



Fall 2021 NYS Urban Forestry Council Quick Start Grant Notice

The **NYS Urban Forestry Council** is pleased to announce available funding for communities to hold a tree planting event in the fall of 2021 celebrating Arbor Day and to establish a community-based forestry program. Communities can apply for up to \$1,000. Funding has been provided by the USDA Forest Service.

Grant Goals:

The intent of this grant is to help municipalities establish a community forestry program and to move toward becoming a Tree City USA Community, which is a program of the Arbor Day Foundation.

Eligibility:

Communities are eligible if they intend to work toward Tree City status but are lacking any of the components of the Tree City USA program. The four components include having a tree ordinance, a tree board, \$2/capita budgeted for trees, and an annual Arbor Day celebration with proclamation. Definitions and details of those components and application instructions can be found on the Arbor Day Foundation's [Tree City USA](#) website.

Projects must include:

- planting trees (see the recommended resources listed in this notice to facilitate tree species selections). **Planting must be done in the fall 2021.**
- holding an Arbor Day ceremony in the **fall 2021.**

Eligible expenses may include but are not limited to trees, mulch, soil, printing of a program, advertising to publicize the event.

Communities that are currently a Tree City USA or are a recipient of a previous NYS Urban Forestry Council Quick Start Grant are **ineligible**.

Selection Process and Award:

Applications will be scored competitively and awarded from highest to lowest until the funding is exhausted. 50% of the amount awarded will be paid to the awardees upon return of a signed grant acceptance form.

The remainder of the grant will be paid once a final report is submitted. The final report should include a summary of event, photos, receipts for expenditures, copies of materials related to the event and/or establishment and goals of a tree committee or board.



Applications will be scored by the following criteria:

- All paperwork received
- Stated goal of moving community toward Tree City USA certification
- DEC urban forester or QS grant committee member consulted
- Clear site photos included
- Date of event given
- Community to publicize event
- Elected officials involved
- Clear budget developed
- Tree selections appropriate
- Consideration of “Right Tree Right Place”

Deadlines and how to apply:

Applications are due (postmarked) by **5pm on September 9, 2021** (see attached application).

Send completed applications to: **NYS Urban Forestry Council, PO Box 562, Lima, NY 14485**
or via email to nysufc@gmail.com (please put all information into one attachment).

Award recipients will be notified by the end of September. Awarded grant projects must be completed in the fall of 2021 with final reports submitted by December 31, 2021.

If you have questions about your project or this grant opportunity, please contact a grant committee member listed in this notice. Thank you for your interest in trees and improving the environment within your community!

Sincerely,
Karen Emmerich, Grant Committee Chair
New York State Urban Forestry Council
PO Box 562, Lima, NY 14485
nysufc@gmail.com

Please note that this Quick Start Grant is not associated with the Arbor Day Foundation nor is it part of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program funded by the NYS Environmental Protection Fund.

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NYS UFC Quick Start Grant Committee Members

Andrew Hillman
607-351-7805
andrewhillman5@icloud.com

Lori Brockelbank
716-450-0884
lbrockelbank@gmail.com

Terry Hawkridge
315-525-2097
l.d.terryhawkridge@gmail.com

Mary Beck
518-755-2061
tokmary@msn.com

Karen Emmerich
914-850-2667
karenemmerich77@gmail.com

Jean Zimmerman
914-564-6544
jeanzimmerman@savatree.com

Eric Greenfield
315-448-3214
eric.j.greenfield@usda.gov

Resource Websites

- NYS Urban Forestry Council (*questions, contacts, references*) <https://nysufc.org/>
- Tree Planting resources: (*tree species selections, planting suggestions*) <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/>
- Cornell University, Urban Horticulture Institute website (*tree species info, planting suggestions*) <https://blogs.cornell.edu/urbanhort/>
- Arbor Day Foundation (*tree species info, starting tree boards, Arbor Day programs*) <https://www.arborday.org/>
- NYS DEC (*Regional offices, local DEC Foresters in the Division of Lands and Forests can provide urban forestry guidance, etc.*) <https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/558.html>
- National Grid's "10,000 Trees...and Growing" program (*tree species, planting suggestions*) https://www.nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/safety/cm4494_treesafety.pdf



Quick Start Grant Application

Name of Municipality: _____

Project Contact: _____

Address: _____

Email & Phone: _____

Municipal fiscal contact, if different than above: _____

Address: _____

Email & Phone: _____

Municipal Chief or Elected official: _____

Signature of official: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE:

- **Date of Event:** _____ (*Please note that your Arbor Day event date must be held in the fall of 2021*)
- **Participants:** List potential participants and how you will involve the public in your event.
- **Description of Project:** Include a brief description of your proposed project and how this project will help you achieve Tree City Status. Address the scoring criteria and include a list of trees to be planted. You are encouraged to contact a Grant Committee member, NYS DEC urban forester or ISA Certified Arborist for assistance. Let us know if you do this.
- **Photos:** Please include 1-4 pictures representative of the site(s) where you will be planting.
- **Budget:** Describe how you will spend the grant funds by listing estimated costs (purchase of trees, necessary supplies, etc.)

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or via email to nysufc@gmail.com (please put all information into one attachment if possible).