

Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
Community Forestry Program – Exhibit “A”

The Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (“District”) has budgeted funds for the purpose of sharing half of the total cost of trees and planting for the public good. Applicants must provide a brief written description on how the planting will be in the public good. Applicants can be neighborhood associations, service organizations, citizen groups, business associations, villages, towns and cities. Plantings can be on public & private lands such as school grounds, parks, cemeteries, common grounds, along street right-of-ways, etc. Lands cannot be owned by the United States government, the State of Nebraska, or any political subdivision of the State of Nebraska such as counties, cities, etc.

The applicants match must be a minimum of 25% cash (private funds only, no tax funds). The other 25% match can be non-NRD tax dollars (i.e. additional grant dollars) or in-kind services for planting and tree care. ~~Maximum amount for in-kind matching for planting is up to \$100.00/tree and for tree care is \$5.00/tree/year for 3 years; i.e. \$15.00 for the 3-year maintenance agreement.~~

The District’s portion for the tree planting project is up to 50% of the total cost of trees and planting. The cost of planting of the trees will not exceed \$100.00 per tree. The District’s portion of tree planting will not exceed \$50.00 per tree. Maximum for an application for one year is \$10,000 of District funds. Each applicant can only be approved for \$10,000 every 3 years.

Participants in the Community Forestry Program are required to obtain trees through a local nursery (see Nebraska Department of Agriculture’s [Nursery Stock Distributor List](#)) and are encouraged to utilize the technical expertise of the Nebraska Forest Service, the District Forester, the nursery, a landscape architect, or a professional arborist for the purpose of establishing a plan for the planting and maintenance of the trees.

Each application must include at least three written proposals from different vendors for the cost of the trees. Planting by the vendor may also be included on the proposal. The application, planting plan and vendor proposals will be reviewed and approved by the District Forester.

Orchard Trees, Shrubs, and Ornamental Grasses are NOT eligible for cost share assistance. Standard landscape size 1 ½” stock (1 ½” – 1 ¾”) for deciduous trees and 4 – 5’ for conifer trees is the recommended size. Root maker bag trees 3 gallon to 15 gallon trees are encouraged as well. Larger stock can be planted but cost share will be based on the price of the standard size stock. All trees must be guaranteed for 1 year.

Applicants must submit a project proposal to the District which shall include the following information:

1. Identification of the applicant (person(s), neighborhood association, village, town or city) applying for the cost-sharing funds, including the name address, phone number, and email of the person coordinating the project.
2. A detailed description of the project, including:
 - a. The location for the tree plantings. Location can include before photos or drawings, a description of the existing vegetation (including trees), location of utilities such as water, sewer, electrical, and telephones lines or cable. If the trees along the street right of way are being planted, it is desirable to have the street addresses for the location of each tree. If

street addresses are not available, trees should be located on a map indicating the approximate proposed planting site.

- b. The purpose of the project and a brief written description on how the project will benefit the general public (limit of 500 words), i.e. aesthetics, energy conservation, wildlife, windbreak, street trees, tree replacement, etc.
 - c. A schedule for implementing the project plan. Include approximate date of tree planting, tree care prior to planting, and maintenance for the following 3 years.
3. A detailed description of the cost of the trees, including:
- a. The number of trees, size, species, and the price per tree. For recommended species see [Tree for Nebraska Ice Storm Recovery by Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and/or Lincoln, Nebraska's Approved Trees for the Streets](#).
 - b. The cost of planting the trees (per tree) and an identification of who will be responsible for the planting.
 - c. ~~Total cost of maintenance for the 3 year period can be included in the project.~~
 - d. The total project cost.
4. Cost-sharing information including:
- a. The amount of cost-sharing funds requested from the District. (50% of the cost of the trees, planting, ~~and 3 years of maintenance~~, excluding tax).
 - b. Set out the balance of the project funds (applicant's share) including the source of those funds, i.e. private, in-kind labor, grants, community budget, etc.

Applications will be accepted year around until available funds are expended. If applications are complete, meet all the guidelines, are on public ground and are less than \$5,000, they will be approved by the District Forester and the District General Manager. For applications above \$5,000 the appropriate committee of the District will review the application then refer the application to the Board of Directors of the District for approval.

Approved projects are required to complete an "Agreement" form. An example of the "Agreement" is enclosed.

