

Connecticut Urban Forest Council

Community Forestry Small Grants Program

The Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc. (CUFC) is a statewide 501(c)3 non-profit organization composed of representatives from Connecticut environmental organizations, state agencies, universities, research institutions, corporations, professional communities, and citizen tree groups. Its purpose is to provide advice, assistance, education, information, and support to urban and community forestry professionals, associated professionals, municipal, state, and corporate leaders, and volunteers. Our small grants program in 2022 will help existing organizations and municipalities address issues related to urban forest health. We expect to award 4 grants of up to \$2,000.

Priorities include (1) teaching about urban forestry and the tools used to manage urban trees and forests, and (2) increasing public awareness of opportunities to protect urban forestland and urban trees, emphasizing public benefits. Examples of grant subjects include tree planting, efforts to protect existing trees, development and distribution of plant stewardship material, implementation of an event that engages students with the outdoors, the investment in a door-to-door campaign to raise awareness and participation in storm recovery efforts or environmental restoration activities, or training of citizen stewards to monitor tree health in their neighborhoods or nearby parks, etc...

Grants to nonprofit organizations will be awarded to projects that directly benefit educational goals related to urban forests in Connecticut. Projects that serve neighborhoods or areas with low tree canopy coverage and limited resources, and/or that utilize partnerships to amplify the project's impacts are strongly encouraged.

Grant administration and requirements

Funds from awarded grants are paid upon submission of invoices to the CUFC.

Grant requests may not exceed \$2,000

Applicants must be able to commit to a 50% match, which can consist of funds from other donors or in-kind contributions (such as volunteer hours of labor).

Applications must be submitted electronically to Richard.Cowles@ct.gov, using the following Word template.

Any printed materials produced by the grantee must acknowledge the U.S. Forest Service for having provided support.

Successful applicants must agree to submit a narrative report on the status of the project and how the funds were used within 1 year of being awarded a grant.

Submission deadline: Proposals must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 31, 2022. Successful projects will be announced on April 15, 2022.

Application Form, CUFC Small Grant Program, 2022

Name of Organization

Address of Organization

Contact individual

Contact phone number

E-mail

Title for Proposal

Executive summary (< 250 words)

Requested dollar amount (<= \$2,000)

Proposal

Background

Describe the situation that you are addressing, and why it is important. For example: "Inner city youth are not taught in their existing science courses about the environmental benefits that are provided by trees ..."

Objectives

Describe in one sentence what you plan to accomplish through work supported by this grant. For example: "To train high school students about the benefits that our trees provide to the community."

Methods

Provide specifics on how you will accomplish the objective. For example: "Groups of 9th through 12th graders at city schools will be brought to Bushnell Park and be given a tour of the trees in the park. Students will measure trees with a dbh tape, and then also measure the area covered by the canopy for each tree. The health condition of each tree will be noted. Back in the classroom, we will explore with the students the relationship between trunk diameter and canopy area, and using existing on-line resources, calculate the environmental benefits provided to the city by each tree..."

Budget

Please provide an itemization of the goods or services paid for by this grant award, and the amounts for these items.

Work plan timeline (completion no later than June15, 2023)

Matching funds

Describe how you will be matching the award, either through funds from a different source or from in-kind contributions.

Partners

Please provide the names of other groups with whom you will be collaborating to achieve your objectives. Please also provide a letter of support from that group to confirm that they are willing to participate with your project.

Letters of support

Please provide a letter of support from each group to confirm that they are willing to participate with your project. When you submit your proposal, attach both the Word or pdf files containing the grant proposal with pdf electronic copies of the support letters to the same e-mail. Send the completed application to Richard.Cowles@ct.gov .