

PRESS _____ RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Urban and Community Forestry and Community Transportation Enhancement grants awarded to Idaho communities

(Coeur d'Alene...November 26). Trees along streets, in parks or around businesses and public buildings are an asset to communities throughout the state. Twenty-eight grants have been awarded by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) Urban and Community Forestry program, in an effort to educate, stimulate interest in, and assist with the development of effective and sustainable community forestry programs in Idaho.

The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) and Community Transportation Enhancement (CTE) grants were awarded to the following communities having an interest in developing a local community forestry program: **Blackfoot; Boise; Burley; Cities of Coeur d'Alene, Hayden & Post Falls; Downey; Eagle; Idaho Falls*; Inkom; Jerome; Kimberly; Lewiston; Mackay*; Malad; McCall; Moscow*; Orofino; Payette*; Peck; Pocatello; Post Falls*; Rexburg; Salmon; St. Anthony; and Star.** (Communities with an asterisk received more than one grant.)

The \$146,068 in awarded funds is expected to leverage nearly \$500,000 (in city contributions and donations). Fifty applications (up from thirty-seven last year) were received for this year's grant cycle. Under the UCF program, communities receive up to \$4,000 for projects that help

them develop or improve a community forestry program and up to \$1,500 for tree planting and/or tree maintenance projects. Communities receiving up to \$15,000 (from federal transportation funds) under the CTE Grant Program will be able to enhance transportation corridors through tree and shrub plantings. All projects are located on public land (federal, state or local government owned).

Recognizing the importance of trees, more communities are seeking ways to plan for, plant and maintain this valuable resource. In addition, to these grant programs, educational and technical materials and assistance are available free through IDL's Community Forestry Program. For information on how to receive these services contact David Stephenson @ 208-666-8621 or 800-432-4648/ communitytrees@idl.state.id.us

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