



# Neighborhood Grants Initiative

## Project Resources

### Group Resources

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#### Block Clubs

**Starting a Block Club:** You can learn more about starting a block club and register your group by reaching out to the following offices:

- West Pullman: Contact the 34<sup>th</sup> Ward Office for information and help forming and registering your block club.  
(773) 928- 6961 | [www.34thward.org/](http://www.34thward.org/) | 507 W. 111st St
- Greater Grand Crossing: Faye Patterson at the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Police Station can help you form and register your block club.  
(312) 747-7004 | [faye.patterson@chicagopolice.org](mailto:faye.patterson@chicagopolice.org) | 7040 S. Cottage Grove Ave

**Guidebook:** You can also find a useful guidebook with worksheets for starting a block club on the Habitat Chicago website. [www.habitatchicago.org/programs-services/community-action/block-clubs](http://www.habitatchicago.org/programs-services/community-action/block-clubs)

**Block Club Signs and Club Support:** The Chicago nonprofit, My Block, My Hood, My City will help clubs replace old signs or create new signs that are positive and welcoming. They also will support your club with resources like consultations, t-shirts, a Facebook graphic, volunteer help for one project each year, etc.  
[www.formyblock.org/block-clubs](http://www.formyblock.org/block-clubs)

#### Discussions + Readings

**Everyday Democracy** is a non-political organization whose website, full of articles, guides and case studies for engaging and participating in your community, is an excellent resource for groups interested in a wide variety of topics. [www.everyday-democracy.org](http://www.everyday-democracy.org)

**On the Table** is an annual event that takes place in May each year. Consider hosting an event and bringing your neighbors together for a robust conversation on a topic of your choice and to send a collective memo to our mayor.  
[www.onthetable.com](http://www.onthetable.com)

## Tool Resources

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**The Chicago Tool Library** is a non-profit organization that lends tools and equipment to residents of Chicago. It is open Saturdays and Sundays 10am-3pm. Located at 1048 W 37th Street, Suite 102, Chicago, IL 60609 | (773) 242-0923

**Craigslist:** Search for tools under “free stuff” or other relevant items under “for sale.”

**Habitat for Humanity ReStores** sell new and gently used home improvement goods, including building materials and tools, at discounted prices.

Chicago: 6040 N. Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60646

Chicago South Suburbs: 180 W Joe Orr Road, Chicago Heights, IL 60411

**Home Depot or Lowe’s Tool Rental:** Multiple locations

**Wirtz Rentals:** Located at 1045 W 47th | (773) 523-1901| [www.wirtzrentals.com](http://www.wirtzrentals.com)

## Tables/Chairs/Tents Resources

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### Tables/Chairs/Tents

Most party stores in Chicago will offer daily rentals for tables, chairs and tents. Some (non-endorsed) options include:

- Chicago Party Place, 639 E 75<sup>th</sup> St., 773-643-5169, [www.chicagopartyplace.com](http://www.chicagopartyplace.com)
- Tents R Us, 10100 S Western Ave., 773-779-8368, [www.chicagotents.com](http://www.chicagotents.com)
- Wirtz Rentals, 1045 W 47<sup>th</sup>, 773-523-1901| [www.wirtzrentals.com](http://www.wirtzrentals.com)

## Art and Beautification Resources

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**Chicago Public Arts Group** supports a range of public art projects that strengthen communities. They work with residents in the design and implementation of pieces of public art that reflect the social and cultural values of the community. This organization may be able to assist groups that are looking to paint murals or do other projects related to public art.

Located at 3314 S Morgan St. Unit 1, Chicago IL 60608

For more information call (312) 427-2724 or visit [www.chicagopublicartgroup.org](http://www.chicagopublicartgroup.org)

**Green Star Movement** works with community groups to design, prepare and install mosaic murals that explore themes like hope, justice and diversity. Projects must have an external budget as this nonprofit needs to cover its material expenses. Interested groups may submit an inquiry on the website to get started.

[www.greenstarmovement.org](http://www.greenstarmovement.org)

## Garden and Landscaping Resources

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### Community Gardens

**NeighborSpace** supports community gardens by connecting them with free and reduced-price resources and helping them with general troubleshooting. Some of these resources include a tool lending library, free woodchip delivery, and tree services. The organization can also assist new gardens with property ownership and insurance processes, as well as project planning and fundraising.

Located at 445 N. Sacramento Blvd, Suite 204 Chicago, IL 60612

For more information call (773) 826-3240 or visit [www.neighbor-space.org](http://www.neighbor-space.org)

**The Chicago Community Garden Association** has a Resources working group that works with community gardens and sponsors several plant distributions throughout the year. For more information about these distributions, including dates and locations, visit [www.chicagocommunitygardens.org](http://www.chicagocommunitygardens.org) or contact the working group at [Resources@chicagocommunitygardens.org](mailto:Resources@chicagocommunitygardens.org)

### Tree Assistance

The Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation has a Bureau of Forestry that works in cooperation with the US Forest Service and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. You can fill out a request form on their website to get help with tree removal, planting, and trimming in your neighborhood and getting permits for any work involving trees.

[www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/streets/provdrs/forestry.html](http://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/streets/provdrs/forestry.html)

### Landscaping

**Free Mulch:** The City of Chicago offers free mulch at four locations through the Department of Streets and Sanitation. Mulch is available for pick-up on a first come, first served basis during working hours (6:30am-2:00pm Monday-Friday). Take your own containers and shovels.

- 9909 Foster (O'Hare site)
- 5333 N Western Ave (rear of property)
- 2342 S. Ashland Avenue (North West corner of property)
- 900 E. 103rd Street (North East corner of property)

**OpenLands** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving open space in northeastern Illinois. They provide education workshops, grants, and other resources for groups looking to plant trees and enhance green space in their neighborhoods.

Located at 25 E. Washington Street, Suite 1650, Chicago, IL 60602-1708

For more information call (312) 863-6250 or visit [www.openlands.org](http://www.openlands.org)

**5<sup>th</sup> District Property Clean Up:** The 5<sup>th</sup> District Police Station will help you address any poorly maintained properties that pose a safety risk due to things like high grass lots and bushes. If you notice a property that needs addressing, take a picture and bring or send it to the 5<sup>th</sup> District Police Station. From there, the police officers will provide the property owner with a citation and clean up the property themselves.

5<sup>th</sup> District Police Department is located at: 727 E 111th St, Chicago, IL 60628

For more information call (312) 747-8210

## Group Communication Resources

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### Group Communication Tools

- GroupMe (Smart phone app)
- Slack (Online messaging website and app)
- Facebook group messaging
- Google Docs/Google Sheets (Online file sharing)
- Next Door (Online social network for neighborhoods)

### Conflict

**The Center for Conflict Resolution** offers mediation services and some communication workshops. [www.ccrchicago.org](http://www.ccrchicago.org)