

The Home Depot (HD) has opened their Community Impact Grant for 2015

VFW members can receive up to \$5,000 to fix up their Post building! Although of course there are no guarantees (so please be mindful of that) I encourage all Posts to apply ASAP if you desire to remodel your building.

To begin the process, click on the following link:

<http://homedepotfoundation.org/page/applying-for-a-grant>

YOU WILL COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION DIRECTLY VIA THE INTERNET ONLY (no telephone calls to HD, emails or written submissions will be accepted nor will you be able to turn this application in at your local HD store).

PLEASE OPEN AND CAREFULLY READ THE PDF ATTACHMENT TO THIS EMAIL AS IT WILL WALK YOU STEP-BY-STEP THROUGH THE PROCESS. I have tried to make the instructions as simple as possible using actual computer screen shots. Any deviation from this guide will most likely result in not being able to submit the application.

ALSO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE TAX ID INSTRUCTIONS SECTION. You will use the Employee Identification Number (EIN) of your Post and upload the Post's 501(c)(19) IRS determination letter at the end of the application. If you cannot locate the Post's 501(c)(19) letter -- follow the instructions below entitled "Lost IRS Determination Letter" on how to request a duplicate copy from the IRS.

It is my understanding that The Home Depot will also accept the first page of the Post's most recently filed IRS Form 990 tax document in lieu of the (c)(19). With that said, it is still a good idea to request the (c)(19) as you want this document for your Post, yet with the other alternative of the 990 you can go ahead and file the application immediately.

If you receive funding it will come in the form of Home Depot gift cards that can be used to buy materials at your local HD store. You will need to recruit Post members or other community volunteers to do the work. The project must be completed within 6 months. You will also be required to submit a final report. You should also be willing to include stories and before-and-after photos of the project. Failure to do so will negatively impact your Post's ability to receive any future funding from The Home Depot.

After submission of the application, you should receive an email response usually in six weeks letting you know if you received the grant.

I wish each of you the BEST OF LUCK!

Should you have any questions and or concerns, please contact me directly, Richard Freiburghouse, Manager – VFW Foundation, at (816) 968-1124 or rfreiburghouse@vfv.org