

Cedar Falls TREES
Energy Conservation Grant Guidelines

Revised 2015

CEDAR FALLS TREES, in partnership with the Cedar Falls Utilities, provides grants to promote energy conservation through tree planting. Energy Conservation benefits our community by reducing the need for power generation and reducing the cost of cooling and heating for residents, businesses and organizations.

Who may apply:

Energy Conservation Grants are for extensive tree planting projects on property served by the Cedar Falls Municipal Electric Utility. Applications are accepted from non-profit organizations, businesses, city agencies, schools and civic groups.

When to apply:

The annual application deadline is June 1. Review of grant applications for both spring and fall plantings will begin March 1 and continue until funds are exhausted. Grants will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis, so early application is advantageous.

How to apply:

1. Complete the one-page application form attached.
2. Attach a site plan showing locations and species of proposed trees and existing trees.
3. Attach a list of trees for which funding is requested, including quantity, species, height and caliper of each, with price quotations from at least two suppliers.
4. Send the completed Energy Conservation Grant application to CEDAR FALLS TREES, c/o Cedar Falls Utilities, Post Office Box 769, Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

Funding Considerations:

- Trees must be planted on property served by the Cedar Falls Municipal Electric Utility.
- Tree species eligible for funding are limited to those included on the CEDAR FALLS TREES approved species list.
- Funding priority will be given to plantings that provide energy conservation benefits by shading and/or sheltering buildings that are heated and cooled. Strategically placed shade and windbreak plantings that promote energy conservation are ideal projects for this program. Legacy plantings that provide environmental benefits other than energy conservation will also be considered.
- Windbreaks will be considered only when located west or north of heated structures on the property.
- A proposal may be funded in part or in full as determined by CEDAR FALLS TREES.
- CEDAR FALLS TREES will pay 50% of the cost of trees, up to a maximum of \$1,500 per grant. Energy Conservation Grants fund plant material costs only; planting costs are not funded.
- Reimbursement for approved plantings will be upon receipt of bills from the applicant and documentation that the planting has been completed as presented in the grant application. Documentation may be by photograph or by on-site inspection by a member of CEDAR FALLS TREES.
- The planting site, soil and moisture conditions must be suitable for the species of trees selected.
- All plantings must comply with the City's Right of Way Street Tree Planting Policy (see below).

Cedar Falls Utilities and Cedar Falls Park Division

Right-of-Way Street Tree Planting Policy:

1. Homeowners, business and contractors are required to contact Cedar Falls Park Division for permission to plant in roadway Right-of-Way.
2. The Park Division will review individual requests to determine if the tree height, width and species are allowed by ordinance. Consideration must also be given to the existence of overhead electrical, phone or communication lines. If overhead lines exist, particular care must be taken to ensure that future growth will not interfere with overhead lines. The Park Division enforces these regulations for Cedar Falls Utilities.
3. The Park Division instructs the homeowner, business or contractor to contact Iowa One Call at 1-800-292-8989 for utility locating.
4. Any excavation for tree planting in roadway Right-of-Way must be done by hand, where Cedar Falls Utilities underground gas, water, electric or communication lines exist. A minimum horizontal separation of 36" between any gas, electric or communication line and the tree centerline must be maintained. Specific questions related to this separation requirement should be directed to the Cedar Falls Utilities.
5. Trees planted near underground or overhead lines are subject to pruning or removal should repairs to the utility systems be required. Therefore, neither the Cedar Falls Utilities nor the City of Cedar Falls may be held responsible for any damage that may occur to the trees due to the necessity of utility system repairs.
6. Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the Cedar Falls Park Division at 273-8624.

