



South Carolina- Exotic Pest Plant Council (SC-EPPC) Community Grant Program (CGP)

Requests for Proposals—FY 2014
Proposal Due Date – February 15, 2014

Program Description and Eligibility

The South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council is soliciting grant proposals for the control of non-native invasive plants in the State of South Carolina. The purpose of this grant is to help provide funding to organizations and individuals who are looking to restore sites degraded by non-native invasive plants on public or private lands. Proposals will be accepted from, but not limited to, individuals, public or private nonprofit organizations, as well as academic institutions.

The Community Grant Program (CGP) is intended to provide individuals or organizations with funds to complete restoration projects on sites impacted by non-native invasive species. This includes funding for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and herbicides. Each year, two projects will be funded up to \$500. SC-EPPC will also consider a single large-scale project (up to \$1000), which would result in the selection of only one organization or entity for that calendar year. Grant funds are to be used within one year of receipt.

Recipient(s) of the CGP are required to present a summary of the restoration activities at the annual SC-EPPC conference (held every September) during the year the grant is awarded. The recipients also are asked to write a brief summary article of their project for either Wildland Weeds or the South Carolina Landscape and Nurseryman Association magazine, “Nurseryman.” It also is suggested that the article be sent to local news media for coverage. The intention of this requirement is to increase public awareness of non-native invasive plant threats and the restoration activities to mitigate them in the State of South Carolina.

The Community Grant Program application form can be found on the South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council website (<http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/>).

The South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council will review all grant proposals. Applications must be received by February 15th, 2014. Award letters will be sent via email by February 28, 2014.

Evaluation Criteria

Award preference will be given to proposals that meet some or all of the following criteria:

- Involve plants listed on the SC-EPPC list of Invasive Plant Species (<http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/invasivePlants.cfm>) (early detection rapid response activities for

plants that have not yet been listed but are identified as species of concern will also be considered);

- Restoration projects that include monitoring activities (plant or wildlife) and/or native species restoration;
- Projects that include educational opportunities and promote local community awareness of non-native plants;
- Projects that make use of partnerships or local community involvement;
- First time applicants will receive priority however repeat applicants will be considered.

For questions about the SC-EPPC Community Grant Program, please contact a member of the SC-EPPC board. Their emails are located on the website at

<http://www.se-eppc.org/southcarolina/about.cfm>.