**Garden County Visitor’s Committee**

**Tourism Grant Application – Events or Improvement Projects**

**Applicant:**

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Tourism Project:**

**Amount Requested: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Brief description of Project:

How will funds be used:

How will this project increase visitation to or encourage visitors to stay in Garden County?

Are any other agencies or groups helping or co-sponsoring the project?

If this project is not awarded the entire requested amount, will you continue with the project?

Budget: (Match is not required but may be helpful.)

Budget Item Grant $ Matching $ Match Source \_ Total

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Totals $ $ $

In consideration of a grant of up to $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned Grantee, agrees to use the grant only for the purpose expressed in the approved grant application and agrees to:

* Maintain records of expenditures of grant and matching funds
* Pay for expenses and receive reimbursement from Garden County or submit invoices for payment to Garden County clerk
* Present a report with accounting of funds at the completion of the grant project.
* Promote [www.visitgardencounty.com](http://www.visitgardencounty.com) in any published information such as ads, posters, fliers, etc.
* NOT use any grant funds for general operating expenses, current personnel salaries, for items not approved in the grant application or in any manner that would violate the Nebraska Development Act, NEB.Rev.Stat.&81-1245 through &81-1263, et seq. as amended from time to time provides, as outlined in this application.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is true and correct and the applicant organization has authorized me to make this application to this committee. The undersigned also acknowledges that the Garden County Visitors Committee reserves the right to reject the funding of any grant application in whole or in part.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For use by Committee ONLY

Comments:

Amount Funded $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Promotion/Marketing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Improvement Fund \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any requirements:

Date:

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Guidelines:**

**The purpose of tourism grants is to promote business in Garden County, especially increasing the number of tourists and alumni who visit the county.**  Funds may be used to promote events or attractions. Funds may be used for advertising or for improving tourism facilities within the county. Funds are available through Garden County and are the result of lodging tax revenues collected from motels, bed and breakfast establishments and campgrounds. The Garden County Visitor’s Committee is appointed by the Garden County Commissioners and promotes tourism and oversees the spending of lodging tax revenues. This grant program is administered under the guidance of the Visitors Development Act, found in Nebraska Revised State Statutes Chapter 81, sections 81-1255 through 81-1258.

Funds may be paid out in two ways.

1. Groups may pay for expenses and submit claims to the tourism committee with an invoice and a copy of the check showing payment.
2. Invoices may be submitted directly to the tourism committee for approval and will be paid directly by Garden County. Amounts may not exceed those approved by the visitor’s committee.

Criteria for Assistance

1. The Grantee is responsible for obtaining any required local and state licenses and permits. Garden County Tourism Committee is not responsible for any of the funded activities.
2. A final project report and request for payment must be submitted to the tourism committee within 90 days of completion of the project.
3. Grants are discretionary, based on available funds, anticipated uses, appropriateness and anticipated effectiveness of proposed use.
4. Applications may be submitted any time but at least 30 days before the event of fund expenditure. The visitor’s committee will respond within 30 days of receiving the proposal.
5. Any group funded must promote [www.visitgardencounty.com](http://www.visitgardencounty.com) in any published information including ads, posters, fliers, etc. Information about events and attractions will be shared with [www.visitgardencounty.com](http://www.visitgardencounty.com) and [www.visitgardencounty.com](http://www.visitgardencounty.com) will be added as a link to the group’s web site if the group has a web site.
6. Send grant applications by email or regular mail to:

**Cyndi Van Newkirk at**

**vannewkirkherefords@gmail.com**

**18302 Hwy 26, Oshkosh, Nebraska 69154**

 or

**Garden County Clerk**

**mindy.kezar@nebraska.gov**

**PO Box 350, Oshkosh, NE 69154.**