



# New Program will Enable Low-Cost Creation of **Comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plans**



[www.inlandurbanforestcouncil.org](http://www.inlandurbanforestcouncil.org)

The **Inland Urban Forest Council**, a regional affiliate of the California Urban Forests Council, has received a grant from CAL FIRE (California Department of Fire and Forestry) to assist 30 agencies/organizations that manage urban forests anywhere in California to develop their own Urban Forest Management Plan using a comprehensive, step-by-step process and toolkit developed by the council.

This process and the online toolkit provide users with:

- a comprehensive framework for developing an urban forest management plan.
- a step-by-step process for organizing the development of the plan from start to finish.
- a list and descriptions of the elements that can be included in the management plan.
- an easy-to-use project management tool to keep the process of plan development on track.
- a fill-in-the-blanks, outline-based editing tool that makes the development of a detailed plan as easy as possible, and it enables input by multiple collaborators in multiple locations.

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## Planning is Crucial for Success

Managing anything well requires a plan. Everything from running errands to building a skyscraper is easier, more cost effective, and takes less time with a well thought out plan. When someone begins a business they start with a business plan. Successful businesses regularly update their plan to use as a roadmap for continued success. The most successful businesses have a three- to five-year plan that is updated each year, to stay on track, maximize profits, and minimize the effort and cost required to achieve them.

Planning is just as important to successfully manage an urban forest to maximize the many benefits it provides those who live in it. Having a comprehensive Urban Forest Management Plan makes assuring the long-term health of an urban forest easier, less time consuming, and more cost effective—all critical issues in today's tight-funding environment.





## Get Started Now



The program begins January 1, 2012, and will result in a completed Urban Forest Management Plan for each participant by the end of October. During this period, a team of urban forestry experts will assist and coach each participant through a series of regional workshops, webinars, site visits, e-mails, and phone calls.

To be eligible to participate, each organization should have an up-to-date tree inventory for their project area. Although there is no up-front financial cost to participate, the grant requires each agency/organization selected to sign a Participation Agreement stating that it will actively engage in each of the elements of the program, complete their plan by the end of October, and share their plan with CAL FIRE and the U.S. Forest Service.



**Each agency/organization selected to participate in the program must commit to:**



- assigning a staff member to be responsible for the process.
- attending 4 half-day workshops in either Northern or Southern California (January–March–June–September).
- participating in 4 one-hour webinars (February–April –June– August).
- meeting with experts who will do 4 on-site visits for each participant (February/March–April/May–June/July–September).
- completing their plan by September 30, 2012.
- reviewing and editing their plan with the experts during October 2012.
- submitting their final plan to CAL FIRE by November 1, 2012.



To apply for this grant-funded program, please complete the following and send it via e-mail attachment to nrhsappington@me.com or mail it to IUFC, P.O. Box 8482, Riverside, CA 92515.

Name of Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Geographic area and size of forest under management:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Size of staff: \_\_\_\_\_ FT \_\_\_\_\_ PT