

Green Business Boot Camp





Green Business Boot Camp



Supporting Local Businesses

- Helping the bottom line
- Advancing sustainability
- Connecting with resources



2025 Green Business Boot Camp





Hybrid to In Person



Original Approach: Hybrid Model

- Designed to maximize accessibility and flexibility
- Allowed participation from busy small business owners
- Provided virtual options to broaden reach

What We've Learned

- In-person sessions drive significantly higher engagement
- Stronger collaboration and peer-to-peer learning happens face-to-face
- Networking and relationship-building are critical to program success

Preferred Direction: In-Person First

- Primarily in-person workshops
- Use virtual access only as a supplemental option



2026 Green Business Boot Camp Graduates



Integrating Innovate Green Funding



Expands the Green Business Boot Camp

- Utilize Innovate Green funding as a small grant program tied to Boot Camp participation
- Businesses completing the program could apply

Potential Eligible Projects

- Energy efficiency improvements
- Water conservation upgrades
- Waste reduction and circular economy practices
- Sustainable transportation or fleet improvements

Benefits to the City

- Encourages action beyond the classroom
- Creates visible success stories for the community
- Builds momentum for the larger Innovate Green initiative



Introduction

Local First Arizona

- Has extensive experience supporting small businesses and sustainability initiatives statewide
- Acts as a strategic partner for:
 - Program outreach and business recruitment
 - Training content and workshop facilitation
 - Connection to additional grants and technical assistance
 - Measuring and promoting outcomes

Why This Matters

- Brings statewide expertise and credibility to the Green Business Boot Camp
- Expands opportunities for Flagstaff businesses to connect with regional resources
- Supports City Council's goals for economic resilience, sustainability, and local business success



2026 Flagstaff Green Business Boot Camp Report



About Local First Arizona

- A nonprofit and business coalition founded 23 years ago by an Arizona native and entrepreneur
- The state's federally designated Rural Development Council
- Based in Phoenix with staff throughout the state, including Flagstaff



* We serve Arizona in a variety of ways

- Assist local government and [tribal nations](#) to secure resources that build [self-reliant local economies](#)
- [Small business education](#) programs that foster entrepreneurship and increase access to capital
- Help businesses identify [solutions](#) and [funding](#) to reduce their environmental impacts
- Strengthen the [Arizona food system](#) through kitchen incubators and farm-to-fork programs
- Advocate for local businesses via the [largest local business coalition](#) in the U.S.
- Educate consumers about the [profound impact](#) of their spending choices on the local economy

Northern Arizona Good Jobs Network

- Launched in 2023 with ARPA funds awarded by the Governor
- A five-county network: Mohave, Coconino, Navajo, Apache & Yavapai
- New training-to-employment models for rural job seekers and workers to accelerate skills gains and credentialing



Work Closely with City of Flagstaff



Green Business Boot Camp

- 7-week in-person workshop series for locally owned businesses
- All types of businesses welcome
- Helps support businesses to reduce energy, water, waste, and/or transportation use by 20%
- Provides access to capital for sustainability improvement projects, and helps future-proof businesses to be more resilient.
- Since 2024, we've had 27 graduating businesses from Flagstaff



Green Business Boot Camp Alumni in Flagstaff

- 4 Sons Landscape Maintenance
- 1899 Bar & Grill
- All You Mead
- Arizona Behavioral Health Assoc.
- Chokolita Chocolate
- Coco-op Maker Space
- Culinary Concepts Southwest
- Diamond Auto Glass
- Double K Breeding
- Eat N Run
- Elevated Camping Experience
- Flagstaff CSA & Community Market
- Forestdale Farms
- Guida Wood Works
- Historic Brewing
- Kahtoola
- Kickstand Café
- Mountain Top Hops
- Nackard Pepsi
- Quality Connections
- Restoration Soils
- Rising Mountain Academy
- Rocking L3 Ranch
- Rooftop Solar
- Shift Kitchen & Bar
- Tech Genie
- Theatrikos Theatre Company

Funding for Participants



Participating businesses were eligible to apply for exclusive funding opportunities to implement their projects including:

- City of Flagstaff Innovate Green Grants: Up to \$10,000
- Intuit Green Business Rebates: Up to \$1,500
- Local First Arizona Green Loan Fund: Between \$2,500 - \$25,000 @ 3%

Innovate Green Grant Awards

Business	Award	Project Description
All You Mead	\$2,800	On demand water heater
4 Sons Landscape Maintenance	\$2,100	Electric backpack blower/battery
Flagstaff CSA	\$1,850	New Refrigerator
CoCo-Op Makerspace	\$1,550	Shop door insulation
Rising Mountain Academy	\$1,000	New Electric Stove
Elevated Camping	\$700	Paperless Technology (Ipad/program)
Award Total	\$10,000	

