

RESOLUTION 159-12

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF THE NEW JERSEY
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM'S 2012
GREEN COMMUNITIES GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Clayton wishes to apply for funding for a project under the New Jersey Community Forestry Program's 2012 Green Communities; and

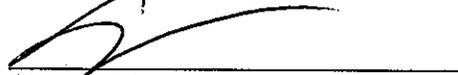
WHEREAS, the Borough of Clayton Council has reviewed the accompanying application and has approved said request, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Clayton, County of Gloucester, State of new Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Mayor and Council does hereby authorize submission of an application for the New Jersey Community Forestry Program's 2012 Green Communities Grant.
2. The Mayor and Council acknowledge the terms and conditions for administering the New Jersey Community Forestry Program's 2012 Green Communities Grant, including the administrative requirements.

ADOPTED at a regular council meeting of the Borough of Clayton, which was held on August 9, 2012.

BOROUGH OF CLAYTON



Thomas Bianco, Mayor

ATTEST:



Christine Newcomb, Municipal Clerk

GREEN COMMUNITIES 2012 APPLICATION FORM

(All blanks must be filled in order to be eligible)

Municipality: Clayton County: Gloucester Federal ID Number: 21-6000475

Contact Name: Sue Miller Salutation: Ms. Title: Borough Administrator
(Person Submitting Application)

Applicant Organization Name: Borough of Clayton

Primary Contact Number: 856-881-2882 Extension: 104 Type:

Secondary Contact Number: Extension: Type:

Email: smiller@claytonnj.com Fax Number: 881-0153 Extension:

Mailing Address: 125 N. Delsea Drive City, State, Zip: Clayton, NJ 08312

Fiscal Year End Date: 12-31-12 Amount Requested: \$3,000

Matching Contribution: \$3000, that will be 100% In-kind match, Total Project Amount: \$6,000

Financial Officer: Donna Nestore Title: CFO

Type of Accounting Records of County or Municipality:

Cash Basis, Modified Accrual, Accrual Basis, Other:

This is for 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th Community Forestry Management Plan.

Tree City USA Municipality

Sustainable Jersey: Non-Certified, Registered, Bronze Level, Silver Level

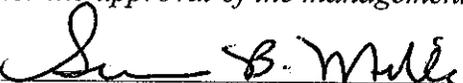
Grant Executor: Sue Miller Borough of Clayton

(person that will sign the agreement)

Governing Body Name: Mayor and Council, Borough of Clayton

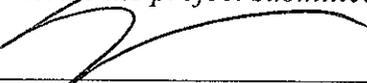
Resolution Certifier: Ms Christine Newcomb Title: Municipal Clerk

As designated representative of the above organization, I hereby agree that this project shall be implemented within the agreed upon time frame. I pledge that within 30 days after completion of the proposed project, the organization shall submit a copy of the Community Forestry Management Plan to the New Jersey Forest Service for review and approval. I understand that reimbursement by the New Jersey Forest Service will be initiated after the approval of the management plan.

Signature:  Date: 8-9-12

Person Submitting Application

As official representative of the above community or county for which the management plan is being developed, I hereby authorize the project submitted for this proposed Green Communities Grant.

Signature:  Date: 8-9-12

Mayor or County Administrator Signature,

Introduction

Since the passing of the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act in 1996, over 307 communities, in accordance with the Act, have established or are working on a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP). The New Jersey Community Forestry Program's 2012 Green Communities Grant will be awarded for communities to develop a comprehensive CFMP.

New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act

The Act, passed on December 5, 1996, allows New Jersey municipalities or counties to obtain liability protection under the New Jersey Tort Claims Act for their shade tree programs. However, in order to qualify for this protection, shade tree commissioners or other community representatives must develop a community forestry management plan for their municipality or county, as well as participate in the state's training skills and accreditation program.

Community Forestry is defined as "the planning, design, and management of vegetation on public land in and around communities to maximize their economic, social, visual, and environmental contributions to the well being of the community."

As the definition implies, a management plan is essential to successfully achieving a healthy and safe community forest. By developing and implementing a management plan for your town's community trees, the tree program can become more proactive and efficient. A plan can also lead to decreased tree maintenance and removal costs, shorter response time to citizen requests for work, and a decrease in hazardous trees.

