

- Green Fund Mini Grant -

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Application for Environmental Sustainability Reserve

Spring 2021

Applications are due at any time during the semester.

Mini-grant applications can only be submitted by a UWL student.

Please send completed applications to greenfund@uwlax.edu. You will be sent a confirmation e-mail verifying that the proposal was received.

For more information about the Green Fund or the application process please refer to the following [Green Fund Bylaws](#), Green Fund [webpage](#) or email us at greenfund@uwlax.edu.

Application Checklist

1. Have you reviewed the [Green Fund bylaws](#)?
2. Have you meet with a Green Fund coordinator?
3. Have you reached out/received approval from the appropriate campus offices i.e. Office of Residence Life, University Centers, Facilities Planning & Management?
4. Have you had your application proofread i.e. by professors, Green Fund coordinators, Writing Center, etc.?

Eligibility for Funding

The Environmental Sustainability Reserve, or “Green Fund” can be used to fund projects for non-General Purpose Revenue (GPR) facilities, including, but not limited to:

- Residence halls
- Student Union
- Recreational Eagle Center
- Whitney Center
- Veteran’s Memorial Stadium

The fund cannot go towards:

- Trees, landscaping not related to gardens, rain gardens, and green roofs
- Items typically included in other entities’ ongoing budgets
- Faculty or staff salaries

Evaluation Criteria for Proposed Projects

Highest Priority

- Impact on the student population at UW-La Crosse
- Impact on carbon footprint: including reduced energy usage through efficiency and renewable energy
- Collaboration with other organizations: through funding matches, joint planning, or in the execution of the project
- Visibility: projects that are conspicuous and noticeable

- Able to demonstrate a quantifiable return on investment
- Innovation: new initiatives not typically funded by other entities

Medium Priority:

- Size of project: projects with greater magnitude preferred
- Interdisciplinary, and engaging multiple stakeholders
- Educational value: increasing student understanding of environmental issues or actions
- Possibility for future expansion: growth from a pilot into a standing program

Other Important Considerations:

- Purchasing ethics: considerations such as fair trade, sustainable equivalents products, sustainable production
- Community outreach and support of local/sustainable businesses

Include the following with this application:

- At least 3 price comparisons of the item(s) or project. (if applicable)
- Budget Sheet
- Other supporting documentation

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Contact Information

Name: Kelly Flynn & Sydney Navoichick

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Email: flynn2300@uwlax.edu & navoichick2843@uwlax.edu

Unit/Organization/Department (optional): Student Association Green Fund Committee

Please provide a short title for you proposed project:

- **Reusable Period Pantry Products**

Provide an Abstract for your project. What changes/additions do you propose? What are the basic impacts that you anticipate? What is your expected timeline?

- This Green Fund Grant requests funding for the purchase of 250 reusable menstrual cups, 30 reusable panty liners, 30 reusable mini pads, and 30 reusable maxi pads. These products would be offered as a part of the new “Period Pantry” section of the Food Pantry in the COVE, which provides free menstrual products for students. There is shelving available in the Period Pantry to store some of the reusable period products, and the UWL Student Association storage cage can be utilized to house any products that do not fit. As students take the products from the pantry, the products in the storage cage will be used to restock the shelves.
- The project will positively impact students because it will provide them with several sustainable period product options at no cost. Menstrual products are a necessity that can be difficult for students to afford, and sustainable alternatives can be especially expensive. This grant would make these products accessible for students and would address the issue of [period poverty](#) at UWL.
- The expected timeline for this project is to be completed by the Fall 2021 semester. If these products are ordered promptly and arrive during the summer, they would be stocked in the Period Pantry for students to use in the fall. The Student Association Executive Cabinet will be responsible for restocking the products.

Provide a detailed explanation of the environmental impact of your project on the UWL carbon footprint, water usage or electrical consumption. Be as specific and quantitative as possible. (If impacts are indirect, please explain).

