

United States Department of Agriculture

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NEWS RELEASE

Tennessee NRCS announces Urban Agriculture project funding opportunity

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, May 31, 2023 – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Tennessee announces a Notice of Funding Opportunity of up to \$15,000 for the development of urban agriculture and innovative production activities.

Proposals will be accepted from eligible entities for projects located in Tennessee. NRCS anticipates the total amount awarded under this announcement to be approximately \$150,000. Potential recipients can apply <u>here</u> through 11:59 pm Eastern Time June 23, 2023.

The urban agriculture project is an effort to challenge local conservation districts, non-profit organizations, non-government organizations, institutions of higher learning and other community partners to establish pollinator, urban, and community gardens across Tennessee. The simple act of planting a garden or creating a pollinator habitat can help unite neighbors in a joint effort and inspire locally led solutions to some of the challenges facing local communities within the state. Addressing hunger and health, while inspiring beautification projects, with an urban garden can positively unite communities.

Proposals are requested from eligible entities for projects with a one to two-year duration. Entity types that may be eligible under these criteria include the following:

- City or township governments
- County governments
- Independent school districts
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education)
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education)
- Private institutions of higher education
- Public and State-controlled institutions of higher education
- Small businesses
- Special district governments
- State governments

NRCS anticipates making selections by June 30, 2023, and expects to execute awards by September 15, 2023. These dates are estimates and are subject to change.

For technical issues with grants.gov, contact grants.gov applicant support at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Please visit the NRCS Tennessee website here.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy, and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities throughout America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

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