CFMP Guidelines

The New Jersey Community Forestry Council, in cooperation with the State Forester, has developed the CFMP guidelines. Copies of the guidelines are available on the Community Forestry web site: www.communityforestry.nj.gov, click on "Information for Municipalities" then "NJ Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act", the guidelines are listed on the left-hand side of the page.

Future Grant Opportunities

Once a municipality or county has an approved plan and the appropriate training, they are then eligible to apply for funding through the Community Stewardship Incentive Program (CSIP). This grant will offer funds to municipalities and counties to accomplish their management goals and complete practices that are priorities in their plan.

Funding

The USDA Forest Service provides funding through the National Urban and Community Forestry Program. Supplemental funds, if needed, are provided by the Treasure Our Trees License Plate Fund. The grant awarded per application will be \$3,000 and this must be applied towards offsetting the cost of hiring a forestry consultant who will help develop the CFMP.

All applicants are required to provide a matching contribution. The matching contributions can come from **in-kind services** (volunteer work counts) and/or payments made. The contributions must equal 100% or more of the State's contribution or equal to 50% of the total project amount. For example; if a request of \$3,000.00 is made then a contribution of \$3,000.00 is needed for a total project amount of \$6,000.00. The matching contribution must be from sources other than the federal government.

Awarded grants will be paid as reimbursement after the New Jersey Community Forestry Council has approved the Community Forestry Management Plan and an expenditure report with invoices have been submitted and approved.

Green Communities Grant Program Goals

- To sustain healthy tree cover in New Jersey communities
- To encourage the development of new local community forestry programs
- To support existing community forestry programs
- To increase environmental, social, and economic benefits to communities by assisting local community forestry programs
- To encourage community involvement by adults and youth volunteers
- To develop partnerships with local government agencies that will encourage future support of local community forestry programs

Eligibility Requirements

Any municipal or county government agency is eligible if they agree to contribute a sum equal to or greater than 100% of the State's contribution amount of \$3,000.00. This matching contribution of \$3,000.00 may include **in-kind services where the accepted general volunteer rate is \$21.36/hour.**

- If your municipality or county does not currently have a plan or has a Community Forestry Management Plan (CFMP) that expires on December 31, 2012 or sooner, you are eligible to fund a subsequent 5-year CFMP under this grant.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

1. Only one application may be submitted per municipality or county.
2. The grant request must be less than or equal to \$3,000.
3. The applicant's match must be made with in-kind, cash, or a combination of the two in an amount greater than 100% of the State's contribution. The contribution match by the applicant must be from sources other than the federal government.
4. **One original copy** of the application form must be submitted.
5. All blanks in the application form must be filled in.
6. The application must be signed by the **Mayor or Municipal/County Administrator** and by a member of the applicant organization to indicate their support of the project.
7. The organization must be in compliance and in good standing order with all previous Community Forestry grants. Any organization that is not up-to-date or has questions concerning their status should call the Community Forestry Program at 609-292-2532.

*It is important to note that if the applicant does not meet the above minimum criteria, their application will **NOT** be eligible for funding.*

Funding Selection Process

- This grant will be awarded to communities that meet all requirements above on a first come first served basis. Preferential treatment is given to communities that are Sustainable Jersey registered or a county.
- Communities that applied for the grant before and did not complete the grant will need to be interviewed and might not be funded until other well standing communities are funded.
- Applicants that do not receive funding this year will be placed on a list and will be funded in the succeeding years according to their position date, and will be funded before the next years grant.

Award Notification

Each applicant will be notified of their final status and the amount of their award. Grant recipients will receive information on the procedure for submitting a comprehensive Community Forestry Management Plan for approval. New Jersey Community Forestry foresters and personnel are available for technical assistance. The plan shall be submitted within two (2) years of the grant execution date.

For More Information

For additional information please call the Community Forestry Program at (609) 292-2532.

Please mail to:

Mail Code 501-04
Green Communities 2012 Grant
DEP-Division of Parks and Forestry
P.O. Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Or Hand Deliver to:

New Jersey Community Forestry Program
4th Floor of Building 5
501 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625