

FAQ: Beat the Bottle Environment Grants

Applications are now open for Sydney Water's Best the Bottle Environment Grants. We will provide \$2000 of equipment and cash to enable community groups to expand, and to support those who wish to start new groups across our area of operations – Greater Sydney, Blue Mountains and the Illawarra. We will also provide advice and support on how you can promote your group to raise your profile and increase participation.

What is Beat the Bottle?

Beat the Bottle has been developed to engage with, and support, community clean-up groups to be even better at what they do. We will provide tools to streamline data collection and reporting, encourage safe working practices and increase their capacity to promote their work. The aim is to increase the number of community action groups and participants and increase the level of engagement with their communities to highlight the impact of personal actions. In turn, we will help to grow them as advocates for the sustainable choice over plastic water choice – tap water.

Is my group eligible to apply?

We invite community organisations from across Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra to apply. We cannot pay grants to individuals so your organisation should be a registered association, incorporated body or non-profit community group.

Should large organisations apply?

This program is designed to support smaller grass roots community groups, rather than large well-known organisations. However if you have a program that you feel fits with in this category you are welcome to apply.

I don't have a group yet, but want to start one, can I apply?

Yes, you can apply, but you would need to have a good plan on how you are going to establish your group and who you will be targeting to join. You would also need to be able to demonstrate the need for a new group in the area. For example, there are over 30 groups that conduct events on our Beaches, whereas the numbers are much smaller in clean up groups working around our inland waterways. We will be targeting areas of greatest need to support new group establishment.

Do you accept auspice arrangements with third parties?

We understand that small organisations may not have the necessary financial and registrations in place, so we are willing to accept applications that have [auspicing arrangements](#) in place through councils and other non-profit organisations. It is your responsibility to have this agreed to with the relevant third party before apply.

How do you apply?

Applications are only accepted through our [grants applications portal](#).

The application will take approximately 1 hour to complete however you do not need to complete in one sitting. You will be able to start your application, save and return later to complete.

Only one application per group, per location can be lodged.

When do applications close?

Applications close at 5.00pm (EST) on Friday 31 May, 2019. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

When will we know if we have been successful or not?

All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by email no later than COB Friday 12 July, 2019.

You say that we must host our own Beat the Bottle event to be eligible for a grant, what does this involve?

You will be responsible for organising your own clean up event with a target of 50 people attending. You will need to choose a location, liaise with council (if required) and manage the sorting and waste disposal. Sydney Water will provide a how to guide and support materials to promote your event, such as social media and poster templates, support on the day in form or marquee and water units and most importantly we will bring the beats.

When do we have to hold our Beat the Bottle event?

If you are successful in obtaining a grant you will be provided with a calendar of available dates between October 2019 and February 2020 that you can opt to host your event on.

There will be no more than two Beat the Bottle events on any single weekend. Dates will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Where can I get more information?

Visit lovewater.sydney/community-grants for more information our Beat the Bottle initiative

Who can I contact with questions?

Any questions must be submitted by email to partnerships@sydneywater.com.au. Given the high volume of enquiries we expect please allow two (2) working days for a response.