



# LAND RESOURCE HOUR

LINDSAY SUHR, OFFICE DIRECTOR, LAND ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT, CT DEEP  
DANICA DOROSKI, URBAN FORESTER, FORESTRY DIVISION, CT DEEP



**Open Space & Watershed Land  
Acquisition (OSWA) and Urban Green and  
Community Garden (UGCG) Grant  
Programs:**

**Lindsay Suhr, Office of Land Acquisition & Management**

# OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM (OSWA)

- **Purpose** – Purchase of permanent interests in land (fee acquisition or conservation easements)
- **Eligible Entities**
  - Municipalities
  - Non-profit conservation organizations (land trusts)
  - Water Companies



Diana Atwood Johnson 2022 Photo Contest Winner :  
Appreciating Their Natural Environment by Lindsay Pettinicchi

OPEN NOW UNTIL NOVEMBER 3RD

# MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT

TO A	FOR	IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED *
Municipality	Open space or Class I & Class II water supply property	65% of fair market value
Nonprofit land conservation organization	Open space or watershed protection	65% of fair market value
Water Company	Class I & Class II water supply	65% of fair market value
Municipality, nonprofit land conservation organization or water company if land is located within an Environmental Justice Community, Distressed Municipality or Targeted Investment Community	Open space or watershed protection	75% of fair market value
<p><i>* Percentages shown represent the maximum grant award. Grant awards may be reduced to a lesser percentage and/or may be subject to an administrative cap.</i></p>		

\* Max grant amount

# NEW!!!!

## REIMBURSEMENT OF INCIDENTAL COSTS

- **Reimbursement of incidental costs associated with the OSWA grant application and closing process for projects within:**
  - Targeted Investment Communities
  - Distressed Municipalities
  - Environmental Justice Communities
- **Incidental costs include:**
  - Survey Costs
  - Legal Costs
  - Appraisal Costs



# RANKING SCORE CRITERIA

DEEP has internal OSWA review team of staff across the agency to score applications based on areas of expertise. Scoring is based on 4 main areas:

- **Administrative & Community Support**

- Mapping
- Title, funding, and feasibility within timeline
- Alignment with local, State and regional conservation goals
- Support letters
- Past grant compliance

- **Public Access & Outdoor Recreation**

- Accessibility
- Public outreach
- Trail or greenway connectivity

- **Environmental Justice & Equity**

- Alignment with GC3 EJ recommendations
- Community impact
- Proximity to public transportation
- Mixed Income housing

- **Climate Change & Natural Resources**

- Forests
- Wetlands & Drinking Water
- Agriculture & Soils
- Wildlife & Fisheries

# APPRAISALS

## OSWA Grant Application **REQUIRES:**

- **1 yellow book appraisal completed – appraisals cannot be more than a year old\***
- **1 appraisal review confirming that the appraisal is yellow book compliant**

\*If applying for federal funding, the appraisal must include fee simple and easement values

# **MORE INFORMATION & CONTACT OPEN SPACE GRANT PROGRAM**

**[portal.ct.gov/DEEP-OSWA](https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-OSWA)**

**For questions, contact:**

**Allyson Clarke - [Allyson.Clarke@ct.gov](mailto:Allyson.Clarke@ct.gov)**

# URBAN GREEN & COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT PROGRAM (UGCG)

## Eligibility:

- **Applicants must be a:**
  - Non-profit
  - OR
  - Municipality
- **Project Site must be located within a/an:**
  - Distressed Municipality
  - Targeted Investment Community
  - Environmental Justice Community

**OPEN NOW UNTIL NOVEMBER 3RD**

Diana Atwood Johnson 2022 Photo Contest Winner :  
Growing Abundance of Kale by Eliza Caldwell

# PROGRAM SPECIFICS

- **Projects must create, enhance, or restore an urban public community garden or green space**
- **UGCG can fund entire projects if all expenses are compatible or compatible portions of larger projects**
  - Examples of projects or project portions that typically get funded through UGCG are green infrastructure including rain gardens and bioswales, native plantings or gardens, community gardens and walking pathways.
- **Eligible expenses generally cover materials, professional services, minor structures such as tool sheds & tools, benches, and rental equipment.**
- **50% match required –flexible in what qualifies**
  - Infrastructure expenses from a larger project
  - Donated materials
  - Donated professional services
  - Volunteer labor

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Ownership – current property deed**
- **If Co-sponsor Project Manager – current agreement b/t municipality & co-sponsor**
- **Project Description – narrative, community need, ADA accessibility**
- **Site Plan Designs – Drawings showing parcel and project proposal**
- **Plan for project operation, maintenance & stewardship**
- **Funding Mechanism – total cost and required match share sources**
- **Budget Table – item, unit and cost; grant vs. match source**
- **Consistency w/ current Local Plan of Conservation & Development**
- **Local Support Letters**
- **Past Grant Compliance**

