

MOBY, the Mobile Greenhouse

Request for Applications

2016

[Moby, the Mobile Greenhouse](#), provides an inspiring and educational environment for teaching a community how to grow food and improve local food systems of Southeast Alaska. Each year Moby will travel to a different Southeast Alaskan community where it will stay for a growing season from March through October. The greenhouse will be delivered equipped with soil, a teacher guide, and an activities manual for grades K-12. The recipient will be responsible for providing seeds to plant and will be chosen based on their commitment and readiness for the project.

Application

The application will identify the community and school that will best utilize the greenhouse for the duration of the 2017 growing season (March – October). Each question is strategically linked to the mission of the Mobile Greenhouse. Please answer questions to the best of your ability. Going through this exercise will maximize the impact of the greenhouse on your school and community.

Eligibility

The application is open to all Southeast Alaska communities. Individual schools, school districts, and community organizations are eligible to apply for the use of Moby. Strong community partnerships with other organizations that serve youth and elders are encouraged. Priority will be given to communities actively participating in the [Sustainable Southeast Partnership](#).

What is a community partner?

Schools are the perfect setting to create garden learning spaces because children, parents, teachers, and other community members participate in the day-to-day activities. At the same time, the particular names and faces of those involved in schools and garden spaces may change over time. To plan for the future of your community, and to demonstrate the intention that the use of the greenhouse will lead to a permanent school garden and/or greenhouse, each applicant is encouraged to partner with an organization within the community that will help bring long-term sustainability to the initiative- a “community partner.” A community partner can be any organization that intends to support the project and further the impact of the greenhouse beyond the initial growing season. A community partner could include (but is not limited to) a non-profit, a store, a health clinic, a restaurant, or an existing garden club.

Application Period

Application opens October 4th and will close November 4th (4:00 PM AKDT).

Application Submission

Submit completed applications as an E-mail attachment to GrowSoutheast@gmail.com with "Moby Application" as the subject. Submissions will be considered if received by 4 PM AKDT on November 4th, 2016.

Notification of Award

Applicants will be notified about awards by the end November. Applicants who do not get an award will receive feedback on their application and are encouraged to re-apply the following year.

Reporting

Metrics of success will be kept track of throughout use of the Moby, the Mobile Greenhouse. These will be developed by the recipient upon notification of award and reported at the end of the use of Mobile Greenhouse. A summary of activities, sign-in sheets, and photos of the greenhouse in use by students and partners are required (a reporting worksheet will be provided). Final evaluation and feedback will be required by the recipient upon completion of the 2017 growing season. Any damages or issues must be reported immediately.

What can you expect?

The greenhouse will arrive by ferry and it will be ready for planting with beds filled with soil, and basic garden tools (seeds and starts not provided). The greenhouse does not require an external power source, however a source of water nearby is encouraged. A Teacher Guide and Student Activity Manual (K-12 activities) to support planning and educational activities for students will be provided. Grow Southeast will be available for consultations and troubleshooting advice throughout the duration of the growing season. The Sustainable Southeast Partnership and Grow Southeast will make periodic site visits throughout the growing season.

Grow Southeast will support your community/school in obtaining permanent gardens/greenhouses for long term food sustainability efforts if the greenhouse is fully utilized by the recipient.

Questions

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. Please call or E-mail Lia Heifetz at 907.321.5425 or GrowSoutheast@gmail.com

Financial Requirements

The greenhouse recipients are expected to maintain and support the activities of the planning, growing in the greenhouse. The recipient will be required to provide seeds and starts to grow vegetables, maintain basic supplies, and greenhouse maintenance.

Responsibility of Recipient

The greenhouse is a shared asset, and must be utilized by each recipient with care. Recipients are expected to leave the greenhouse in the same condition they received it in. This includes cleaning and repairing any parts necessary and keeping it in a secure location.

Applicant Name

School or Organization Applying

Physical Address

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability using specific details and examples. Limit your responses to 200 words per question.

Tell us about your school garden vision!

Describe the location where you plan to locate the greenhouse. Does the location have access to water, exposure to sun? Community access and security? Is there an existing garden or greenhouse on site?

What will you grow in the greenhouse and what will be done with the food produced?

How would the use of the Mobile Greenhouse make it possible for your school and community to reach it's goal?

Who will support the Mobile Greenhouse?

Who will serve as the Mobile Greenhouse

Coordinator? Tell us about the gardening knowledge of the Coordinator or of the individuals involved. If limited, how will the individuals learn more?

What will be done to engage your community in the Mobile Greenhouse, such as parents and families, other teachers, and neighbors?

This could include garden tastings or cooking events, potlucks in the garden, farmers markets, or any other fund-raising or awareness events and communications.

Describe how you will share the Mobile Greenhouse story with your greater community?

For example: blogging, Facebook, newspaper articles.

How will the Mobile Greenhouse be integrated into the school and community?

How do you plan to use the Mobile Greenhouse to encourage future food cultivation in your community?

How will you measure success of the Mobile Greenhouse? This could include but is not limited to, the number of children involved, produce harvested, school staff or community involvement, etc.

Tell us about any needs or challenges faced by your students, school, and/or community that make your garden program especially important. This may include, but is not limited to financial needs, safety issues, health issues, community support, or regulatory hurdles.

Community Partners

Please identify community partners that have agreed to work with the applicant.

Community Partner/Organization

**Name of Contact at Community Partner
Organization**

Partner Phone

Partner E-mail

What role will this partner play?

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