



**CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
Urban and Community Forestry Program
California Climate Investments Grants 2016/2017**

Grant Program Overview



Overview of the Urban and Community Forestry Program

- Established by the California Urban Forestry Act of 1978. The Act is in the Public Resources Code (PRC 4799.06-4799.12). It is short and well worth a read.
- Technical assistance and advice – 6 Regional Urban Foresters
- Public and professional education
- Encouraging research and technical transfer of information.
- Public events – Tree City USA
- Regional & local advocacy
- Fostering partnerships
- Connecting people
- Grants to further urban forestry efforts.



Grant Eligibility

- **Projects must reduce GHG emissions and help meet the goals of AB 32.**
- **Grant projects must be in an urban area or urban cluster as defined by the US Census Bureau.**
- **Grant projects are focused on serving disadvantaged communities.**
 - ❑ **Disadvantaged community status will be determined using the CalEnviroScreen 2.0 tool.**
- **Cities, counties, districts and 501C(3) non-profit organizations are eligible.**



CAL FIRE General Project Requirements

- We always require best management practices and we provide them to grantees.
- CAL FIRE inspects all projects during the project performance period. Annually is our minimum.
- The community in which the project is located must be meaningfully engaged in the project.
- Projects must strongly consider the current drought in project design (species selection, irrigation, timing, etc.).
- The project must comply with all applicable local and county ordinances, and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.
- Project matching (25%) is required (hard match or in-kind), but can be reduced or waived if it is a hardship (case by case).
- **Projects must be completed no later than March 30, 2020.**

Grant Project Types

Project Type	Description	Grant Amount	Cost Share* State/Others
Urban Forest Expansion and Improvement	Urban tree planting and planting of vegetation to reduce GHG emissions, tree and plant establishment care, and planting site preparation. In addition to tree planting, a project may also involve lightly engineered planting sites (e.g. bioswales, etc) and acquisition of small, vacant parcels to be improved for purposes consistent with the California Urban Forestry Act.	\$150,000 - \$1,000,000	75/25
Urban Forest Management Activities	For local governments (cities, counties, districts). Improving long-term management of urban forests to reduce GHG emissions and improve urban forest performance. Projects may involve the establishment or updating of a tree inventory, urban forest mapping and analysis, and/or long-term management plan. May include policy and ordinance development.	\$150,000 - \$1,000,000	75/25
Urban Wood and Biomass Utilization	Creation, development, and implementation of projects to better utilize trees and/or other vegetation from urban forests to reduce GHG emissions. The trees that are utilized must not have been removed solely for the purpose of utilization; there must be another valid management objective behind the removal of the trees. Projects that will use urban woody biomass for its highest and best use, thus diverting it from the urban waste stream.	\$150,000 - \$750,000	75/25

How To Get Assistance With Applications

- Contact your Regional Urban Forester
- **The Grant Guidelines**
- Partnerships. Partner with organizations that have expertise in some aspect of your project.
- The CAL FIRE website, and other urban forestry websites.



The Grant Application Process

- **Two stage application process** - to make applying easy and expedite the review process.
 - ❑ **Concept Proposal stage** – used for scoring and to determine which projects will be invited to submit additional information in the Project Application stage. Will be due in late November or early December.

If a concept proposal scores highly enough, the applicant will be invited to submit a:
 - ❑ **Project Application** – used to gather additional project information and prioritize projects for funding. CAL FIRE generally invites about 50% more Concept Applicants to the Project Application stage than it will be able to fund.

Timeline for the Grant Program (subject to change)

- **Advertisement of grants on CAL FIRE website and broad outreach: Hopefully mid-October.**
- **Technical assistance workshops: at least 7 workshops statewide, as well as at least one webinar. Hopefully before mid-November.**
- **Concept proposals due: Hopefully before mid-December**
- **Grant awards made: Target of mid-April 2017.**

Urban Forestry Websites Helpful To Applicants

- http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry.php. This is CAL FIRE's Urban and Community Forestry Program page. It has numerous resources and links.
- www.ufe.org - Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute @ Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Includes on-line tree selection software SelecTree. The site is sponsored by CALFIRE and the USDA Forest Service.
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/uesd/uep/> - the USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station. Lots of free downloads. The site has research publications, presentations, etc.
- <http://www.itreetools.org/> - iTree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools.
- <http://ufmptoolkit.com/index.htm> - Urban Forest Management Plan Toolkit. Helps organizations organize and compose urban forest management plans. The site provides numerous resources in this regard.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Thank You!

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