



TOWN OF CUTLER BAY

Attachment “A”

2015 National Urban and Community
Forestry Grant Program

GRANT OVERVIEW

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Title: 2015 National Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program

Grantor: Florida Department of Agriculture

Due Date: May 1, 2015

Amount: \$10,000

Match: 50:50 cash or "in-kind"

****No more than 10% can be used for personnel.**

Category 2: Demonstration or Site Specific Projects

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS:

- Local governments
- Native American Tribal Governments
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Educational Institutions

PURPOSE:

The purpose of these projects is to establish examples of **proper urban tree planting, protection and pruning in a prominent visible location.** Projects must be conducted on non-federal public land or tribal community property. Species diversity, native species and site limitations should be considered when planning a project. Highest priority will be given to projects that demonstrate correct urban forestry principles and are conducted in highly visible areas. Additional consideration for funding shall be given to smaller, rural communities or underserved neighborhoods in larger cities.

MATERIALS:

All plant materials must meet the Division of Plant Industry's standards for a Florida Grade #1 specimen or be of equivalent or better quality.

Proposals must include a three (3) year maintenance plan at the grant recipient's expense.

Maintenance costs incurred after certification by the FFS are ineligible for reimbursement.

- A resolution signed by the owner of the property must be included in the proposal packet, which states that they concur with the proposal.
- A Grant Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement must be signed by the grant recipient, if awarded a grant.

TOWN OF CUTLER BAY

STREET TREE MASTERPLAN



PROTECTION MAINTENANCE OF STREET TREES

The initial monetary investment to plant trees and guarantee their establishment will be substantial. The several years that it takes for trees to mature and provide the desired economic, environmental and sociological effects are another form of investment that dollars can't provide. THEREFORE, THE PROTECTION AND PROPER MAINTENANCE OF TREES IS PARAMOUNT. The Town should consult with a properly trained ISA-certified Arborist to supervise the pruning of trees and act as the code enforcement officer for tree issues. This person can provide training to town staff, with the Public Works and Code Compliance Department to monitor tree health, pruning, procedures and Code Compliance.

TREE PROTECTION

Miami-Dade County, under the administration of the Department of Environmental Protection (DERM) requires a tree removal permit. It prohibits the unauthorized removal or transplanting of trees on both public and private property, and establishes criteria to mitigate for trees that are removed. It, along with the County's Landscape Code, also addresses guidelines for pruning of trees and penalties for improper pruning.

Improper pruning is a prime threat to the health, stability and aesthetic appearance of a tree, as well as the shade value provided.

These Ordinances are currently applied in the Town. The Town may want to review these ordinances and amend them to relate more directly to the Town's needs. Vigilant code enforcement is vital to make the rules count.

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPER PLANTING OF TREES

The Town intends to develop an ordinance that establishes guidelines for the selection of tree species, proper spacing and location, permitting procedure for property owners to plant trees, during it's Land Development Code re-write.

MAINTENANCE OF STREET TREES

The Town has assumed responsibility to install new trees on all public ROW's within the Town limits, including County-owned roads and those collector streets maintained by Homeowners Associations. Any tree planting on County-owned roads will require approval and permits from the County. On streets owned and maintained by Homeowners Associations, tree species and locations will be designed with input from the relevant Association. The Town will maintain street trees on all public roads.

Funds for on-going maintenance have been established as part of the Town's Public Works operating budget. Assuming that proper species are planted, no supplemental watering or fertilizing would be needed once trees are established. Ideally, the establishment period should extend for two (2) years after planting, to include watering during dry periods and fertilizing 2 - 3 times per year. Pest control would be a minimal requirement, unless a now-unknown pest or disease is introduced.

Selective pruning of shade trees and frond removal of palms will be the major effort required. Pruning is necessary both to correct structural deficiencies in existing trees, and maintain the proper growth habit on newly planted trees. Most shade trees require pruning about once every three (3) years to remove dead and crossing branches, maintain dominant leaders, and selectively thin the branches to allow winds to blow through. This helps make the trees more wind/hurricane-resistant.

An estimated cost for pruning is about \$100 per tree. A reserve fund should be established to carry on major corrective pruning after a hurricane and for replacement of some trees that will inevitably be destroyed.