Exhibit A:

Centering Communities in Canopy Solutions

# 2024 Application

Please refer to the Request for Applications (RFA) when completing this application.

*Submit this form, along with required attachments, to* [*ucf.dnr@state.mn.us*](mailto:ucf.dnr@state.mn.us) *by October 28th, 2024 at 11:59 pm. Follow all word count guidelines for each question. Document should stay in current format (Calibri font type, size 11 pt font, narrow 0.5 inch margins). Please limit application to 4 pages.*

*Checklist:*

# Application Form (ﬁlled out, guided by the RFA)

# Budget Form (Attachment A)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization Name** |  |
| **Project Coordinator** |  |
| **Coordinator Title** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **City, State, Zip** |  |
| **County** |  |
| **Coordinator Email** |  |
| **Coordinator Phone Number** |  |
| **Grant Amount Requested** |  |

**Have you received a DNR community forestry grant in the past?**  Yes No Don’t Know

**Is this application limited to serving environmental justice communities?**

# (Please refer to the RFA to view eligible geographic areas for this grant)

# Yes No Don’t Know

Funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. These organizations are equal opportunity providers and employers.

**Priority Points** (15 points)Provide a summary of which environmental justice communities this project will engage and how their input will be incorporated throughout the implementation of the project. A successful application will demonstrate plans for engaging, employing, or involving community members in conducting urban and community forestry outreach, education, planting or maintenance activities to benefit their neighborhoods. Applicants will also demonstrate actional items for environmental justice communities.

**Project Overview and Need** (30 points) Provide a summary of the project, why this funding is needed, what project work will not happen without these grant funds and expected outcomes. This should include a description of the project location (general areas within eligible map delineation, specific eligible communities or community groups, etc.). A successful application will demonstrate a readiness to take on a project of the proposed scope and size and will show the ability to meaningfully include members of environmental justice communities.

**Project Timeline** (20 points) *Describe the approximate project schedule showing intermediate steps and milestones. A successful timeline will provide speciﬁc dates, is easy to comprehend, and will follow best management practices.*

**Project Budget Explanation** (10 points)

Provide additional remarks to clarify the budget request. If applicable, provide an explanation of how you are funding portions of your project that are not eligible with grant dollars. A successful budget will provide speciﬁc dollar amounts for anticipated use, will be ﬁnancially realistic and cost eﬀective. Budget will be correctly calculated.

**Communication** (15 points) *Describe the methods you will use to conduct outreach to residents about this grant project. A successful communication strategy will use multiple accessible formats that have the potential to reach the public about the use of grant funds and tree care workforce development.*

**Key Personnel** (10 points) Please list all certiﬁcations and education degrees for staﬀ or contractors involved in the project. Describe the duties internal staﬀ will conduct, and any work that will be contracted out or the partnerships you will leverage to complete tasks. Include key personnel and their past experience with similar tasks. If you expect to contract work out, describe requirements you will have for contractors.