

Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2)

Community and Watershed Forestry Grant

Applying for Urban and Community Forestry

TreeVitalize

DCNR, through the Urban and Community Forestry program, offers a broad range of services to support sustainable urban and community forestry programs across Pennsylvania. TreeVitalize aims to build capacity within communities to plan for, plant, and care for trees. TreeVitalize also supports educational training to help citizens understand the diverse benefits of trees and the importance of proper tree planting and maintenance.

- Any trees planted must be entered into DCNR TreeKeeper (or bulk uploaded from an existing system)
- Consent from the landowner (public or private) that they know the trees are being planted, and they approve of the planting and the maintenance plan
- Funds can be used on public and private property, with proper acknowledgement by the landowner
- Funds can be sub-granted, but the same qualifications/specifications listed above apply to all sub-grantees
- Must have a plan for ongoing maintenance
- Urban and Community Forestry grants may pay for hazardous tree removal as part of site preparation activities if replacement trees are part of the plan

Questions?

Contact Ned Brockmeyer, TreeVitalize Program Manager (c-jobrockm@pa.gov), Vallie Edenbo, Recreation and Conservation Advisor (vedenbo@pa.gov), or your Regional BRC Advisor.



Funding Priorities

- Partnerships with resident and nonprofit groups in Environmental Justice Communities, as defined by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool or Pennsylvania EnviroScreen
- Municipalities that demonstrate knowledge of tree planting, planning, and maintenance
 - Arborist, Forester, or other applicable natural resource professional on staff or on retainer (scholarships for training are available)
 - Tree Tender(s) in the community (training available from PHS/TreePittsburgh/Penn State/the TreeVitalize Partnership)
- Municipalities that lack knowledge and resources show a plan to do education and outreach as priority for that community before tree planting.
- Ongoing evaluation of success of planting project
- Tree Equity



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Eligible Activities

Discuss your specific grant proposal with your BRC Regional Advisor, PSU Extension Forester, and/or your local DCNR service forester to ensure eligibility of your project activities. Funding may be used for eligible items listed below:

- Community Tree Plantings (including street trees, park trees, riparian plantings, food forest, pocket/Miyawaki forests, school grounds etc.)
- Tree Canopy enhancement planning, including tree inventories and management plans
 - o Participation from all communities in the outlined geographic area (especially considering EJ communities).
- Educational programs (events/camps/etc.) that involve trees
- Educational signage related to trees or tree work
- Site preparation for Tree Plantings
 - o Hazardous tree removal
 - o Herbicide applications
 - o Sidewalk maintenance activities necessary for tree planting – estimate impervious surfaces removed
- Pruning and other one-time tree care needs that significantly improves the health and life expectancy of a community tree
- Establishment costs for all newly planted urban trees.
 - o Regular monitoring and watering
 - o Purchase of items such as tree guards, watering bags and tanks or pruning tools that remain on site, excluding vehicle purchases
 - o Scheduled pruning
- Natural Disaster Response (i.e. storm) or insect/disease outbreak response
 - o Storm planning/response/mitigation specific to tree-related issues to qualify
 - o Tree inventory after natural disaster or prior to arrival of oncoming insect/disease outbreak
 - o Contracting technical assistance with reforestation efforts
 - o Replacement trees after natural disaster or large insect/disease outbreak
 - o Treatment of existing trees to protect them from disease outbreak or pests
- Projects that reuse wood/lumber from urban tree removals
- Nursery support and Technical Assistance
 - o Funding for contract growing.
 - o Support for Nursery expansion/growth.
- Workforce development
 - o Youth Employment Projects
 - o Equity-related workforce development projects that involve individuals with barriers to employment