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Hot Topic: Tennessee Department of Agriculture 2002 Urban Forestry Funding

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TN DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE 2002 URBAN FORESTRY FUNDING

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Program Introduction
The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry is accepting Urban Forestry project proposals from local governments, private organizations, public organizations, and educational institutions. Project categories for 2002 are: urban forestry personnel, program development, education/training, and tree planting.

The Division of Forestry provides financial assistance in the form of urban and community forestry grants to local governments, educational institutions, communities, and non-profit groups. Grants help local communities to develop or expand their urban forestry programs and to build lasting capabilities for managing their urban forests.

Here are some projects that this grant has recently funded:
1) Tree inventories
2) Urban forest management plans
3) Outdoor classrooms
4) Urban forestry brochures, publications, and videos
5) Educational conferences and seminars

Program Requirements
The proposal must match the grant award 50-50 with non-federal dollars, in-kind services, and/or materials. The grantee must keep accurate records for reporting, invoicing, and project documentation. Project proposals must be received in the Nashville office of the Division of Forestry by 4:30 p.m. on April 5, 2002.
Projects will expire on June 30, 2003.

Program Purposes
It is important to convincingly demonstrate the need for funding urban forestry programs. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture recommends that grant applicants include in their proposals one or more of the following purposes for funding:
1) Increasing public understanding of economic, environmental, social and psychological values of urban and community forests.

2) Improving education and technical support for proper tree maintenance and management.

3) Enhancing community sustainability with urban forestry programming.

4) Developing and maintaining an urban and community forestry information network (a network that will include various research partners and will record examples of various technological successes relevant to urban/community forestry programs).

Program Materials
To request a grant information package or get more information about the urban forestry grants, contact:
   Bruce Webster 615-837-5436
   Kay Fermann  615-837-5437
   Tom Simpson  865-908-4434.

To present the most effective grant package, we recommend that you obtain various letters of support from within your community. You should have your city council issue a resolution supporting your proposal. Your city council should include this resolution when they transmit your grant package.
For more information, please contact the MTAS management consultant in your area.

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