

## Empire State Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society

### Mini Grant

#### Background:

The Empire State Chapter-SWCS, as a professional society of soil and water conservation stewards, would like to encourage innovation and professional development among its Chapter membership. A great deal of effort has gone into education and advocacy, but this alone only has an ephemeral effect on a land and water stewardship ethos. What really motivates and encourages a continuing ethic is to "see it on the ground". To foster this stewardship, the Chapter wishes to be pro-active, by making available a mini-grant program for members to use in a professional way to further the Chapters' mission (The Soil & Water Conservation Society fosters the science and art of soil, water, and related resource management to achieve sustainability. We promote and practice an ethic recognizing the interdependence of people and the environment. The NYS Empire Chapter protects, enhances and improves the natural resources of New York through education and multi-disciplinary development).

Mini Grants are intended to compliment member initiatives by assisting in the application and promotion of educational conservation projects. Projects involving other professionals, SWCD's, government agencies, NGO's, school/scout groups, church organizations, etc..., are all eligible for funding with a Chapter member sponsor.

Donations – Historically, the Empire Chapter has provided donations to groups and organizations. Continued support will be provided through this Mini Grant application.

**Applications:** should be submitted whenever a member feels they have a good project. Mini Grants are evaluated as received. Refer to the <http://swcsnewyork.org>. Applications should be submitted electronically to the Mini Grant contact.

**How much are the Mini Grants?** Mini Grants have a cap of \$1000. Applicants may apply annually.

**Deliverables:** Applicants will be required to provide the following:

- An Objective Statement: the proposed project (ie. trainings, outreach activities, demonstrations) will focus primarily on education and outreach of the SWCS mission. Demonstrations and projects implementing conservation practices must contain an educational component.
- A Budget: a brief budget will outline the proposed project expenses.
- A Project Report: a report or summary will be submitted describing the impact of the project.
- Credits: The Empire Chapter of SWCS will receive recognition as a partner providing assistance for the project in promotional activities, print mediums, signage or other appropriate methods. The Chapter retains the right to promote, distribute and maintain Mini Grant projects on the Chapter website.

For further information, contact the Mini Grant contact listed in the website <http://www.swcsnewyork.org>, a Regional Representative, or any other Board member.

**Empire State Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society**  
**Mini Grant - Application Form**

Name of Project \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Project Location (City and State) \_\_\_\_\_

Empire Chapter SWCS  
Members Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Requested \$ .00

Members Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening/mobile phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Project start date \_\_\_\_\_ completion date \_\_\_\_\_

Objective Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Description and why is it needed (add additional pages as needed):

Be sure to include who or what group will be involved, collaborators with contact information, public or private land, etc...

Budget (add additional pages as needed):

**Mini Grant - Project Report** (completed after project completion) Date \_\_\_\_\_

Project report / what was accomplished (add additional pages as needed):

Provide copies of the educational / outreach materials produced.