value integrity, collaboration, sustainability, and innovation. Friends is committed to the principles of truth, honesty, and respect, including respect for the diverse communities in the Verde River system and those who love this region. Projects may be prioritized by location and/or socioeconomic factors.*

*Friends of the Verde River invites proposals for small grants to fund water conservation projects in the Verde River Watershed and SRP service area. Projects located in Yavapai County (excluding Camp Verde, AZ) are eligible for up to \$10,000 maximum. Projects outside of Yavapai County are eligible for up to \$5,000 maximum.*

### **Funding may be awarded to projects that address the following focus areas:**

- Support or create sustainable water supply (improved infrastructure, increased indoor efficiency, irrigation efficiency, wastewater reuse, rain harvesting)
- Lawn Removal

### **Eligible Applicants:**

- Businesses based in the Verde River Watershed that have completed or are pursuing River Friendly Living Certification. River Friendly Business survey and associated fees may be completed and returned with this proposal for eligibility. The survey is attached to this document. A minimum fee of \$120 must be submitted for program participation.
- Nonprofits designated under section 501(c)(3) located in the Verde River Watershed. In addition, we will also entertain applications from nonprofits designated under sections 501(c)(4), (5), (6), (7), and (8), with the exception that no group organized for political purposes will be eligible. Applicants must have completed or be pursuing River Friendly Living Certification.
- Governmental organizations completing projects in the Verde River Watershed. (municipalities, counties, public land managers, conservation districts, public agencies).

This RFP is for one-time, short-term (one year, maximum) projects. Grant requests are limited to a maximum of \$10,000 for projects in Yavapai County, Arizona, and \$5,000 for projects located outside of Yavapai County. If you have received a Verde River grant through Friends of the Verde River in the past, you are eligible to apply again once Friends of the Verde River has received documentation of project completion.

### **The Grant Review Process:**

A selection committee comprising local business representatives and Friends of the Verde River representatives will meet to select and prioritize worthy projects. In this grant cycle, we will award up to \$230,000 total. Project schedule should not exceed one year.

### **Funding Cycle:**

- Proposals due August 31, 2025, 5:00 pm – Email completed applications to [grants@verderiver.org](mailto:grants@verderiver.org)
- Grant awardees notified in September 2025
- Awards distributed September 2025

### **Upcoming Grant Deadlines:**

- Summer: August 31, 2025
- Fall: October 31, 2025
- Spring: March 31, 2026

### **Application Procedures**

Please submit your application containing all the items specified below no later than 5:00 pm on August 31, 2025. We will contact you if we have questions or require additional information.

### **Application Template:**

Name of Organization:

Federal EIN:

Mailing Address:

Phone Number:

Name of Proposal:

Authorized Signatory (name, title, email, phone):

Primary Project Manager (name, title, email, phone):

Description of Proposed Project (no more than 2,500 words) including:

- Project benefit to the Verde River watershed (Please reference the focus areas on page 1:
- Project schedule with key milestones:
- Methods for completion:
- Measure(s) of successful completion:
- Estimated water savings generated by your project:

- Project Budget (include as an attachment):
- If awarded partial funding, will you be able to complete your project? Explain:
- Letters of Support (Maximum of two) Businesses that are not participating in the River Friendly Living program must include a letter of support from the non-profit or governmental organization they are partnering with. Participants in the River Friendly Living program are not required to submit letters of support.

# ARE YOU RIVER FRIENDLY?

Yes No

*Does your landscaping use water saving methods, e.g., drip or sprinkler?*

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*Are you committed to repairing any water leaks on the premises?*

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*Have you completed a water audit in the last year?*

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*Are you interested in offsetting your water use at your business?*

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*Is your business connected to a municipal water treatment facility or centralized septic tank?*

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*Do you properly control hazardous chemicals at your location, and use environmentally friendly options when possible?*

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*Are you taking actions to reduce the amount of waste that is generated by your business?*

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*Is the landscaping on your property native or non-invasive? E.g., no tamarisk, giant reed, tree of heaven, or Russian olive? (If you are not sure, Select "No")*

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*Do you control stormwater leaving your property?*

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*Have you reduced your water use to below industry standards for your business?*

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*Have you volunteered as a business to assist with Friends of the Verde River projects in the last year?*

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*Do you currently donate to Friends of the Verde River?*

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_