



# Healthy Tree Canopy Grant Program

Leslie Alcantar Mejia, Forester - Hennepin County Environment and Energy



# Important note: Healthy Tree Canopy Grants are not for individual residents

There are not staff in this virtual meeting to answer questions about the residential program.

If you are a resident who is interested in private property ash tree removal, find information at: [beheardhennepin.org/urban-community-forestry](https://beheardhennepin.org/urban-community-forestry).



# Hennepin County Forestry

- Program Purpose
  - Improve air quality
  - Reduce impacts from EAB
  - Provide technical assistance
  - Improve tree survival rates
    - Gravel bed nursery
  - County roads and facilities
  - Outreach and Education
  - Healthy Tree Canopy Grant



# Background and goals

- Established in 2019 to provide funding to cities, affordable housing providers, schools, and non-profits to enhance county's tree canopy
- Goals of grant:
  - Combat threats to trees from invasive insects and disease
  - Promote the development of a more diverse, resilient, and equitable tree canopy
  - Support efforts to educate public on tree care and the importance of trees



# Healthy Tree Canopy Grant: Affordable housing

Up to \$20,000.

Ash tree removal and tree plantings on affordable housing properties

25% match required (ex: a \$20,000 grant award would require a \$5,000 match)



# Healthy Tree Canopy Grant: schools and nonprofits

Up to \$10,000

- Tree plantings on school or community property
- Tree-related education
- Arbor Day celebrations
- Ash tree removals and replanting
- District-wide tree inventories

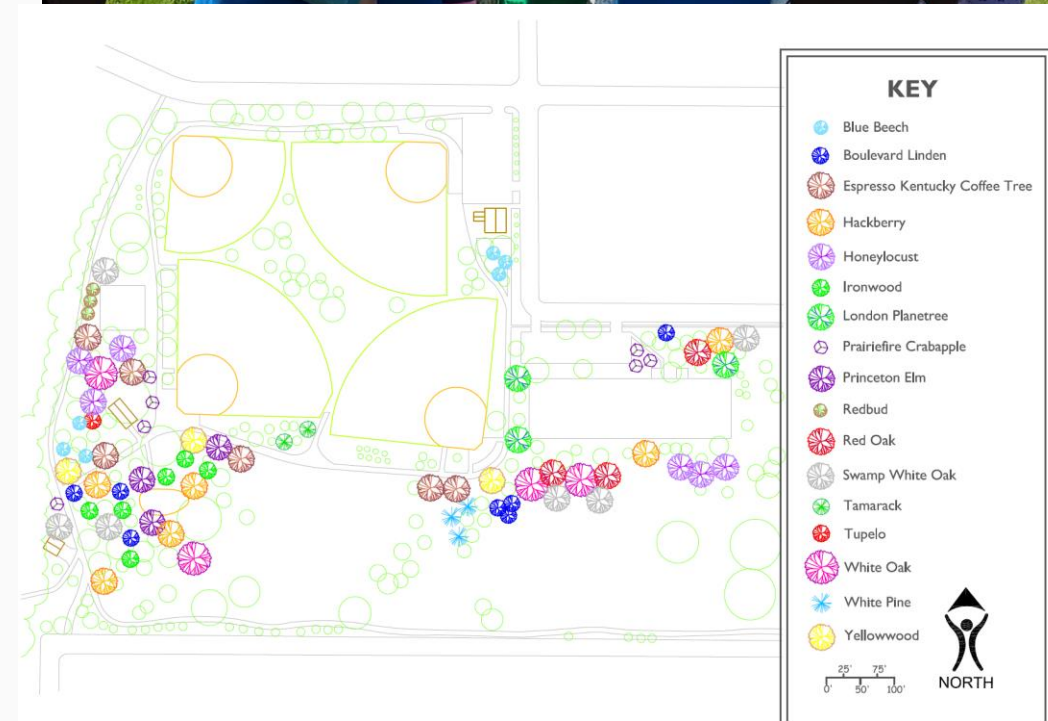


# Healthy Tree Canopy Grant: cities

**Step 1** – tree inventory (up to \$5,000)

**Step 2** – tree plantings, tree management plans, community outreach, gravel bed nursery, staff trainings, etc. (up to \$50,000)

**Both** – 25% match required (ex: a \$20,000 grant award would require a \$5,000 match)



# Healthy Tree Canopy Grant Timeline

- RFP Release: Tuesday, February 25
- Proposals due: Tuesday, March 25
- Board approval: July 2025
- Contract start: August 2025





# Questions?

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