

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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Plant Community Trees with New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Grant Funding

Annual program to provide up to \$6,000 for tree planting projects

Santa Fe, NM – New Mexico schools, universities, local, state, federal and tribal entities are encouraged to submit proposals for grant funding to plant trees through the New Mexico State Forestry Division’s Forest Re-Leaf Program, according to New Mexico Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager Kelly Washburn.

“The importance of establishing community forestry programs in our urban areas is growing every year,” said Washburn. “These projects support research that shows that well developed community forests improve quality of life, aid in economic development and beautify our cities, towns and villages.”

New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf program is an environmental education tree planting grant program that can provide up to \$6,000 for tree planting projects on public lands. Funded solely by private donations, the grants require a 20-percent in-kind match. Entities wishing to compete for grant funding must turn in completed application forms by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

Since created by the New Mexico Legislature in 1990, the Re-Leaf Program has provided more than \$550,000 in grant funding to plant over 19,000 trees throughout the state.

Grant emphasis will be on community tree planting projects including street plantings, windbreaks, park plantings, living snow fences, riparian rehabilitation, energy conservation and community green belts.

Forest Re-Leaf grants may be used for partial funding of larger projects, but cannot be used to maintain existing projects. Projects must be located on public land and show a substantial public benefit.

Grant guidelines are available at www.nmforestry.com, with a link to the New Mexico Forest Re-Leaf Program.

For more information on the Re-Leaf Program, or to make a donation to support future projects, contact Kelly Washburn, New Mexico Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager, State Forestry Division, Santa Fe, NM, 87505, telephone: (505) 476-3332; or via e-mail at kelly.washburn@state.nm.us.

Every dollar donated goes directly to the public to plant trees. **Donations can also be made on your New Mexico State Tax Return form (PIT-D).**

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