



JEFFCO OPEN SPACE FOUNDATION GRANT

Nature's Next Stewards

OVERVIEW

Founded on the belief that children are nature's next stewards, this donor-funded program is now entering its second year of awards.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, programs must serve **Jeffco** youth in at least one of these focus areas:

- Equitably connecting youth to nature through new or existing programs led by nonprofits, Jefferson County cities and towns, or park & recreation districts serving unincorporated Jefferson County.
- Cultivating the next generation of conservationists through existing and new programs or initiatives that teach youth to love and appreciate the land and natural resources, learn about sound stewardship, outdoor ethics, and trail courtesy, or training that introduces young people to conservation careers.
- Supporting agriculture, equine and horticulture programs or initiatives that inspire youth interest in farming, ranching, or plant/animal care offered at the Jeffco Fairgrounds by nonprofit organizations and public park & recreation providers.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Recipients must periodically report on spending and number of Jeffco youth served.

EXAMPLES OF PROGRAM EXPENSES

- Transportation to program activities
- Scholarships for youth to attend programs
- Supplies and equipment for the program
- Expansion of existing programs
- Creation of new programs to serve Jeffco youth

AWARDS

Up to \$10,000 per grant.

A minimum 20% match is required for all grant awards. However, applications providing a 100% match will receive priority consideration during the selection process.

CONTACT

For questions, please contact Janet Shangraw, JCOSF Vice-President, at jnshangraw@gmail.com.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application Available:

February 9, 2026

[Apply here](#)

Deadline for Application:

March 31, 2026

Grants Awarded:

May 1, 2026



WE BELIEVE

People need nature to thrive.
Nature must be loved and cared for.
Children are nature's next stewards.
Experiential learning is lasting.

Discover how you can support the Jeffco Open Space Foundation and sustain this program for years to come. Please visit jcosf.org to make a donation today.



**JEFFCO
OPEN SPACE
FOUNDATION**