# **MORE INFORMATION & CONTACT URBAN GREEN AND COMMUNITY GARDEN**

**[portal.ct.gov/DEEP-UGCG](http://portal.ct.gov/DEEP-UGCG)**

**For questions, contact:**

**Steven Perry- [steven.perry@ct.gov](mailto:steven.perry@ct.gov)**



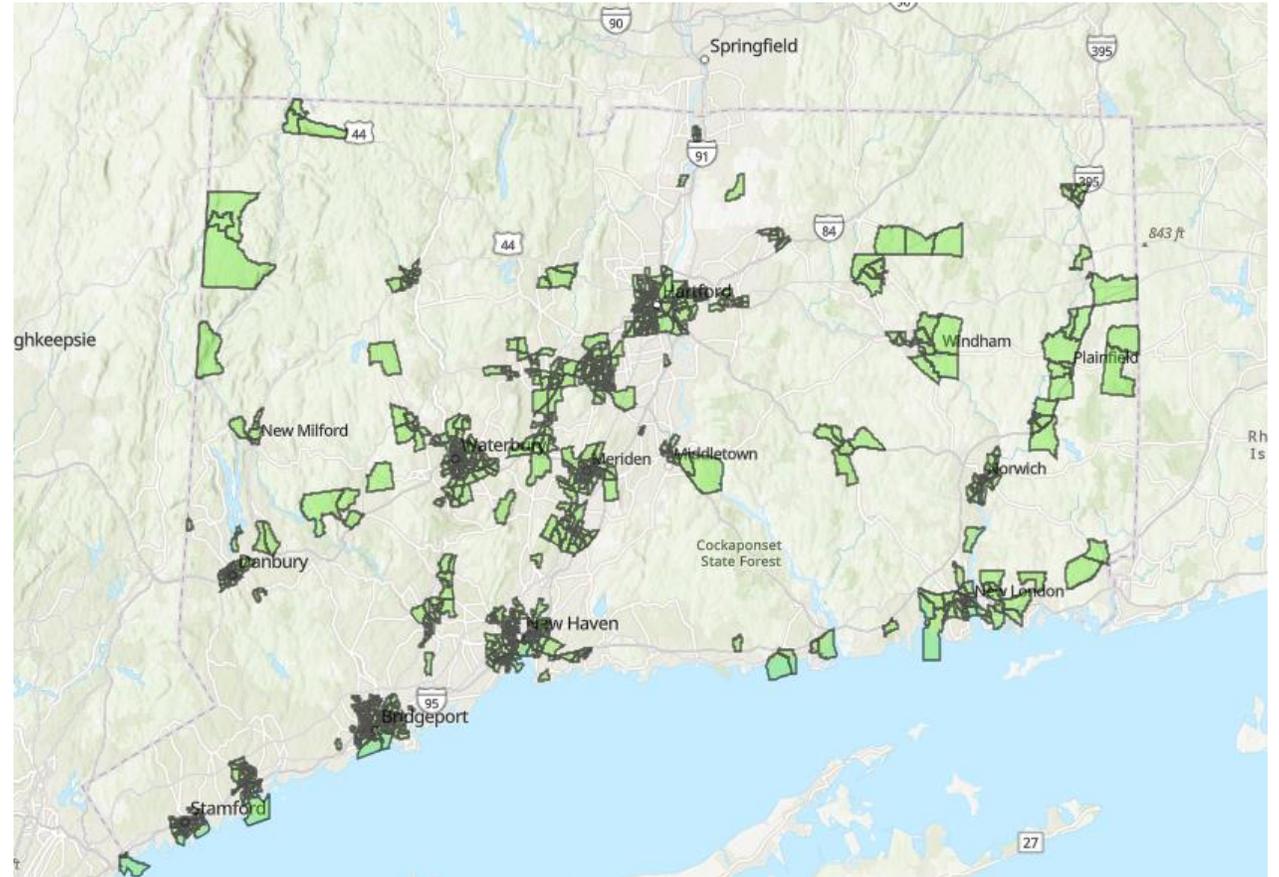


# Urban and Community Forestry Grant Programs:

Danica Doroski, Urban Forestry Coordinator

# URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS

- Multiple grants available, visit: [Urban Forestry Grant Opportunities](#) for a full list. Currently accepting applications for the [Trees for Communities Grant Program](#) **due 8/31**.
- Eligible Applicants include:
  - State or local government entities
  - Federally Recognized Tribes
  - Non-profit organizations
  - Community groups with a fiscal sponsor
- Projects must benefit communities identified in DEEP's [Urban Forestry Grant Screening Tool](#).
- Awards up to \$200,000 – **no match required**.



# URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS

---

Projects must increase tree cover or contribute to other **urban forestry objectives**.



Tree Planting and  
Workforce  
Development



Maintenance and  
Stewardship



Restoration of Urban  
Woodlands



Inventories and  
Management Plans



Education and  
Outreach



Urban Wood  
Utilization

# URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANTS

---

Les Welker, Partnership Coordinator, Urban and Community Forestry

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

79 Elm St, Hartford, CT 06106

860-424-3534 [Les.Welker@ct.gov](mailto:Les.Welker@ct.gov)



## Technical Assistance Available

- Drop-in office hours: Join here, [August 7<sup>th</sup> August 21<sup>st</sup> @ 3:30 PM](#)
- Site visits/one-on-one consultations to support development of project timelines, incorporating data, starting a budget, writing bid specs, and more!
- [Starter's Guide to Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection \(CT DEEP\) Urban and Community Forestry \(UCF\) Grants](#)

# CONTACT INFORMATION

---

Urban and Community Forestry  
Coordinator

[danica.doroski@ct.gov](mailto:danica.doroski@ct.gov)

Urban and Community Forestry Grant  
Program

[DEEP.UCF.Grants@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.UCF.Grants@ct.gov)

[Urban Forestry in CT](#)



Q&A

