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COMMUNITY GRANT DESCRIPTION AND CRITERIA

Submission deadline: October 1, 2026

The Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation (BIPTF) created the Community Grant Program to encourage and support qualified nonprofits, individuals and community groups who want to undertake projects to improve and enhance trails, parks, facilities and recreational opportunities on Bainbridge Island. The Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission: Building on community creativity and inspiration, we mobilize resources to improve parks and trails on Bainbridge Island.

Goals of the Community Grant Program Include projects that positively impact recreational opportunities on Bainbridge Island in order to:

- Improve local parks and trails in ways that reflect community priorities.
- Inspire partnerships that provide stewardship of Bainbridge Island parks and trails, to increase public enjoyment.
- Create greater recreational access and opportunity for citizens.

GRANT AMOUNTS AVAILABLE

The 2026 Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation Community Grants anticipated limit is \$3,000 per award and may be smaller depending on the number of awards granted. Community Grants are limited to capital projects, not operating expenses or budgets already in place for recreational programs.

WHO MAY APPLY

Individuals, families, neighborhood and community groups, public agencies, private businesses, organized recreation groups, and philanthropic organizations are all welcome to apply for funding for projects which enhance parks, trails and open space, or improve recreational opportunities on Bainbridge Island. Individuals and groups who apply without nonprofit status must partner with a public agency where the project will be located, such as the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District or City of Bainbridge Island. A public agency may apply, but must partner with a community representative, to assure community interest in the project.

GRANT CRITERIA include but are not limited to projects which:

- Address a definable community need and benefit the public.
- Occur in or on a park, trail or public space, or park facility on Bainbridge Island, and/or correlate to Park District recreational programs.
- Enhance public use of Bainbridge Island parks, trails and facilities.
- Include a well-organized, realistic budget and schedule.

- Include plans that specify an appropriate location, installation, and maintenance plan.
- Be completed by Sept. 30, 2027 unless otherwise granted an extension or renegotiated with BIPTF's Community Grant Committee.
- Align with the Comprehensive Plan approved by the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park & Recreation District (or City or School District- as property owner), or otherwise given special approval before a grant may be awarded.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested applicants must complete BIPTF's Community Grant Application by 5 p.m. Oct. 1, 2026.

BIPTF's Community Grant Committee will review all completed applications.

The Committee will then evaluate and recommend grant awards to BIPTF's Board of Directors for approval. Awards will be based on meeting the criteria and requirements defined above and funding availability. Once the awards have been announced, BIPTF will send grantees a formal Grant Agreement to be executed by both parties.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

Questions about this application can be directed to the Bainbridge Island Parks & Trails Foundation through Community Programs & Events Manager Heidi Urish via email at heidi@biparksfoundation.org.