- Reusable menstrual products have a positive environmental impact because they eliminate waste from single-use menstrual products that would end up in the landfill. One Period Aisle brand reusable panty liner replaces 48 disposable pads, the mini pad replaces 239 disposable pads, and the maxi pad replaces 238 disposable pads. Reusable menstrual cups last at least 6 months but can last up to 10 years with proper care, thereby eliminating waste from months or even years of tampons. These reusable products also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage associated with the production of single-use menstrual products. Period Aisle estimates that one of their reusable [panty liners](#) saves 3.1 miles of driving emissions and 100.9 days of LED bulb energy when compared to disposable pads. The [mini pad](#) saves 18.8 miles of driving emissions and 615 days of LED bulb energy, while the [maxi pad](#) saves 18.4 miles of driving emissions and 602.8 days of LED bulb energy.

How will this increase student understanding of environmental issues? Will it be visible to students? This is an important aspect of the Green Fund. If your proposed project isn't visible to students have you added signage, informational materials or promotion to your request?

- This will be visible to students because it will be advertised with signage and on social media. Cate Wiza will be putting graphics on the TVs in the Union, sending an email to students, posting on social media, and creating fliers to put on campus.

What does this proposed project look like in 5 years, 10 years, etc.? Are there ongoing maintenance costs, will this need to be replaced, will ongoing costs be absorbed by another UWL entity or will this project rely on the Green Fund?

- These products should last a while, but once they run out a new grant would need to be submitted to buy more. These costs would not be absorbed by another UWL entity.

How much funding are you requesting overall?

Our total request is \$2,375.25

- 30 Period Aisle panty liners: $\$14.39 \times 15 = \215.85
- 30 Period Aisle mini pads: $\$9.59 \times 30 = \287.70
- 30 Period Aisle maxi pads: $\$11.39 \times 30 = \341.70
- Period Aisle products shipping rate: \$30
- 75 Large June cups: $\$6.00 \times 75 = \450
- 175 Small June cups: $\$6.00 \times 175 = \1050

Price Comparison: Menstrual Cups

- 1 Diva Cup is \$39.99
- 1 FLEX Cup is \$34.99
- 1 Saalt Cup is \$29

Price Comparison: Panty Liners

- Rael 3 pack reusable panty liners is \$30.00
- Lunapad 2 pack reusable panty liners: \$27.99
- Wear 'em out reusable panty liner: \$10.82

Price Comparison: Pads

- Rael 3 pack reusable pads: \$34.00
- Lunapad mini reusable pad: \$17.99
- Wear 'em out reusable pad: \$12.02

Is this a project that would typically be funded through another budget?

- No

If yes, explain in detail why this project is going through the Green Fund.

- N/A

Are you receiving additional funding from other university or non-university entities?

- No

If yes, please state the other sources of funding that you are receiving, and the amount received.

- N/A

Do you think this is a responsible use of Student Segregated Fees? Explain

- Yes-this is a responsible use of Student Segregated Fees because this grant would provide students with sustainable alternatives to necessary menstrual products. Students are directly benefitting from this grant because they are receiving sustainable products at no cost that they otherwise might not be able to afford.

Large and complex projects require UWL Staff member(s) to be involved. Please list relevant personnel who are or will be involved in the proposed projects, who can evaluate project viability as it affects their department or unit.

- Cate Wiza
- Jonathan Shaw
- Drea Higgins: has said she can be the contact for this project after Jonathan graduates
- Kelsi Grubisich

Do you plan to collaborate with other entities? This would include students, organizations, university departments/offices.

- We will be collaborating with Student Association, since the Executive Cabinet will be responsible for restocking the products in the Period Pantry.
- We are collaborating with Period UWL for advertisement.
- We are collaborating with the Leadership and Involvement Center-LIC office could also be a storage space and COVE staff could restock products.

When the project is completed, what is your reporting plan (i.e., how will your accomplishments be advertised to the campus community)?

- There will be ongoing advertisement for the duration of this project on social media, as well as on signage and on the Union TVs.

Anything else you would like to add?