

GREEN ACTION FUND PROJECT PROPOSAL

WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS

PROJECT PROPOSER: Brooke Mechels (President), John Kelly (Vice President)

PROJECT ADVISORS: Dr. Ryan Sharp, Dr. Jeff Skibins

COLLABORATING STUDENT GROUP: George Wright Society, Tallgrass Chapter

SUSTAINABILITY/ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO THE UNIVERSITY:

Increased availability of water filling stations encourages re-use of containers and re-usable containers. The model of Elkay filling stations we have chosen highlights the estimated number of conventional plastic bottles saved by the use of these stations – green ticker. These tallied waste savings would be both highly visible to, and directly affecting all students with classes in Throckmorton’s main, large lecture halls (TH 1014 and TH 1018). Two bi-level bottle stations would replace the current five water fountains near both restrooms on the first-floor east wing, one by the NE elevator and one near TH 1023.

BENEFITS TO THE K-STATE STUDENT BODY:

The installment of water fountains and water bottle refill stations in the proposed locations has many beneficial impacts not only to the environment, but also to the University. The behavior changes of students and faculty and environmental assessment will be highly visible from the green ticker. This in turn will also make students and faculty happier because they will have more money and they will have one less thing to worry about. Water fountains and water bottle refill stations will also help the institution on with the mission of becoming “greener” and more sustainable. Having fountains in these well-traveled areas encourages students and faculty to be more conservative with use of plastic water bottles, which will reduce the amount of plastic bottles used. This in turn will reduce the amount of solid waste students dispose of, both recyclable and trash. A reduction in solid waste will save Kansas State University fund in waste disposal. The fountains will also show others that the institution is taking steps to become more environmentally conscious.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT:

George Wright Society, Tallgrass Chapter members will advertise and promote the use of the water bottle filling stations to all Department of Horticulture and Natural Resources, College of Agriculture, and the campus community. Promotions will happen through Facebook, department and club website, department wide email, department television slides in the lobby, and permanent signage located at each station. This group will also maintain the records of the “waste savings” for public posting.

BUDGET PROPOSAL:

Elkay Bi-Level Bottle Station	2x	\$1,803	\$3,606	
Tax (estimate)			\$316	
Shipping (estimate)			\$119	\$4,041
Permanent signage	2x	\$54	\$108	
Tax (estimate)			\$9	
Shipping (estimate)			FREE	\$117
TOTAL:				\$4,158

PRODUCT: Elkay LVRCGRNTL8WSK EZH2O Bi-Level Bottle Station, Vandal Resistant, Filtered, Stainless, Green Spec (GLOBALINDUSTRIAL.COM ITEM NUMBER: WBB957709)

TIMELINE: Bottle filling stations will be ordered immediately upon approval. Installation of stations will occur within a month of order. Environmental and financial savings will begin immediately upon install.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION: George Wright Society, Tallgrass Chapter will administer and manage the project as described above.

