

**2021 DNR Urban and Community Forestry Grants Webinar Questions
10/13/2020**

- Are removal of risk trees identified in a Urban Forest Management Plan eligible?
 - High-risk trees (that pose a threat to public safety or forest health) may be pruned or removed as part of a tree improvement or replacement program. The removal of exotic invasive plant species is permitted to maintain the health of urban forest ecosystem.
- Can the grants support planting forest understory or only trees?
 - Understory trees are allowable but planting stock must meet grant specifications (at least 1in caliper).
- Can you talk about the schedule for proposal review and selection?
 - The Schedule of Grant Activities is listed in the RFP (section 1.7), and is as follows:

SCHEDULE OF GRANT ACTIVITIES	
ISSUE REQUEST FOR APPLICATION DATE RFA IS POSTED ON PUBLIC WEBPAGE	09/25/20
APPLICATIONS DUE DEADLINE FOR DNR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS	12/10/20; 4:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time
EVALUATE APPLICATIONS PERIOD OF TIME WHEN APPLICATIONS WILL BE EVALUATED BY DNR	January 2021
ANNOUNCE GRANTEE(S) AWARD DATE	1/31/21
NOTIFY UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA EMAIL	1/31/21
FINALIZE GRANT AGREEMENT(S) DATE RANGE DNR EXPECTS GRANT AGREEMENTS TO BE FINALIZED	March – April 2021
BEGIN WORK DATE DNR EXPECTS THE WORK TO BEGIN	5/1/21
1ST INTERIM REPORT REPORT DUE DATE	11/1/21
2ND INTERIM REPORT REPORT DUE DATE	5/1/21
3RD INTERIM REPORT REPORT DUE DATE	11/1/22
END OF WORK DATE DNR EXPECTS THE WORK TO END	4/30/22
FINAL REPORT DUE FINAL DATE GRANTEES MAY SUBMIT FINAL REPORT	5/31/22
THE AGENCY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE THE ABOVE SCHEDULE.	

- Are 501(c)(7) s eligible?
 - No, but they are encouraged to collaborate on a project with an eligible applicant.
 - ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: City, town, and county governments, Tribal governments, 501 (c)(3) non-profit organizations, Public educational institutions, and Special taxing districts (examples: Hospital Districts, Conservation Districts, Public Parks Districts)

- For non-profit orgs, do projects that involve tree planting or inventories on public land need permission from the city at the time of application? Or would the non-profit and city need to actually collaborate on the application?
 - Successful projects on public property should involve collaboration between the city and non-profit. Permission should be received from the city regarding any public land projects at the time of application. Either entity can be the lead applicant on the grant.
- If someone is volunteering in their professional capacity, can their time be counted at their regular billable rate or does it have to be the volunteer rate?
 - Yes, individuals volunteering their time in a specialized professional capacity performing tasks in their normal line of work can be calculated at their current billable pay scale.
- If someone is a retired professional—can their volunteer time be billed at their former rate?
 - No, retired professionals are calculated at the WA value of volunteer time rate (\$33.02 per hour).
- Asking to clarify: Will the RFP go out in 2021 as well? Or will the next RFP be distributed in 2022 for the next round of applications?
 - We are uncertain at this time. The intent is to provide an annual grant program however, all forms of financial assistance, their availability in a given year, and their associated dollar amounts are dependent on continued funding through annual grant allocations from the USDA Forest Service. In addition, the nature and timing of the application processes are subject to change from year-to-year.

To ask additional questions please email urban_forestry@dnr.wa.gov