



Fall 2024 NYS Urban Forestry Council Tree Campus K-12 Grant Notice

The **NYS Urban Forestry Council** (NYSUFC) is pleased to announce available funded tree planting materials and supplies for K-12 schools to become a member of NYSUFC's **TREE TEAM**, to establish a campus-based tree program and to hold a tree planting event in the fall of 2024 celebrating Arbor Day.

For the TREE TEAM program, NYSUFC will cover the cost of trees and planting materials, provide Arbor Day curriculum materials and Arbor Day Foundation official posters. In addition, each TREE TEAM school will be assigned a tree industry or urban forestry professional to assist in all elements of developing the program.

The in-kind grant is valued at up to \$500 of trees/planting materials and educational supplies.

Districts located at least in part in a Disadvantaged Community, as indicated by this NYS mapper (<https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/ny/Disadvantaged-Communities>), will be given priority consideration.

Grant Goals:

The intent of this grant is to assist schools in educating and connecting students to trees, and to move the school toward becoming recognized as an Arbor Day Foundation Tree Campus K-12.

Eligibility:

Schools are eligible if they intend to work toward Tree Campus K-12 status but are lacking any of the components of the Tree Campus K-12 USA program. The four components include:

- maintaining a tree campus team
- conducting activities that connect students with trees and their benefits
- engaging students in a project that brings the school's spirit to the community
- holding a celebration of trees within the school or community, such as an annual Arbor Day event

Details of these components and Tree Campus K-12 application instructions can be found on the Arbor Day Foundation's website, <https://www.arborday.org/programs/tree-campus-k-12/>. Awardees will receive one or more trees for planting, guidance in selecting and planting trees, and will be assigned a mentor to set up the TREE TEAM educational program.

Schools that have received a NYSUFC grant or were already certified as a Tree Campus K-12 USA are **ineligible**.



Selection Process and Award

Applications will be scored competitively and awarded from highest to lowest until the funding is exhausted.

Each application must explain clearly and specifically how the school intends to participate in the TREE TEAM program. Applications will be scored according to these criteria:

- Submission of completed paperwork for the application
- Identification of a TREE TEAM program leader at the school who is committed to managing the TREE TEAM effort
- A description of which students will participate (example: grades, clubs, etc.)
- Goals for the TREE TEAM program
- Specific plans for an Arbor Day ceremony in Fall 2024
- Date of ceremony
- Specific plans to publicize the planting event within the community
- A specific description of who will maintain the tree(s) after planting
- Consultation in preparing the TREE TEAM program application with a NYSUFC grant committee member, DEC urban forester, or Certified Arborist
- Photographs of possible planting sites

Each TREE TEAM school will provide a final report that includes a summary of efforts to date along with a description of the Arbor Day planting event, photos, copies of educational materials and event publicity and/or establishment and goals of a TREE TEAM committee or board.

Deadlines and how to apply:

Applications are due (postmarked) by **5pm on October 10, 2024** (see attached application).

Send completed applications to: **NYS Urban Forestry Council, 121 State Street, Albany, NY 12207** or via email to admin@nysufc.org. Please put all information into one attachment.

Award recipients will be notified by October 15, 2024. Awarded grant projects must be completed in the fall of 2024.

If you have questions about the TREE TEAM program, please contact a grant committee member listed in this notice. Thank you for your interest in trees and improving the environment within your school!

Sincerely,
Karen Emmerich, Grant Committee Chair
New York State Urban Forestry Council
121 State Street, Albany, NY 12207
admin@nysufc.org



Please note that this Quick Start Grant is not associated with the Arbor Day Foundation nor is it part of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program funded by the NYS Environmental Protection Fund.

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Resource Websites

- NYS Urban Forestry Council (*questions, contacts, references*) <https://nysufc.org/>
- Tree Planting resources: (*tree species selections, planting suggestions*)
<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/>
- Cornell University, Urban Horticulture Institute website (*tree species info, planting suggestions*)
<https://blogs.cornell.edu/urbanhort/>
- Arbor Day Foundation (*tree species info, starting tree boards, Arbor Day programs*)
<https://www.arborday.org/>
- NYS DEC (*Regional offices, local DEC Foresters in the Division of Lands and Forests can provide urban forestry guidance, etc.*) <https://dec.ny.gov/about/contact-us/statewide-office-information>
- National Grid's "10,000 Trees...and Growing" program (*tree species, planting suggestions*)
https://www.nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/safety/cm4494_treesafety.pdf



Tree Campus K-12 Grant Application

Up to \$500 in in-kind funding to hold a tree planting celebrating Arbor Day and to establish an educational forestry program.

Name of School: _____

Project Contact: _____

Address: _____

Email & Phone: _____

School contact, if different than above: _____

Address: _____

Email & Phone: _____

Principal or School District Official:

Signature of official: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE: *(Note that your application is scored based upon this information)*

Date of Event: _____ *(Please note that your Arbor Day event date must be held in the fall of 2024)*

Participants: List potential participants and how you will involve the public in your event. *Participation by school and elected officials will help achieve a higher application score and ensure a successful event and future support of a local program.*

Description of Project: Include a brief description of your proposed TREE TEAM project, including identifying a program leader; a description of which students will participate; goals for the program; plans for and date of an Arbor Day ceremony in Fall 2024; plans to publicize the planting event within the community; description of who will maintain the tree/s after planting; consultation in preparing this application with a NYSUFC grant committee member, DEC urban forester, or ISA-Certified Arborist. *(Mention the consultant in your application.)*

Photos: Please include 1-4 pictures representative of the site(s) where you might be planting.

Send completed applications by October 10, 2024 to:

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or via email to admin@nysufc.org (please put all information into one attachment).