

Urban Forestry: Inventory Grant

2008/2009

Request for Proposals



**State of California
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Urban Forestry Program**



Grant program made Pursuant to the California Urban Forestry Act of 1978
(Public Resources Code 4799.06 – 4799.12)

Grant Funds made available from:

Proposition 40, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood, Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002

Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006

Urban Forestry: Inventory Grant 2008-2009

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) has set aside approximately \$1,500,000 to provide grants to cities, counties, and districts in need of implementing or adding to an Urban Forestry/street tree inventory program. Districts include, but are not limited to, school, park, recreation, and local taxing districts.

Practices that can be funded:

This grant will fund the acquisition and implementation of an inventory system to be used in an Urban Forestry setting by, cities, counties, or qualifying districts. Projects can also integrate new or existing software into existing inventories. Inventories must be community friendly, contain minimum data fields (see "Exhibit A"), and may include some minimum level of training or educational component.

Conditions:

All of the following conditions must be met for your proposed urban forestry project to be eligible for a grant:

- Grant requests must be for establishing or adding to an existing inventory only.
- Amount requested must not exceed \$200,000. Applicant must be a city, county, or district.
- Applicant must have an existing urban forest/street tree protection system (city ordinance, etc.).
- Applicant must have an existing urban forester, arborist, or other position responsible for urban forest resources.
- A project must be located in, or immediately adjacent to, an "urban area" or "urban cluster" as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.
(http://www.census.gov/geo/www/ua/ua_2k.html)
- The applicant has complied (and will comply) in all respects with all applicable local and county ordinances, and all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Cost share:

These grants are to share the cost of eligible urban forestry projects. The proportion of the project's cost funded by CAL FIRE-Urban Forestry shall not be greater than **50%**. Matching contributions required as a condition of grants made pursuant to this section may be made in the form of material, services, or equipment, as well as funds.

This grant cannot finance any undertaking or complete any practice designed to supplant rather than supplement existing local agency activities. Such ineligible practices shall consist of any request that CAL FIRE furnish grants to take the place of a regular or ongoing fiscal commitment to a program or project by a local government.

Application:

Concept Proposals must be submitted by midnight of **October 24, 2008**.

The Concept Proposal Application can be found at

<http://www.ufe.org/grantinfo.lasso> and

http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/urbanforestry

Using the submit button at the end of the form field will submit your application electronically.

Information required upon application shall include:

Complete the Concept Proposal Application found at <http://www.ufe.org/grantinfo.lasso> and http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/urbanforestry and follow the format, directions about size limitations etc. Sign the “Certification” and mail your application to the above address by the date specified. Your application must include the information requested, but does not need to be lengthy.

Project Timeline

Projects Completed By March 1, 2011

Projects Closed –
No Reimbursement Possible After June 30, 2011

Procedural Guidelines:

Please review the Procedural Guide posted at <http://www.ufe.org/grantinfo.lasso> and http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/urbanforestry

Exhibit A
Recommended Minimum Collection Attributes for Inventories
(Street, Park and Utility)

- **Mapping coordinate.** X and Y coordinate locations (latitude and longitude). Each tree and planting site will be located using GIS maps and/or GPS equipment.
- **Block side.** The location of each street tree and planting site so that they can easily be identified for future work. Street trees and planting sites will be located using a street name, side of lot, tree number, and block side information (on street, from street, and to street).
- **Area.** Tree locations will be identified by subdivision or code number.
- **Location.** The tree's physical location in relation to public Right of Way and/or public space will be recorded.
- **Species.** Trees will be identified by *genus* and *species*, and by common name.
- **Diameter.** Tree trunk diameter will be recorded. This should be to the nearest 1-inch.
- **Stems.** The number of stems a tree has will be recorded.
- **Condition.** In general, the condition of each tree will be recorded in one of the following categories adapted from the rating system established by the International Society of Arboriculture:

Excellent	100%
Very Good	90%
Good	80%
Fair	60%
Poor	40%
Critical	20%
Dead	0%

- **Maintenance need.** The following maintenance categories will be collected:
 1. Priority 1 Removal. Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. The majority of the trees in this category have a large percentage of dead crown and pose an elevated level of risk for failure. Any hazards that could be seen as potential dangers to persons or property and seen as potential liabilities would be in this category. Large dead and dying trees that are high liability risks are included in this category. These trees are the first ones that should be removed.

2. Priority 2 Removal. Trees that should be removed but do not pose a liability as great as the first priority will be identified here. This category would need attention as soon as “Priority One” trees are removed.
 3. Priority 3 Removal. Trees that should be removed, but that pose minimal liability to persons or property, will be identified in this category.
 4. Priority 1 Prune. Trees that require priority one pruning are recommended for trimming to remove hazardous deadwood, hangers, or broken branches. These trees have broken or hanging limbs, hazardous deadwood, and dead, dying, or diseased limbs or leaders greater than four inches in diameter.
 5. Priority 2 Prune. These trees have dead, dying, diseased, or weakened branches between two and four inches in diameter and are potential safety hazards.
 6. Large Tree Routine Prune. These trees require routine horticultural pruning to correct structural problems or growth patterns, which would eventually obstruct traffic or interfere with utility wires or buildings. Trees in this category are large enough to require bucket truck access or manual climbing.
 7. Small Tree Routine Prune. These trees require routine horticultural pruning to correct structural problems or growth patterns, which would eventually obstruct traffic or interfere with utility wires or buildings. These trees are small growing, mature trees that can be evaluated and pruned from the ground.
 8. Training Prune. Young, large-growing trees that are still small must be pruned to correct or eliminate weak, interfering, or objectionable branches in order to minimize future maintenance requirements. These trees, up to 20 feet in height, can be worked with a pole-pruner by a person standing on the ground.
 9. Stump Removal. This category indicates a stump that should be removed.
 10. Plant Tree. During the inventory, vacant planting sites will be identified by street and address. The size of the site is designated as small, medium, or large (indicating the ultimate size that the tree will attain), depending on the growing space available and the presence of overhead wires.
- **Observations**. General observations referring to a tree’s health, structure, and location will be made.
 - **Clearance Required**. Trees, which are causing or may cause visibility or clearance difficulties for pedestrians or vehicles, will be identified, as well as those trees blocking clear visibility of signs or traffic signals.
 - **Hardscape Damage**. Damage to sidewalks and curbs by tree roots are noted. Notes on potential fixes for the problem are encouraged (redesign options etc...)

- **Overhead Utilities.** The inventory indicates whether overhead conductors or other utilities are present at the tree site that could result in conflicts with the tree.

- **Grow space.** The area within the growing space is categorized as:

T	Tree Lawn
W	Well/Pit
M	Median
P	Raised Planter
O	Open/Unrestricted
I	Island
U	Unmaintained Area

- **Space Size.** The narrowest dimension of the Grow Space, in feet. (I.e., 3'x3' cutout, 4' parkway strip, open parkland, etc.....)
- **Notes.** Additional information regarding disease, insect, mechanical damage, etc. can be included in this field.