All approved projects must be completed before June 1st. This allows the District forester the month of June to inspect the plantings and issue payment before the end of the fiscal year, which is July 1st. However, applicants need not wait until June 1st. It is best to contact the District forester as soon as the project is completed.

If you have any questions, call the District Forester at (402) 476-2729.

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING TO THE
LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT
COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM**

Areas in bold and with an asterisk * indicate these items are require for a completed application.

* **Identification of the individual(s), neighborhood association, village, school, town or city (applicant) and the coordinator of the project**

- * **Applicant:** _____
- * **Name of Coordinator:** _____
- * **Address:** _____
- * **Town and Zip Code:** _____
- * **Phone Number:** _____

* **Tree information**

# of Trees	Size	Species	Cost

* **TOTAL NUMBER OF TREES:** _____

* **TOTAL COST OF TREES:** _____

* Cost of planting the trees (per tree) with a sum for all the trees _____/tree;
Planting max \$100/tree

* PLANTING TOTAL _____

* TOTAL COST OF PROJECT _____

* AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM NRD 50% max _____

* APPLICANT SHARE TOTAL _____

* Source of Applicants share:

\$ _____ donations (source) _____

\$ _____ adjacent homeowners

\$ _____ in-kind labor

\$ _____ grant (source) _____

\$ _____ community budget

\$ _____ neighborhood association funds

\$ _____ other sources

* Identification of who will be responsible for the planting for the 3 years:

_____ village or town

_____ neighborhood association

_____ adjacent landowners

_____ landowner

_____ other (explain) _____

* Description of care for the trees from the time they are picked up at the nursery until planting is completed:

- * **Attach to the application a brief description of the purpose of the project and how it provides a public good to the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.**
- * **Trees should be located on a map indicating the approximate proposed planting site, please attach map.**
- * **Street addresses for the location of proposed trees, please attach list of location(s) NO TREES CAN BE PLANTED BENEATH POWER LINES!**

Photographs or slides depicting the situation before the project is funded.

- * **This application, planting plan, planting site, nursery proposals and public good description have been reviewed and approved by the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District Forester.**

LPSNRD District Forester

Date

COMMUNITY FORESTRY COST-SHARE AGREEMENT FOR PRIVATE LAND

This Community Forestry Cost-Share Agreement (the "Agreement") made and entered into by and among the LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, with its principal business located at 3125 Portia Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68521, telephone number (402) 476-2729, hereinafter referred to as the "District," and _____, Coordinator _____, "Address", "Phone", "Email", hereinafter referred to as "Landowner", whether one or more.

WITNESSETH:

RECITALS

- A. The District has established a Community Forestry Program (the "Program") for the purpose of cost-sharing with certain eligible persons or entities for the purchase and planting of trees on public or private land. The term "private land" for purposes of this Agreement shall mean land not owned by a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, the State of Nebraska, or the federal government.
- B. The Landowner is either a group of private landowners or a neighborhood association which entity has been determined by the district to be eligible to participate in the Program. The Landowner has also filed a proposal which has been approved by the Board of Directors or the General Manager of the District on "Date".

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above recitals and the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Landowner agrees to participate in the District's Program and further agrees to abide by the requirements of the Program, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and incorporated herein by this reference.
2. Landowner agrees to purchase certain trees, the species and size of which are specified in the Landowner's approved proposal and plant such trees in accordance with the plot plan, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and incorporated herein by this reference.
3. Landowner agrees to provide the District with a certificate of costs incurred and copies of all bills relating to the project.
4. District agrees to contribute fifty percent (50%) of the total approved costs of the project, with the District's portion not to exceed \$"Total".
5. If within ten year(s) from the date of final completion of the project, any of the trees planted pursuant to this Agreement are permanently removed from the project, replaced, or moved to a new location, without the consent of the District, or die as a result of the lack of care, then Landowner agrees to either reimburse the District in an amount not to exceed the total amount of the District's contribution, determined by the District in its sole discretion, or replaces the trees with either the same species as originally planted or some other species approved by the District.
6. The District agrees to make the District Forester available to assist the Landowner in implementing the proposal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on
"Date".

LOWER PLATTE SOUTH NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT, A Political Subdivision of
the State of Nebraska,

Paul Zillig, General Manager

Date:

(Authorized Representative) LANDOWNER,

Signature

Date

Print Name