

News Release

June 9, 2014

Local Organization Offers REAL Action Grants

What environmental action would you take in your neighbourhood if you had an extra \$250?

A local organization, REAL (Rideau Environmental Action League), is celebrating its 25th anniversary by offering ten “REAL Action Grants” of up to \$250 to schools, community groups and neighbourhood associations in the region to make environmental improvements that benefit their community.

REAL will accept applications from the community for projects that demonstrate an eco-friendly practice that would benefit a group or the community at large. Projects could include ways to conserve water, reduce solid waste, reduce energy use, promote local food, implement adaptations to climate change or naturalize a space.

REAL began in 1989 on the premise that individuals could make an environmental difference by “thinking globally and acting locally”. The group wants to give other groups the opportunity to put their eco-friendly ideas into action. As a non-profit organization, REAL understands the challenge of finding funding, and wants to support community groups who have great ideas to improve the environment but may need a little financial support to make them a reality.

The environmental group is hoping to encourage simple projects such developing a nature trail, planting trees in a school yard, installing recycling receptacles, composters or rain barrels, buying a vermicomposting kit, buying reusable dishware for so disposables are not needed, purchasing environmental resource materials, or putting on a workshop. The project can be standalone or part of a larger project.

The application process will be a simple one. Full instructions are available on REAL’s website, www.REALaction.ca. Applications will be accepted until September 19, 2014. However, up to four projects whose applications are received before June 30 will be given early acceptance. Projects must be completed by the end of June 2015. Successful applicants will be announced on Saturday, October 18th at REAL’s annual local foods dinner at the Smiths Falls Curling and Squash Club.

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