

# Climate Action Pocket Questions

Title: 2025 Green Neighborhood Grant Program Update

Purpose: The Green Neighborhoods Grant Program seeks to benefit low-income, communities of color by bringing neighbors together to pursue projects which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create natural areas that are more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Department: Town Manager's Office, Climate Action Team

**1. How will this action impact the Town's or the community's greenhouse gas emissions?**

- a. Will REDUCE greenhouse gas emissions
- b. Will not reduce or increase greenhouse gas emissions
- c. Will INCREASE greenhouse gas emissions
- d. Not applicable

**2. Please explain.**

Since 2023, the grant has funded 27 projects, including 11 last fiscal year, enabling neighborhoods to plant trees and native plants, stabilize stream banks, mitigate stormwater impacts, create community gardens, install energy-efficient lighting, hold educational workshops, and increase recycling and composting. The six grants awarded in 2023 reduced greenhouse gas emissions in Carrboro by over 29 tons (58,000 lbs) by reducing building energy usage, sequestering carbon, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.

**3. Does this action impact:**

- a. Water quality
- b. Erosion and Surface run-off
- c. Flooding
- d. Air quality
- e. Heat islands or extreme heat
- f. Biodiversity
- g. Solid waste
- h. Hazardous waste
- i. Other
- j. This action does not impact the environment

**4. Please explain.**

The 27 grants awarded to community members have resulted in many positive environmental impacts. Grants to build rain gardens, stabilize Bolin Creek's banks, and plant trees improve water quality and reduce erosion and surface runoff. Grants to plant trees and distribute energy-saving LED lightbulbs reduce pollution to improve air quality. Grants to create urban gardens and plant trees support biodiversity and mitigate heat islands. Grants that support neighborhood composting reduce solid waste sent to the landfill by removing organics from the waste stream.

**5. How is your department planning to mitigate any climate or environmental impacts?** NOTE: This does not reflect a formal commitment by the Town of Carrboro.

To reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, the Climate Action Team is working closely with grant recipients receiving funds for gardens, landscaping, and tree plantings to encourage the use of locally grown, native plant species.