**GUIDELINES**

**The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. NATURAL DISASTER GRANT(S) is a matching grant and may be awarded to a club or council for a restoration project within their community.**

1. Restoration project is to be sponsored by a Member Club or Council.
2. Member Club or Council may receive up to $500.00 per natural disaster project. Applicants may not receive more than $500.00 per disaster within the GCM fiscal year.
3. Only one application per club year.
4. Must be submitted by postal mail or email by **January 31**. Winner will be notified by Feb. 15.
5. Funds provided are for the restoration of trees and plant materials and not for professional landscaping fees.

**Application has a 2-page maximum, front and back, and must include the following:**

1. Nature and severity of disaster.
2. Location of area to be restored; must include a photo.
3. Proposed restoration plan by garden club with a list of materials needed and plants to be used.
4. Proposed budget including estimated, itemized cost of project. Include any other financial support, donations, and in-kind service. (\*In-kind listing on page of page)
5. Other funds received toward restoration project.
6. Other organizations that may be involved in the project.

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Application date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Disaster(s) date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Applying club name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No. of Members in Club\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Contact information (name, email, phone #)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Project chairman (if different from above – name, email, phone #)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email or mail completed application to:**

 Suzanne Ross **Email:** sross18@bellsouth.net

 507 S. College St. **Cell:** 601-955-8988

 Brandon, MS 39042

**Deadline: January 31**

**\*MATCHING IN-KIND GRANT**

* In-kind – nonmonetary donations are donations of goods, services or time.
* Goods example: topsoil, mulch, timbers, fertilizer, plants, etc. Garden features: birdbaths and feeders, benches, etc.
* Services or labor or the use of equipment
* Time – City, county workers or other non-club members that provide a service.

**JUDGING INFORMATION**

1. All applications are reviewed by the GCM Natural Disasters Chairman.
2. Judging is based on the information contained in the application.
3. Judging is based on the following Scale of Points

Emphasis on live plant material – not landscaping and equipment 45

Impact and scope of project 40

Involvement and participation by club members 5

Collaboration with other community groups 5

Application form complete 5

 **TOTAL 100**

**FINAL REPORT**

Within two months of project completion, please submit the following:

1. A short one-page report describing the project, including photos.
2. A copy of the final financial report, including all income and expenses.
3. A copy of any publicity.