

## ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK & POULTRY COMMISSION ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD

WES WARD SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD.ARKANSAS.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/11/2017

Contact: Adriane Barnes, (501) 516-6255, adriane.barnes@arkansas.gov

## **Urban & Community Forestry Grants Open for Proposals**

**STATEWIDE, ARK.** – The Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) is accepting 2017 Urban and Community Forestry Program grant applications through November 24, 2017. Grants are available to fund community projects that develop/improve public tree management and maintenance. Grant applications and details are available at <a href="http://www.aad.arkansas.gov/urban-community-forestry">http://www.aad.arkansas.gov/urban-community-forestry</a>.

The AFC and Grant Review Committee of the Arkansas Urban Forestry Council will rank grant proposals and award funds based on criteria that includes: 1) how much the proposed project will improve a community's tree management program; 2) proposed implementation plan for the project; 3) proposed level of community involvement; 3) educational components; and 4) proposed tree care and long-term maintenance planning. Communities that participate in the Tree City, USA and/or Tree Campus USA programs will receive additional ranking points.

Urban and Community Forestry Grants are made available through federal grant funds from the United States Department of Agriculture. Examples of eligible projects include:

- Improving Tree Health
- Greenway Development Planning
- Urban Stream Restoration
- Parking Lot Improvements for Stormwater Runoff
- Tree Friendly Streets
- Park Improvements
- Communications Materials and Training

The maximum federal cost share of any project is 50% of the total expenditures for the project. The non-federal match may be cash, services, or in-kind contributions. For more information about the grant, contact AFC Urban Forestry Coordinator Alison Litchy at (501) 580-9609 or Alison.Litchy@arkansas.gov.

The mission of the AFC is to protect Arkansas's forests, and those who enjoy them, from wildland fire and natural hazards while promoting rural and urban forest health, stewardship, development, and conservation for all generations of Arkansans. The AFC is an agency of the Arkansas Agriculture Department. Learn more: <a href="https://www.aad.arkansas.gov">www.aad.arkansas.gov</a>.

###

The Arkansas Agriculture Department offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.





