

2016-2017 Annual Report

What is the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program?

The Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program awards grants of up to \$1000 each to young people to fund their environmental sustainability projects in Carmel, Indiana. This grant program is unique in that it is administered by a volunteer board comprised primarily of middle and high school students who inspire and mentor youth, ages 19 and under, to identify environmental needs within our community and to design, fund, implement, and evaluate appropriate projects to address those needs. Projects funded through our program must be youth-led and serve to reduce pollution, conserve natural resources, save energy, or reintroduce native species or habitats in Carmel, Indiana. This program is financially sponsored by Carmel Utilities and administered by Legacy Fund, the community foundation for Hamilton County and a CICF affiliate. Since inception in 2009, **fifty-four** youth-led environmental projects have received funding, engaging over 1000 young people and saving Carmel citizens an estimated \$120,000 and over 250 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

Youth-led Projects Funded in 2017 by the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program:



Don't Flip It! Save It! Water Bottles \$870.00 – Smoky Row Elementary School Green Team students provided and promoted reusable water bottles as an eco-friendly alternative to disposable ones at their school. Students were happy to distribute and promote the use of 840 reusable water bottles for the end of the year track and field day, where many disposable cups and water bottles are normally used. Club members educated students about the benefits of using these bottles throughout summer and during the following school year.

UHS Bat Boxes \$447.81 - University High School students built, installed and taught their school community about bat boxes and the benefits of mosquito eating bats in their outdoor spaces. Students researched bat population conservation methods and found that bat boxes provide a safe haven and resting place for the animals. These bat boxes are an interactive educational tool and natural pest control for their Outdoor Classroom.



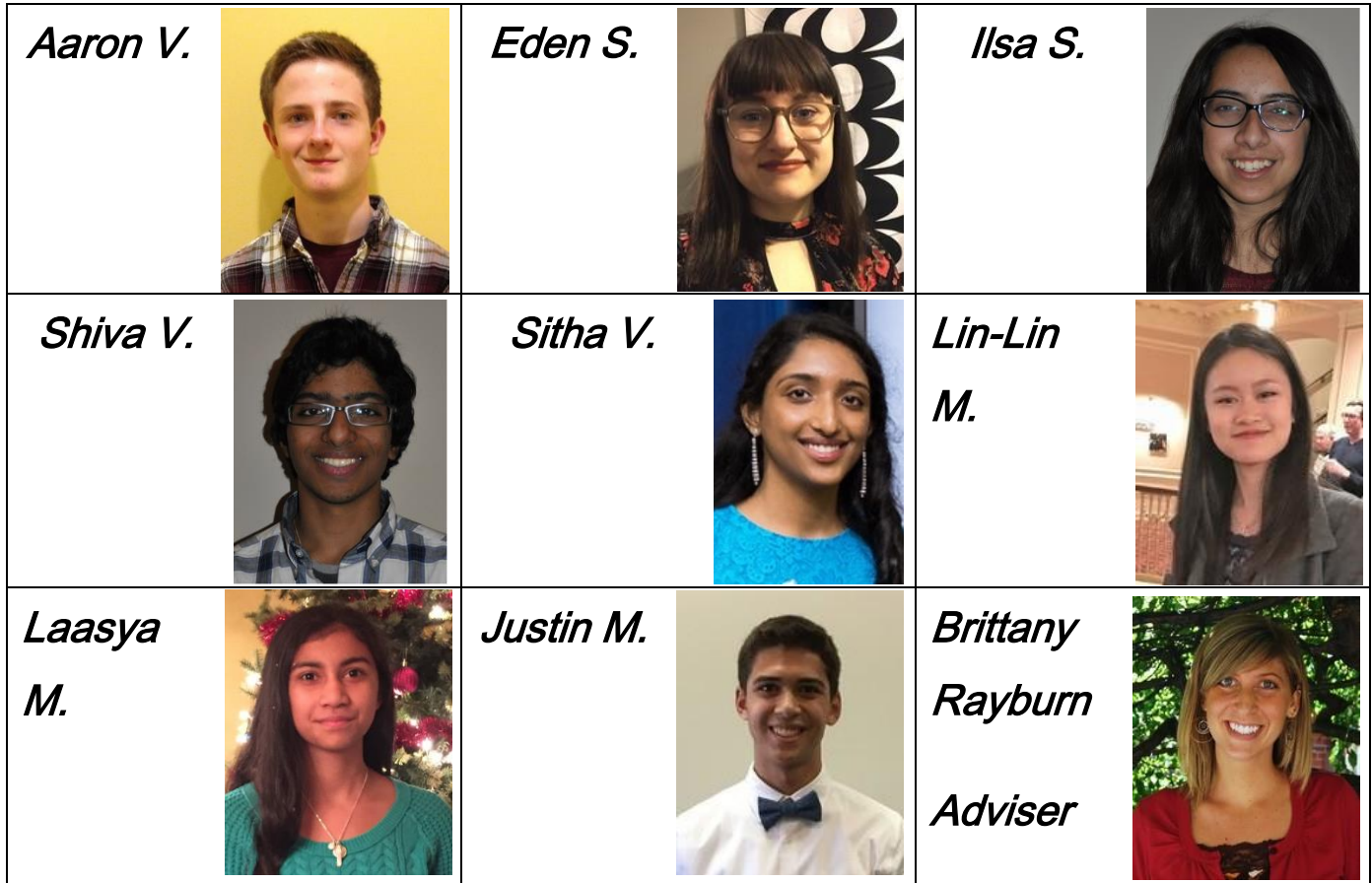
River Road Habitat Restoration \$336.63 – Forty-nine volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 120 pulled invasive Japanese honeysuckle vines and replaced them with plants indigenous to Indiana to restore native habitats at River Road Park in Carmel. Led by Drew B. as an Eagle Scout project, the team logged in over 190 man hours of work. Japanese honeysuckle damages forest communities by out competing native vegetation for light, below-ground resources, and by changing forest structure. The vines over-top adjacent vegetation by twining about and completely covering small trees and shrubs, which endangers native plant and animal habitats.



Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program

Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program 2016-2017 Board Members:

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Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program Numbers

Grant Period	# Grants Awarded	Funds Distributed	Youth Participants	Total Beneficiaries
2016-2017	3	\$1654.44	84	5,930
2009-2016	51	\$28,983.15	1017	263,662
Total	54	\$30,637.59	1170	269,592 (entire community)

For more details about The Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program visit carmelgreenteen.org
 To create a Green Teen Micro-Grant Program in your community visit yourgreenteen.weebly.com