

**To: All Minnesota schools and 501c3 organizations:**

**Re: Outdoor Classroom Grants**

The Jeffers Foundation fosters “*Environmental Stewardship Through Outdoor Education.*” It is our mission to help teachers instill a love of the natural world in their students. We believe education that includes learning both within and without the walls of a classroom is of the greatest benefit to students. We believe that the entire school grounds should be considered an outdoor learning space. Teachers that are aware of the learning opportunities in every schoolyard will find their students are eager to engage with them. Having a dedicated space to stage outdoor learning events makes this process easier for teachers. Such a space can range from simple benches or stumps in a semicircle, to landscaped places with boulders and bird feeders, to roofed shelters with picnic tables - to many other options. Jeffers Foundation is offering **matching grants of up to \$5,000.00 to schools or 501c3 organizations** throughout the state that would like to begin - or enhance - outdoor learning spaces. If your request results in a grant, we plan to share your experience on our website. See the school garden videos on our website for examples of how we might share your project. Funds must be matched and spent within two years of receipt. One Outdoor Classroom grant per school per year. Applications will be reviewed and grants awarded throughout the year. If you have any questions please contact:

**Galen Erickson, Jeffers Foundation**

**Office: 952-226-7156**

**Email: [grants@JeffersFoundation.org](mailto:grants@JeffersFoundation.org)**

## School Information

Contact name	Phone	Email
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Position	Amount requested	
<input type="checkbox"/> Principal <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="text"/>	
School name	School address	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
School phone	Principal	Email
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total school enrollment	Grade levels	EIN number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## Project Information

**Outdoor Classroom Grants:** Please complete all the information below. You may also include any maps, pictures, diagrams or other information that you feel may enhance your application.

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION:** Explain your idea in a few sentences.

**2.EXPECTATIONS:** Who will benefit from this project and in what ways? How will you measure results?

**3.MONETARY BREAKDOWN:** Please describe your budget. This is a matching grant. Where will the matching funds come from?

**4. TIMEFRAME:** How long do you expect to spend planning and implementing? When will it be complete?

**5.OUTSIDE SUPPORT:** Will there be donated labor by parents or other in-kind donations?

**6. SUPERVISION AND MAINTENANCE:** Who will be responsible for this project? Does it require approval by the school district, building custodians, outside maintenance firms, etc? Will it add a significant maintenance burden?

**7. GRAPHICS, PLANS, PHOTOS:** Please attach.

**8. SUSTAINABILITY:** Is this a project that might be extended by added phases?

## Thank You

We appreciate your interest in outdoor education and the time you spent completing this application form. Send application by US mail or email.

**Submit to:** GalenErickson [grants@JeffersFoundation.org](mailto:grants@JeffersFoundation.org)  
Jeffers Foundation  
3884 Fountain Hills Drive NW, Suite A  
Prior Lake, MN 55372

