



Morris County Clean Communities

2026 – 2027 Non-Profit Cleanup Grant

Grant Overview

The Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority is offering non-profit organizations funding to support their litter cleanup and education efforts through their Clean Communities Program. The Clean Communities Program was created as a statewide effort to reduce litter in our recreational and residential sites. The goals of this program are to 1) organize litter cleanups, 2) improve public education, and 3) ordinance enforcement surrounding litter prevention. To be eligible for funding, your non-profit organization must:

- Have a mission statement that is relevant to environmental stewardship and/or community service
- Prove their non-profit status
- Complete the intended number of cleanup and/or outreach events
- Specify if there are additional funding sources for these cleanups

Each cleanup must follow the following criteria

- All cleanups must be volunteer based (volunteers cannot be paid)
- All cleanups must be at a minimum of 1 hour long
- Have at least 7 volunteers per cleanup
- Must clean a minimum of two road/stream miles, and/or two acres of property

Should these guidelines not be met, your application may be denied, or the funding amount may decrease. **Funding will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis and is dependent on the total available funding for the year.** The exact amount of funding will be determined based off the available budget within the Clean Communities Program, and will be specified once your application has been accepted.

If your non-profit also has a focus on environmental education, your organization may be available for additional funding if you host an educational event. **However, this is not guaranteed and will depend on your educational program description, intended outreach, mission statement, and available funding.**

To be considered for this funding, the following conditions must be met for the educational program:

- Must be open to the public
- Must have an audience of at least 18 participants



- More than half of the presentation or event must be related to litter education and/or cleanup activities. This can include storm water management activities.
- Must be at least 2 hours long
- Must be in Morris County
- Must promote and inform residents of the Morris County Clean Communities Program, including handing out a Morris County Clean Communities Program flyer that will be provided to you.

Examples of educational programs include:

- Hosting a public event to residents about litter cleanups
- Leading a school assembly

Presentations may include:

- How your organization works and why it's important
- How cleanups positively benefit communities and wildlife
- Children or adult friendly cleanup games and activities

Safety Guidelines

To hold a cleanup, the non-profit organization must ensure safety precautions are met and that there are no dangerous weather conditions present. These include: taking place during daylight hours, no severe precipitation, ground must not be covered in snow, proper safety gear, participants are briefed on safety guidelines, and an emergency response plan is created. **Morris County will not be liable should any injuries occur during your cleanup event.** Safety guidelines must also be followed and can be found on the NJClean website here: [Safety Tips | New Jersey Clean Communities](#).

Expected Timeline

This grant will be

- Friday, February 26, 2027: Last day to submit the application (however, the earlier the form is submitted, the more guaranteed your funding will be)
- Friday, May 28, 2027: Plan to complete cleanups by
- Friday, June 4, 2027: Submit Post-Cleanup Form & Statistical Information (emailed once funding is approved)

Funding will be granted AFTER the completion of the post-cleanup form.



Please note: All cleanups must take place between **August 1, 2026 and May 29, 2027**. For cleanups taking place AFTER May 29, 2027, please count these towards cleanups for the next grant period.

Application Submission

To submit this application, please complete the following form and email it to the Morris County Clean Communities Coordinator at mchavanne@co.morris.nj.us, with aclenord@co.morris.nj.us CC'd in the email.

The application form can also be accessed on the Morris County Clean Communities webpage here: [Clean Communities Public Grants – MCMUA News](#)

For any questions or concerns on the application or grant guidelines, please reach out to the Morris County Clean Communities Coordinator at mchavanne@co.morris.nj.us, or aclenord@co.morris.nj.us.