2025–2026 Sydney Water Community Grants Frequently Asked Questions

These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are designed to help you to successfully complete the application process and share information beyond what is included in the Program's <u>Guidelines</u> and <u>Terms and Conditions</u>.

If you have a question that is not answered in these documents, please email communitygrants@sydneywater.com.au and our Community Grants team will respond to your enquiry.

Can I apply for a grant in partnership with another organisation?

Project partnerships (auspice arrangements) are encouraged between grassroots community groups and organisations such as councils, universities or TAFE NSW, public health or allied health body, and other non-government organisations.

Your organisation, or the organisation you have entered into an auspice arrangement with, must be a registered association, incorporated body or non-profit organisation. Details of such an arrangement will need to be provided to Sydney Water and further documentation may need to be executed and provided to Sydney Water on request. An ABN will be required for the application. Partnerships formed could include but are not limited to providing;

- additional expertise including project implementation and evaluation
- in-kind contributions such as hall hire, staff, materials, tools etc.
- matching monetary contributions (not essential).

Applicants who do not meet the ABN or not-for-profit requirements, may consider entering an auspice arrangement with an appropriate agency in order to apply.

What type of projects are eligible for a grant?

Sydney Water will fund **not-for-profit initiatives only**. An organisation with an ABN can apply for this grant, however, this money cannot be used to deliver profits. In addition, projects must be delivered within Greater Sydney, the Blue Mountains, and the Illawarra area.

What are the key dates for the program?

5 May 2025	Applications open (9am)
16 June 2025	Applications close (5pm)
August 2025	2025 Sydney Water Grant recipients announced
	Payment of grant funds
	Projects underway
May 2026	Projects completed

Can my organisation submit more than one application?

No, only one application should be submitted per organisation.

How much can my organisation apply for?

You are invited to apply for grant funding of up to \$10,000 (minimum \$5,000 per project). You will need to consider how the grant funds will be spent throughout the project and provide details at the time you complete the application form.

How will you determine who receives a grant?

Applications will be assessed by Sydney Water representatives using a marking matrix aligned to selection criteria outlined in the <u>Guidelines</u>. Projects aligned to the theme of 'Driving A Sustainable Water Future' that are interesting, original, and offer the potential to benefit the community, are highly desired.

Good2Give, a third party provider, will also run a validation process on shortlisted applicants including general organisational checks and banking details.

Am I able to get feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

Yes, if your application is unsuccessful, you will be notified via email. On request, the Community Grants team can arrange a time to provide feedback about your application.

If successful, how will the funding be granted?

Sydney Water Community Grants will be distributed to successful recipients by Good2Give via electronic funds transfer. This will happen by the end of August 2025.

How long do I have to complete a grant-funded project?

We require projects to be completed by end of May 2026, and completion reports submitted by 30 June 2026. This allows us to promote your project and its impact on the community.

What are the project reporting requirements?

Sydney Water will contact each grant recipient in early 2026 to discuss the project's progress and any issues that may impact on the project's completion date. We want your project to be a success and our Community Grants team members will be available to discuss any concerns throughout the Program. Grant recipients are required to complete a final evaluation project completion report. A template and survey link will be provided to you via email.

Why has the Community Grants Program theme changed from previous years?

The Sydney Water Community Grants Program has been reshaped to better align with <u>Our Strategy</u> and vision for the future. We want to collaborate with our customers and communities to deliver better outcomes and contribute to a thriving, liveable and sustainable city.

What is Good2Give's role in the Community Grants Program?

Good2Give is a third-party provider working closely with Sydney Water in the delivery of the Community Grants Program. Good2Give's online platform accepts applications with validation checks (e.g., applicant ABN, bank details) conducted to ensure grant eligibility. Good2Give is responsible for issuing grant payments to participating grant recipients on behalf of Sydney Water.

Who has access to my grant application form once I submit it?

Sydney Water and Good2Give collect and use your personal information so that we can assess your grant application as part of the Community Grants Program. Your personal and business information will be shared with designated Sydney Water and Good2Give employees and disposed of in accordance with our recordkeeping obligations.

Successful applicants personal and business information may be disclosed as part of Sydney Water awarding applicants, including internal and external publications. To learn more about how we manage your personal information, please refer to Sydney Water and Good2Give's privacy policies.