FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM
APPLICATION INFORMATION

This information is required by Authority of Part 5 of 1994 PA 451 and the U. S. Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, CFDA 10.664, in order to be considered for a grant.
Co-sponsored By: USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program

GENERAL INFORMATION

Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Forest Resources Division (FRD), in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service has established the Forest Stewardship Grants Program. Funding is federal money from the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program, and Forest Stewardship Program (FSP).

Based upon federal funding levels, grant funds will be available to FSP certified plan writers on a competitive basis for management plan preparation projects. This is a 50:50 cost-share, i.e. matching, program. The applicant's matching funds must come from Non-Industrial Private Forest (NIPF) landowners, and cannot come from other federal funds. Grants must be completed by September 30 of each year. Grant extensions will not be awarded.

The maximum amount of cost-share paid for each management plan is as follows:

- Maximum cost share = $300 + $1.25 (acre) (not to exceed $2,000).

Forest stewardship is the application of proper economic and ecological principles to the management of NIPF lands. The program's purpose is to enable individual landowners to achieve personal land ownership goals and objectives while maintaining forest ecosystems, biological resources, and the supply of forest products for future owners and society as a whole.

This is a reimbursement grant program; federal monies awarded under this program will be paid only upon evidence of completion of granted management plans and documentation showing the landowner match (minimum of 50 percent).

For additional information, contact:

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREST RESOURCES DIVISION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM
PO BOX 30452
LANSING MI 48909-7952

TELEPHONE: (517) 335-3355

BUDGET INFORMATION

Applications must include the grant amount requested (no more than 50 percent of the total project costs), and the amount of matching funds (minimum of 50 percent of the total project cost). The matching funds must be paid for by the participating landowner.

RATING CRITERIA

Submit the original application. Applications will be accepted from FSP certified plan writers. Certified plan writers are natural resource professionals who have:

- Attended a FSP Plan Writer Certification Workshop;
- Submitted a Memorandum of Understanding between the plan writer and the Michigan DNR, FMD;
- Have obtained a minimum of six (6) hours of continuing education training during the past year, and submitted the "Certification for Continuing Education Training for Certified Plan Writers" form;
- Must be on the Michigan DNR, FRD, FSP Certified Plan Writer List.

Awards will be made based upon past grant performance, fulfilling specific criteria, funding availability, and the number of applicants. If the applicant has not had a grant before, he/she will be considered equally with the other applicants.

Prior to August 1, increases to initial grant amounts may be awarded. This will be based upon grant performance and funding availability. Such requests must be made in writing to the FSP Coordinator.

In addition, several items will be evaluated in the grant awards. These are evaluations for program administration on a statewide basis, which may include geographic location. Michigan DNR reserves the right to refine or alter the criteria at any time.

SUSPENDED AND DEBARRED PARTIES

*Sec. 3016.35 Subawards to debarred and suspended parties. Grantees and subgrantees must not make any award or permit any award (subgrant or contract) as any tier to any party which is debarred or suspended or is otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension." List of debarred parties https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/.

GRANT AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

Grants cannot be awarded until the federal government confirms funding levels for the FSP. Grants will be awarded to applicants until grant funding no longer exists, and as determined by the Michigan DNR, based on application comparisons and other considerations. Each applicant will be notified of his/her status (award and allocation, or no award).

Grant Applications meriting funding consideration, but not at the requested amounts, may be offered reduced awards. Grant recipients will receive grant documents for processing following the initial notification. Grant payments cannot be made until the awarded recipient, and the Michigan DNR, FSP Coordinator, sign the grant agreements.

Grant monies awarded will be paid ONLY upon evidence of completion of FSP management plans. Management plans must be submitted to the Michigan DNR Service Forester for review and approval by September 15. Grant must be completed by September 30.

In order for payments to be made from the grant, the following must be submitted to the Michigan DNR Service Forester for review and approval:

- The FSP Land Eligibility Application and Invoice form (PR4065-3);
- The prepared management plan;
- Documentation showing the landowner paid at least 50 percent of the cost of the plan.

Recipients must comply with all applicable state and federal regulations and requirements.

Projects receiving funds must acknowledge the support of the Michigan DNR, FSP, the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Program.

Michigan DNR, FRD, reserves the right to withhold award of available grant monies.

The Michigan DNR provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both State and Federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the U.S. Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended, 1976 MI PA 453, 1976 MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan DNR, PO Box 30028, Lansing MI 48909-7528, or Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, 3054 West Grand Blvd, Suite 3-600, Detroit, MI 48202, or Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203

For information or assistance on this publication, contact FRD, Michigan DNR, PO Box 30452, Lansing MI 48909-7952.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.