m DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Additional information - shade tree program bonding grants

Updated July 23, 2023. Answers to common questions.

Planting and Project Details

- Grantees should note that balled and burlap stock is ineligible for reimbursement in this grant program due to the additional care and skill required for proper planting. These trees often have excessive soil over the root collar flare and stem girdling roots, leading to potential planting issues. The tree planting grant program aims to ensure the long-term survival of trees planted with the funds, and thus, balled and burlap stock will not be reimbursed.
- In case adjustments are needed in the project, such as replanting not meeting the original plan, grantees should note this in reporting.

Matching Funds and Budget

- Match is not required for this grant and will not be incorporated in the criteria If a project exceeds the DNR grant fund maximum, detailed information about that portion of the project is not obligatory. Including match funds is optional, but if chosen, grantees must note that match cannot come from other state grants or funds and should be reported and spent before completing the project.
- Grantees have the option to add volunteer hours to the budget sheet, but it is not mandatory. Volunteer services can be counted as cost sharing or matching if they are integral to the project and would otherwise require payment.
- All contracted labor, including labor from organizations like ICWC and CCMI, is eligible for reimbursement if the contracts are with individuals or organizations not part of the local government unit.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Grantees should be aware that only local units of government are eligible for this grant. A current tree inventory and EAB plan are not prerequisites for applying.
- Homeowners are not eligible for this grant, but they can recommend their municipality to apply. Nonprofit entities may be eligible for other grants. Please see our forest management grants and programs page.
- Any tree planted with this grant must be a climate-adapted species to Minnesota. Grantees are not required to stick to these lists, but are welcome to utilize the Best native yard trees for our changing climate | Minnesota DNR (state.mn.us) or Choosing the right trees | Minnesota DNR (state.mn.us). The

2010 rapid assessment can be used as guidance for what to avoid planting if you do not possess a current tree inventory. If you have not developed a species/stock list and would like guidance, reach out to the UCF Team for examples and the 2010 rapid assessment for your community. If during the project, this species and stock list needs to be altered, contact your project coordinator for approval.

- Maps can be included if it is appropriate. Please reference attached maps within the application and explain why they have been included in order to be considered a part of submission.
- Tree inventories are not an eligible expense through this program. The ReLeaf grants which can be found on the forest management grants and programs page does include tree inventory as an eligible activity.