



Tufts University GREEN FUND

Tufts University Green Fund Initial Idea Submission

Applicant Information:

Name:

Ned Carlson

Role at Tufts (e.g. Undergraduate Student, Graduate Student, Faculty, Staff):

Undergraduate Student

Email and Phone # of Lead Submitter:

Ned.carlson@tufts.edu, #6072793463

Campus:

Medford/Fenway

Project Title:

Permeable Spaces

One Sentence Description (*This is how your project will be described on the Green Fund website*):

Permeable Spaces' takes sustainability to the parking lot by decreasing runoff and erosion while creating more green spaces utilizing micro-bioswales and permeable materials.

General Application Questions:

1. What project would you like to fund with a grant from the Green Fund?

We would like to fund the project 'Permeable Spaces' with a grant from the Green Fund. This project aims to install bioswales and permeable materials, such as porous concrete, in one or several of the Tufts-owned parking lots. This is an area that is often overlooked, but in the Medford/Somerville area in particular, it is critical to reduce impermeable surfaces as much as possible. Impermeable surfaces are materials which do not allow water to perforate through them into the ground beneath, such as concrete and asphalt. Bioswales are channels that concentrate storm water and runoff in permeable areas of soil and plant life. According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service, "Bioswales are generally less expensive when used in place of underground piping," and only cost between \$500 and \$4000 depending on size. In this instance, the 'Sustainable Spaces' project would be aimed at smaller auxiliary parking lots owned by Tufts University that are within close proximity to the main campus, or areas with low levels of permeable surfaces.

2. **Who would you work with on this project? Who would need to be involved?** *(For example: are there departments you would need to reach out to for help implementing or facilitating your project? If you are hosting an event, you might need someone to help you set up and help clean up afterwards. Do you need permission from anyone to complete your project? Include their role (collaborator, advisor, vendor, resource) and whether they have been confirmed their involvement in the specified role. Undergraduate students must have a faculty/staff advisor submit a letter of support for their project which indicates their willingness to mentor the proposed project.*

Name and Title	Role	Status
Ned Carlson	Co-Director	Confirmed
Marie Zolan	Co-Director	Confirmed

3. **What costs would be involved in your proposal? Please provide a rough budget.**

Labor Costs:

Marie Zolan - \$500

Ned Carlson - \$500

Bioswale Installation - Aprox. \$3000

4. What steps would you take to accomplish this project?

1. Contacting local organizations and consultants to find the most cost-efficient materials and construction methods.
2. Contacting landscaping firms to get estimates and evaluations of potential sites.
3. Contacting students, staff, and faculty regarding their thoughts on the topic of sustainable architecture and public infrastructure.
4. Working with organizations at Tufts such as the Tufts Eco-Reps or the Institute of Climate Resilience to spread awareness on permeable materials and general sustainability with regards to reducing impermeable surfaces, particularly in the Medford Somerville area.

5. How would your project help or benefit the Tufts community?

Our project will benefit the Tufts community in that it will spread awareness about sustainability in public/private infrastructure and raise awareness regarding the idea of harmful runoff and other negative impacts impermeable structures can have on the environment. Additionally, it will reduce the ecological impact of the university as a whole, acting as a sign from the administration that they are willing to support projects aimed at improving the institution.

What can I expect next?

The Green Fund committee will meet in early October and decide which projects will advance to the next round. These projects will be asked clarifying questions about details specified in this application. The committee will meet again and review the responses to its questions and vote to advance proposals based on those answers. Projects that advance past the clarifying questions stage will then be asked to fill out a more complete application (which can be found at go.tufts.edu/GreenFund) including a budget and a Gantt chart with accompanying letters of support from necessary collaborating entities at Tufts.

When finished with this initial idea submission, please save as a PDF and email to GreenFund@tufts.edu. Thank you!