

TN URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM PRESENTS...

CANOPY CHRONICLES

TOP NEWS

Inflation Reduction Act: Grant Recipients Announced - *Press Release*

Twelve Tennessee communities will have the opportunity to invest in their green spaces, thanks to grant funding provided by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry (TDF) through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Grant Program.

"Trees play a key role in our lives, providing environmental, health, and economic benefits that are vital for all communities," State Forester Heather Slayton said. "This funding is important because it helps ensure those benefits are available to all areas of Tennessee."

Funding through this program, which is designed to promote the creation, protection, and enhancement of urban and community forest ecosystems, has been awarded to these organizations:

- City of Rocky Top
- General Federation of Women's Clubs
– Cookeville Food Forest
- Nashville Tree Conservation Corps
- Shelby County Government
- The Works, Inc. – Memphis
- City of Murfreesboro
- Chattanooga Breakfast Rotary Club
- City of Clinton
- City of Crossville
- City of Knoxville
- City of Memphis
- University of Tennessee Extension
– Sumner County

"Our program is committed to partnering with these awardees as they implement their projects," Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator Ashley Kite-Rowland said. "We are excited to see them engage their communities as they work to increase the availability of and access to healthy green spaces."

"Awarded projects include tree care education and training, tree planting, and creation of a food forest. TDF will provide accountability, technical support, and advice throughout the projects' execution.

A new round of funding for urban and community forestry projects will be made available next calendar year.

"TDF's Urban and Community Forestry Program works to ensure all Tennesseans experience the benefits of urban and community forests. It does this by enabling and supporting the growth, management, and sustainability of healthy forests in all Tennessee communities through outreach, education, public engagement, technical assistance, workforce development, and financial support.



GRANT APPLICATION UPDATE

The Urban & Community Forestry Program is excited to announce several new grants and an effort to simplify the application process. We are also working to revise some of these grants to better meet the needs of Tennessee communities. As a result, the application period will open a bit later than usual this year. We anticipate that applications will be available in late July or early August. Please stay tuned for the announcement in our upcoming newsletters.

Questions and concerns can be directed to Jimi Miller - james.miller@tn.gov

ARBOR DAY PROGRAMS

Tennessee is celebrating its 150th year of Arbor Day, and we are eager to get more communities involved in this milestone event. While 68 communities across our state participate in the Tree City program, other valuable programs offered by the Arbor Day Foundation are less utilized. We want to spread the word and encourage greater participation in these programs:

🌲 Tree Campus - K through 12: Currently, Tennessee has 2 schools involved in this program. Tree Campus K-12 inspires the next generation of tree stewards through experiences that bring the benefits of trees to life both inside and outside the classroom. The program fosters positive connections between youth and the trees in their community and cultivates within its participants a lifelong respect for trees on a global scale.

🌲 Tree Campus - Higher Education: There are 4 universities in Tennessee that are Tree Campuses. Tree Campus Higher Education was founded in 2008 to foster that tradition of excellence. The program provides a simple framework for colleges and universities to grow their community forests, achieve national recognition, and create a campus.

🌲 Tree Campus - Healthcare: Tennessee has 0 healthcare facilities involved in Arbor Day. Tree canopy is a critical component of community health infrastructure providing numerous benefits human health and well-being. The Tree Campus Healthcare program recognizes health institutions that make a mission-aligned impact on community wellness through tree education, investment, and community engagement.

If your community is already established as a Tree City, consider exploring the requirements for a Growth Award to recognize your city's continued commitment to urban forestry. Let's make this 150th Arbor Day celebration the best one yet!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

6/12 **USDA Forest Service Urban Forest Connections Webinar**
Learn how communities and project leaders can contract with nursery tree vendors to select, grow out, and receive high quality trees for successful planting projects.

6/22 **Boat Day** - *Jefferson Springs Recreation Area in Smyrna, TN*
A family-friendly event educates the community on the importance of water quality and boat safety. Come meet the U&CF team at this event!*

6/26 **Structural Lumber Grading Class**
The Structural Lumber Grading training will provide certification under the Tennessee Native Species Lumber Act (TNSL Act) to those attendees that pass the test.

7/27 **Urban Runoff 5k**
The race and festival at Shelby Bottoms Greenway and Nature Park showcases green stormwater management practices. Come meet the U&CF team at this event!*

8/6
8/8 **International Woodworking Fair (IWF)**
IWF serves the world's largest woodworking market with an unmatched presentation of the industry's newest technology powering machinery, materials, and learning.

8/12 **International Society of Arboriculture Conference**
8/14
The ISA 2024 Annual International Conference offers a forum for participants to learn and network with others in the arboriculture and urban forestry profession.

8/28 **Introduction to Grading Hardwood Lumber**
8/30
This introductory course is perfect for those wanting to get a basic understanding of the NHLA Hardwood Grading Rules.

9/17 **Society of American Foresters 2024 National Convention**
9/20
Travel to Loveland, Colorado, September 17-20, 2024, to learn from your peers, grow your network within and beyond the sector, and develop as a forestry professional.

10/2 **NHLA 2024 Convention**
10/4
Join in St. Louis to forge new connections, exchange ideas, and chart a course towards a future of innovation and growth.

11/13 **TN Urban Forestry Council Conference**
11/15
This year's conference will be held at the Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, TN. Join us for educational and networking opportunities.

11/20 **Partners in Community Forestry Conference**
11/21
This gathering unites individuals, communities, and organizations to explore innovative solutions, share insights, and collaborate on the future of urban forestry.

Check out these other calendars to stay up to date!

[TN Forestry Association](#)

[National Hardwood & Lumber Association](#)

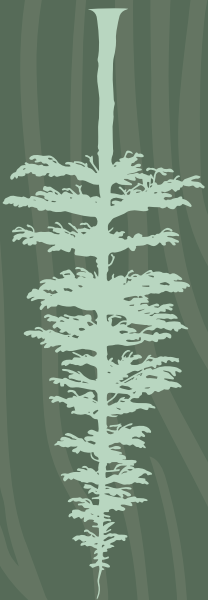
[TN Stormwater Association](#)

[TN Urban Forestry Council](#)

[International Society of Arboriculture](#)

[CLICK HERE TO ADD EVENTS TO OUR CALENDAR](#)

2024



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Chattanooga Parks and Outdoors Department -

Project Liaison

[Click here for more details](#)

Chattanooga Parks and Outdoors Department -

Natural Resources Project Coordinator

[Click here for more details](#)

U&CF STAFF

Ashley Kite-Rowland

U&CF Program Coordinator

C: 615-815-6921

ashley.kite-rowland@tn.gov

Jimi Miller

U&CF Partnership Coordinator

C: 615-487-0365

james.miller@tn.gov

Want To Add Something To This Newsletter?

If you have a story, job opening, or anything else you would like to add or comment on:

[CLICK HERE](#)