

# Community IRA Grant Description

Kansas Forest Service

2024

The Kansas Forest Service is seeking local government, non-governmental and community-based organizations, and other strategic partners to apply for competitive grant funding to implement science-based community forestry efforts. The Kansas Forest Service is offering ten grant awards. The maximum award amount is \$100,000. This competitive grant funding will go towards managing trees in open spaces, greenbelts, roadside screens, parks, campgrounds, woodlands, curb areas, and residential developments increasing equitable access to the community tree canopy. These treatments will focus on publicly accessible community forests that need pruning, removal, planting, procuring plant material, and increasing the resiliency of the community forests. Extra consideration will be given to projects and programs that have long-lasting effects on underserved communities. Outcomes are trees planted, pruned, and removed.

The Kansas Forest Service is offering competitive grant awards with no match required. Project areas are required to be identified as overburdened and underserved by the [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#). Applications are due on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, by 5 pm CST. Late applications will not be eligible. Applications should be emailed to [mnorville@ksu.edu](mailto:mnorville@ksu.edu) and your local district forester. Grant funds must go towards planting, maintaining, and/or removing hazardous, dead, or dying street trees. The applicant is responsible for implementing the work either by themselves or by hiring and administering a contractor. The Kansas Forest Service will provide technical assistance to awardees. Contracted services are required to be completed by licensed, bonded, and Kansas Arborist Association

and/or International Society of Arboriculture credentialed arborists. Projects need to be completed within a two years of the award date. The estimated award date is January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

All applicants are required to include a planting plan that specifies species, maintenance and watering schedules for new trees installed after the removals. Plantings need to be at least two plantings to every removal. New trees do not need to be at the same location or on the same street as the removals. Shrubs are not considered trees for the purpose of this grant. New tree locations should ensure tree equity for all in the community. Communities should work with their Kansas Forest Service District Forester to select appropriate tree species. Applications that include ash, pin oak, and other undesirable, invasive, or overplanted species will be ineligible.

Applications, questions or comments can be directed to Matt Norville, Community Forestry Program Coordinator at [mnorville@ksu.edu](mailto:mnorville@ksu.edu).