Funding source: City of Flagstaff

Intuit Energy Efficiency Rebate Awards

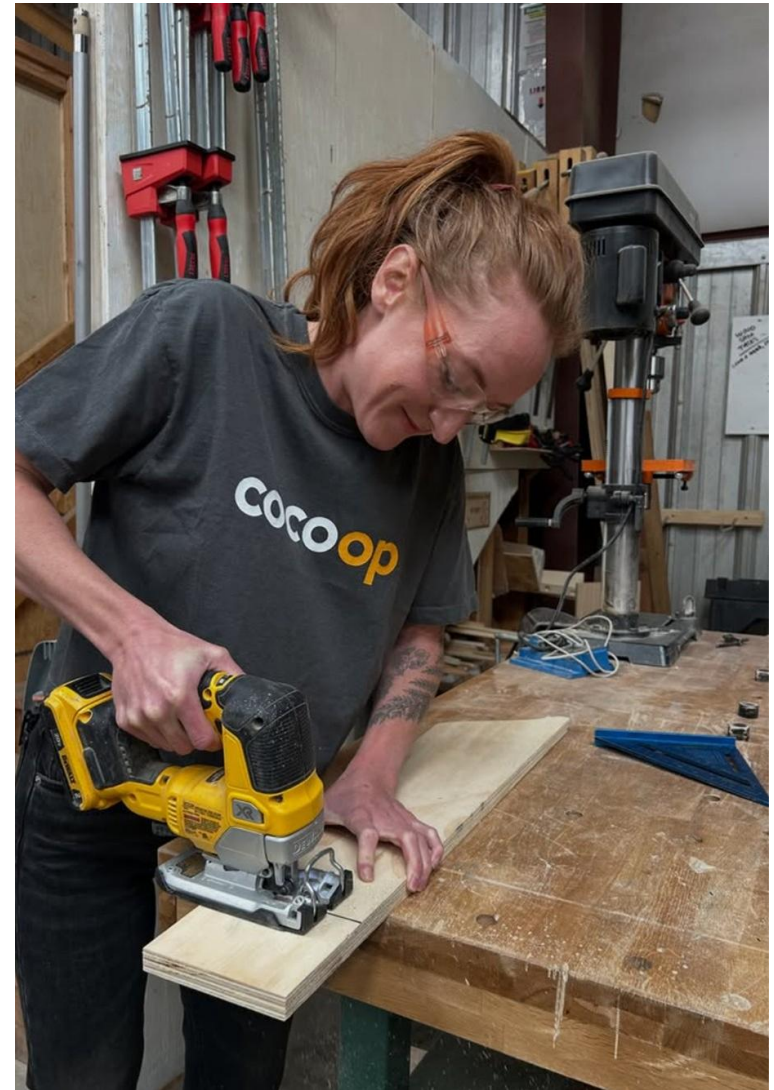
Chocolita Chocolate	\$1,500	Energy Star Dishwasher
4 Sons Landscape Maintenance	\$1,500	Battery operated chainsaw and extra battery
Coco-Op Makerspace	\$1,500	Insulating garage doors
Elevated Camping Experience	\$1,500	Powerstation and battery to replace a generator
Culinary Concepts Southwest	\$1,000	Walk In Envelope: replace door strips in walk in cooler, fluorescent lights with LED
Theatrikos Theatre Company	\$1,000	LED light upgrades
All You Mead	\$1,000	Electric on demand water heater
Flag CSA & Local Market	\$1,000	Replace older fridge
Forestdale Farms	\$500	Replace older refrigerator
Award Total	\$10,500	



“I really liked the connections and networking that came from the whole experience.”

“I loved the upbeat, positive energy throughout the bootcamp and collaborating with other local small businesses.”

“I loved the content!”



Feedback

“This program was considerably more helpful than I had expected when going into it.”

“I think the CoF grant was really motivating and challenged me to think about how ‘I’ll get to it eventually’ goals could be ‘I’ll get to it now’ action items”



Feedback

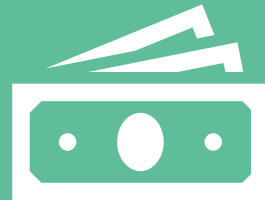
Participant Case Studies

Chocolita

Botanical, Plant-Based, Organic Chocolate



GBBC Experience



Intuit Grant



How it Helped the Business



Lessening our Environmental Impact: Drop by Drop, Page by Page

Current practices:



Converting over 200 gallons into reusable, potable water per season

IMPROVED WITH GRANT FUNDING:



PLUS

Saving more than 1K sheets of paper and over \$400 in paper and ink expenses

This Project Will:

Contribute to sustainability

- Reduce cooling by 33%
- Solar for water heater
- Reduce water use

Build business resilience

- Climate change / events

Support AZ businesses

- Sustainable practices
- AZ Agriculture

