

WASHINGTON COUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE & CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LOVING LOCAL AREA ENHANCEMENT GRANT



Basic Area Enhancement Grant Summary

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce is committed to ensuring that community businesses have a welcoming and visually appealing look that invites customers into their business. New paint, flowers, trimmed trees and shrubs, signage and lights can all beautify your business and can create a more inviting atmosphere for your customers. Within the Loving Local initiative, the Chamber is supporting businesses, seeking to enhance the look of their business, through a micro-grant of up to \$1,000.

Basic Area Enhancements include:

- Updating or adding new building signage and/or outdoor lights
- Painting of building exterior or graffiti removal
- Cleaning & power washing buildings or sidewalks
- Cutting & clearing overgrown trees or bushes
- Planting a garden, grass or adding flowerpots

Eligibility Criteria: The applicant must:

- be a Washington County Chamber member as a property or business owner. If the applicant is a tenant/lessor, the applicant must have the approval of the property owner in writing;
- be current on all property tax obligations and have a valid Business License; and,
- demonstrate graphically or in writing the plan for area enhancement (on the application form).

Application Process

The applicant must complete the Basic Area Enhancement Application, which should include a copy of any quote(s) from licensed contractors (as needed), and deliver or mail the application to the Chamber office or email the application package to ksipes@wceams.com.

Approval of Grant

Once approved, the applicant will be contacted and can then commence with the project. The project must commence within 60 days of approval. If there is no activity for 60 days, then the project will be cancelled – at this point the applicant would have to re-submit the entire application form.

Funding Reimbursement

Once completed, the applicant must provide copies of all final receipts from the project to the Chamber. The micro-grant funding is to be provided to applicants within 7 business days of project completion.

Limitation of Liability

The Washington County Economic Alliance and Chamber of Commerce assumes no liability for any damages incurred by businesses, or any damages related to the contracting installer of any assets to the applicant's premises. The additions reimbursed through this program will not be owned by the Chamber in any way.

If you have any questions about the application or the Area Enhancement Grant policies, please contact us. Washington County Chamber of Commerce – 342 Washington Ave., Ste. 201, Greenville, MS 38701. Kay Sipes, Chamber Director. Telephone: 662-378-3141 Email: ksipes@wceams.com. Website: www.wceams.com/lovinglocal.

Additional funding for beautification is available through the Leland Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Greenville. Funding through the BAE grant cannot be used as matching funds for these additional grant-making organizations. However, a BAE grant can be used alongside projects that utilize funding from additional resources. Improvements made must adhere to community design standards set forth by municipal planning departments as well as historic or downtown district design policies.

Contacts for additional grantmaking and design guidelines:

- **Main Street Greenville**
info@mainstreetgreenville.com
P | 662-378-3121 ext. 301
- **Leland Chamber of Commerce**
lelandcoc@gmail.com
P | 662-379-3764



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