

# Urban and Community Forestry

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California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



# California Urban Forestry Act of 1978

- Under the authority of the [Urban Forestry Act \(PRC 4799.06 - 4799.12\)](#) the Urban & Community Forestry Program (UCF) works to expand and improve the management of trees and related vegetation in communities throughout California.



# Urban Forestry Act-Definitions

- Defines “Urban Forestry” as the cultivation and management of native or introduced trees and related vegetation in urban areas for their present and potential contribution to the economic, physiological, sociological, and ecological well-being of urban society.
- Defines “Urban Forest” as native or introduced trees and related vegetation in the urban and near-urban areas, including, but not limited to, urban watersheds, soils and related habitats, street trees, park trees, residential trees, natural riparian habitats, and trees on other private and public properties.
- Defines “Urban area” as an urban place, as that term is defined by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, of 2,500 or more persons.

# CAL FIRE UCF Grants

- Inflation Reduction Act funding, \$30.8 million, from the USDA Forest Service available for grants.
- Possible awards range from \$150,000 - \$1.5 million.
- Regional and Statewide Impact-maximum is \$3 million.
- Local government agencies, special districts, federally recognized tribes, and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply.
- 100% of funds must be expended within the ARB criteria for being located in disadvantaged and/or low income communities determined using CalEnviroScreen 4.0 or other online mapping tools per the guidelines.
- The project area must be in an urban area, urban cluster, or immediately adjacent.
- Sub-granting is allowable.

# IRA UCF Grants

- Equipment- an article of nonexpendable, tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.
- 10% indirect cost maximum
- No post grant maintenance funds
- Advance payments may not exceed 5% or up to \$50,000 of the total project budget and must be fully utilized within a 90 period.

# Grant Types

1. Urban Forest Expansion and Improvement (\$150,000-\$1,500,000)
  - Tree planting, associated vegetation, and costs (site prep., bioswales, concrete cuttings, ed.).
2. Urban Forest Management Activities (\$150,000-\$1,500,000)
  - Municipal tree inventories, urban forest management plans, urban forest mapping and analysis, and urban forest policy/tree ordinance development or improvement, tree planting.
3. Urban Forestry Education and Workforce Development (\$150,000-\$1,500,000)
  - Development and implementation of urban forestry/arboriculture education/training programs and associated costs.
4. Urban Forestry Regional or Statewide Impact (\$150,000-\$3,000,000)
  - To fund the improvement, expansion, and coordination of urban forestry programs throughout a large geographic area or at a statewide level.
5. Urban Forest Equity Capacity Building (\$150,000-\$1,500,000)
  - To provide technical expertise, assistance, grant writing capacity and/or grant reporting support to eligible entities that may not have the capacity in-house.
6. Green Schoolyard Projects (\$150,000-\$1,500,000)
  - Tree planting, conversion or pavement to green spaces, rain gardens, natural playgrounds, food gardens, outdoor classrooms, temporary shade structures.

# UCF Grants

- Not aimed at insect or disease control or tree removal.
- Tree removal (could be used to meet match with CAL FIRE approval).
- If allowed, funding for removal and replacement of trees associated with a natural disaster, extraordinary natural event, or pest and/or disease outbreak may be eligible.
- These event types will require justification and any tree proposed to be removed must be approved in advance by a CAL FIRE Regional Urban Forester.
- Location data (GPS coordinates), species, reason for removal, and picture prior to removal must be shared with CAL FIRE during the approval process.
- Projects must show that the removed trees were replaced with a tree of similar or improved long term carbon storage and co-benefits.

# UCF Grants

- Timeline:
  - Grant workshops and office hours.
  - May 30, 2024, 5 pm - Project applications due
  - Summer 2024 - Grant agreements in place
  - March 31, 2028 - End of grant period, no further expenses may be incurred.
  - April 30, 2028 - Final documentation due.





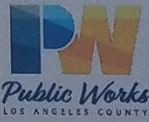



# Current Funding-Schoolyard Greening



LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

## PLANNING FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S URBAN FOREST

FUNDING FOR THIS CALIFORNIA CLIMATE INVESTMENTS GRANT PROJECT HAS BEEN PROVIDED FROM THE GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND ADMINISTERED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CAL FIRE), URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM.



Cap and Trade Dollars at Work


Public Works LOS ANGELES COUNTY

# Urban and Community Forestry Grants

Helping to create a sustainable urban forest.

The Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program strives to increase the long-term benefits trees provide, improve the public's understanding and appreciation of urban trees, and advance urban forest management and tree care. Special consideration is given to projects serving disadvantaged and/or low-income communities.

## **i** CALIFORNIA INFLATION REDUCTION ACT GRANTS

Applications are now open and will be accepted through May 30, 2024 by 5:00 PDT. [Apply here](#) .

In 2023, the UDSA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program awarded \$1.5 billion to states, projects, and national initiatives that support urban communities in ensuring equitable access to trees and their benefits via the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) under President Biden's Justice40 Initiative and Executive Order 13985. California received a state allocation of Inflation Reduction Act funds, of which \$30.8 million is available for grant projects working at a community, regional, or statewide scale in this funding opportunity.

- [California IRA Grant Guidelines 2024 - Updated April 18, 2024](#)
- [eCivis User Guide](#)
- [Find Your Regional Urban Forester - CAL FIRE Staff Contact Sheet](#)



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**SUBSCRIBE** 

## URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY LINKS

[Resources and Partnerships](#)

[CA Urban Forestry Advisory Committee](#)

[UCF Home Page](#)

# Additional Resources

- [Grant Guidelines!](#)
- [eCivis Portal | Login](#)
- [CAL FIRE Regional Urban Foresters](#)
- [Project Learning Tree](#)
- [SelecTree: A Tree Selection Guide \(Cal Poly\)](#)
- [California Grants Portal](#)
- CAL FIRE, Henry Herrera  
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(213)200-7115
- Questions?

# Thank You