

PiW Loop Compost Project — Grant Advertisement

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for a Partners in Water (PiW) collaboration grant to work with the division's Resource Recovery (RR)/ Biosolids team. [Partners in Water](#) is a program that connects WTD work groups with community-based organizations to advance mutually beneficial goals related to WTD operations and services.

WTD's Resource Recovery team is especially interested in partnering with organizations who have trusted relationships with historically and currently marginalized communities, and who are working on food justice, community food production and local conservation efforts in King County. Three \$25,000 grants (a total of \$75,000) are available to support the involvement of three organizations in year one of our Loop Compost Project.

Applications must be received by April 13th, 2026, at partnersinwater@kingcounty.gov.

About the Loop Compost Project

[Loop Compost](#) is a high-quality compost made from Loop® a fertilizer replacement and soil builder produced by treating, recycling, and transforming 100% of the organic material that goes down drains. To learn more about Loop Compost visit our webpage, [Loop Compost - Loop® Biosolids](#).

The PiW Loop Compost Project is a collaboration between WTD and community-based organizations (CBOs) serving underrepresented communities in King County. The project aims to expand equitable access to Loop Compost through this collaboration grant by a facilitated yearlong process in which staff from CBOs and WTD will work together on developing and testing a plan for strategic and equitable distribution of loop compost across King County and the WTD service area.

Who can apply for grants?

Organizations or community groups applying for a PiW collaboration grant **must**

- be located in and serve WTD's service area ([use this hyperlink to access an interactive service area map](#));
- have 501(c)3 nonprofit status, a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)3 nonprofit status, or be willing and able to secure a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)3 nonprofit status by April 31, 2026, if awarded a grant; and
- serve communities that face historic and current inequities and have limited resources and/or capacity; this includes Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities,

immigrants and refugees, people living with low incomes, women and gender non-conforming, LGBTQIA+ people, people who live and/or work outside, people with limited English skills, and people with disabilities.

- Ideal applicants are CBOs that have expertise and experience working with local community on local food production, sustainable gardening, and conservation efforts and have access to gardens, farms, and landscapes where Loop Compost could be used.

Grantee Scope of Work

Community-based organization grantees will work closely with the WTD project team to understand community needs and opportunities related to distribution and use of Loop Compost, as well as explore community perspectives and concerns about the use of biosolids compost. Together the project team will co-create a short-term plan for compost distribution and develop and test distribution logistics, messaging and communications, educational activities, and community engagement efforts. The scope of work for partnering CBO grantees may include, but is not limited to, the following four areas and activities:

- **Community Ambassadors:** Develop partnerships, long-term advocates, and community liaisons that
 - Increase community support and advocacy for biosolid compost and distribution.
 - Build a diverse coalition of community groups that value and support WTD biosolid composting and can advocate for the Loop Compost program.
 - Develop and strengthen long-term partnerships between WTD and CBOs/ community groups.
- **Education and Engagement:** Improved education and learning opportunities for all communities in King County. Increased awareness and interest in Loop Compost.
 - Collaborative community events co-planned and organized by CBOs/ WTD
 - Identify new opportunities for biosolids education
 - Co-create education materials with CBO partners
 - Attend and help plan and organize tours of Biosolids/Loop facilities, City Soil, and community gardens/farms
 - Plant garden plots to demonstrate plant growth with and without Loop Compost
- **Communications:** Develop outreach materials to increase understanding of biosolids and promote Loop Compost
 - Community involvement and feedback on product marketing, branding, communications, and educational resources, etc.
 - Co-create, test and share accessible and multilingual communications with communities that CBO partners serve

- Gather input from stakeholders in CBO partner communities and beyond.
- **Distribution logistics:** Provide feedback and input on pilot distribution plans using a
 - Gather input on community needs, perspectives, and barriers
 - Test and get feedback on distribution coordination and delivery methods
 - Help develop an equitable approach to compost distribution

The project objectives and plans will be refined in Q1 of the project year through a collaborative process, and relevant activities/deliverables will continue to evolve throughout the project.

Grantee Expectations

All grantee applicants will have certain expectations built into their respective grant scopes, including the following:

- Submission of quarterly reporting narratives and financial reporting as a part of reimbursement.
- Engaging and maintaining relationships with a diverse group of individuals from communities in person, at public events, social media platforms and digital marketing.
- Shared knowledge of best practices and strategies to meet the needs of communities.
- Supporting the project by working adaptively and responsively.
- Maintaining collaborative relationships with project team members.

Application Process and Timeline

Interested parties are encouraged to apply using the application template (including a narrative section and a proposed budget). Alternative application formats, such as interviews, are available upon request. **Applications must be received by April 13th 2026, at partnersinwater@kingcounty.gov.**

Applications will be scored and reviewed by a selection committee comprised of a team of WTD staff who will be directly involved in the project. Applicants may be asked for additional information and/or an interview before finalists are chosen.

Project Launch Timeline	
Phase	Date
Grant Application Posted	3/30/26
Grant Application Period	3/30–4/13
Informational Online Webinar	4/7
Application Review	4/14–4/17
Notification of Awardees	Week of 4/20
Contract Negotiation	4/27–5/1
Project Launch	May 2026
Project Period	May 2026–April 2027

Q&A Info Session Webinar

[Join a virtual information session](#) to learn more about the PiW Grant Program and qualities of a strong grant proposal. Registration for the event is required. The session will be recorded and posted on the PiW webpage.

- Date: April 7, 2026
- Time: 11:00AM – Noon
- [Register here!](#)

If you have additional questions, please contact Eli Weiss, Partners in Water Program Manager, at elweiss@kingcounty.gov or visit the [Partners in Water webpage](#).

Grant Application

[***Download and save a copy of the application.***](#)