



CARE A LOT Program

Overview:

Care A Lot is a program of BMORE Beautiful that supports community-based vacant property maintenance in Baltimore. In 2014, the Growing Green Initiative launched Care A Lot as a way to partner with community based organizations, non-profits, community associations and community development corporations to seasonally maintain small vacant lots in their neighborhoods.

Mission:

The mission of Care A Lot is to support innovative community groups and organization in the cleaning, mowing, maintenance and beautification of vacant lots in Baltimore City.

Goals:

- Improve the appearance and health of neighborhoods by cleaning and greening.
- Increase the capacity of community based groups to care for vacant properties.
- Support the Department of Public Works by reducing the number of lots on the proactive list.
- Create opportunities for the transformation of vacant lots for community use.
- Promote, support and recognize communities that are working towards keeping their neighborhoods clean, green and safe.

Program Requirements & Eligibility:

Care-A-Lot elects community based- organizations for this program annually through a comprehensive application process. Groups awarded grants eligible to maintain up to 25 vacant lots, and receive up to \$5,500 during the grant period of May-October. Funds are dispersed through an invoice process, paid at \$22 per lot visit for up to 10 visits during the grant period. Grant awardees must visit the selected lots once every three week. Participating grounds can invoice the City for up to 10 maintenance visits per lot during the grow season.

- The capacity to care for the selected lots every three weeks, including the tools and equipment needed.
- A strong connection to the neighborhood or area in which the group will work.
- Commitment to transforming vacant lots into potential reusable spaces.

Timeline:

January: Applications are released by BMORE Beautiful.

February: Applications are due

March: Participating groups are selected and applicants are notified of result

April: Program kicks off w/ orientation

May: Properties are maintained every three weeks. (Participants cannot invoice for dates prior to May 1)

October: Property Maintenance concludes

November: End of Season Celebration.

For More Information:

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