

Community Forestry Small Grants Program

We are now accepting applications for the 2022 small grants program.

The CUFC is excited to offer groups in Connecticut the opportunity to apply for an urban forestry grant from the Council! In 2021, the CUFC supported five amazing projects, selected from very strong pool of applicants. As a result of this success, the US Forest Service awarded the Council with additional funding in 2022 to continue to grow the program. Huge thanks to the award recipients for your efforts—we are proud to support your important projects!

Grant range: \$1,500 – \$2,000

Eligible organizations: All groups, but with a focus on non-profits and municipalities.

Application due date: Applications for the 2022 Small Grant Program are due at 4:30pm on March 31, 2022. Successful projects will be announced on April 15, 2022.

Grant Details and Guidelines: 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
- 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.

Apply for a Grant: Submit your application by downloading the application form (visit <https://cturbanforestcouncil.org/grants/community-small-grants/>).

Grant Payment, Acknowledgements, and Reporting: Grant requests may not exceed \$2,000. Funds are paid upon submission of invoices to the CUFC. 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). Any printed materials produced by the grantee must acknowledge the U.S. Forest Service for having provided support.

Successful applicants are responsible for submitting one narrative report on the status of the project and how the funds were used within one year of being awarded a grant.

Good Luck!

February 21, 2022