



# Georgia ReLeaf

Mary Lynne Beckley  
Executive Director  
Georgia Tree Council

Joan Scales  
Partnership Coordinator  
Georgia Forestry Commission



# Partnership





# Grant Guidelines



[www.Gatreecouncil.org](http://www.Gatreecouncil.org)



# Funding



## **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)**

- Disadvantaged communities – CEJST
  - Match Waiver

## **Farm Bill – Cooperative Forestry**

- Any community, but disadvantaged a priority
  - 50/50 (dollar for dollar) match

# IRA Funding

Disadvantaged  
communities as  
indicated on  
Climate & Economic  
Justice Screening  
Tool (CEJST)

## Explore the map

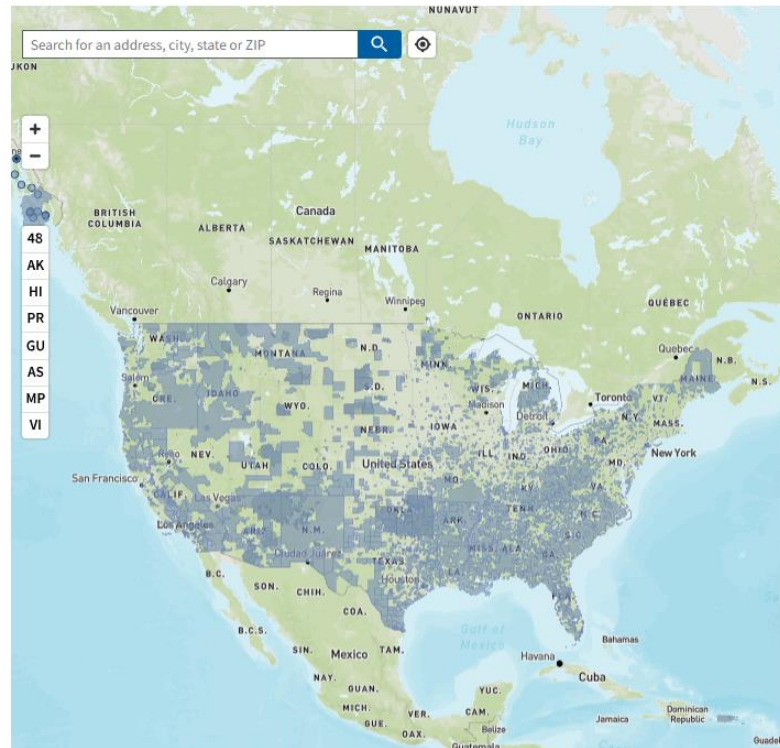
Share data sources with CEJST

Census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as being disadvantaged on the map. Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities.

Zooming in and selecting shows information about each census tract.

### Get the data

Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the [downloads](#) page.



### How to use the map:

Zoom in + , search 🔍 , or locate yourself 📍 and select to see information about any census tract.

### Things to know:

The tool uses census tracts 🗺️. Census tracts are a small unit of geography. They generally have populations 👥 of between 1,200 - 8,000 people.

Communities that are disadvantaged live in tracts that experience burdens. These tracts are highlighted 🟡 on the map.

The tool ranks most of the burdens using percentiles 📊. Percentiles show how much burden each tract experiences when compared to other tracts.

Thresholds 🎯 , or cutoffs, are used to determine if communities in a tract are disadvantaged. Certain burdens use percentages 📈 or a simple yes/no ✓ .

screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5



# IRA Funding



<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#12.48/32.61707/-83.61333>



# Program Objectives



Projects must meet at least one objective:

- 1) Tree equity in disadvantaged communities
- 2) Improve environmental, economic, and social health
- 3) Sustain community forest health and diversity
- 4) Improve planning efforts
- 5) Combat effects of climate change/extreme heat

# Eligible Projects

- Community tree planting
- Tree giveaway events
- Planting and giveaway



# Planting Projects

- Public property such as streets, parks, schools, greenspaces
- Planting plan with images of site, number of trees, species, stock size & type, etc.
- Maintenance plan for 3 years
- Endorsed by property owner (example: municipality, county, school, DOT, etc.)
- Work with GFC Community Forester




# GFC Community Foresters

<https://gatrees.org/gfc-contacts/county-contacts/>

We are here to help. Find the contact information for your county below.

[Program Contacts for the Georgia Forestry Commission on a Map.](#)

Appling 

← Search by county

Appling			
<u>County Contact</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY NAME</b> Robert Seamans</td> <td><b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY PHONE</b> 478-342-2364</td> </tr> </table>	<b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY NAME</b> Robert Seamans	<b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY PHONE</b> 478-342-2364
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Forester			
<u>Regional Forester</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us">rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us</a></td> </tr> </table>	<b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us">rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us</a>	
<b>COMMUNITY FORESTRY EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us">rseamans@gfc.state.ga.us</a>			
<u>Area Fire Management Officer</u>			
<u>Forest Health</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>UCF COORDINATOR NAME</b> Seth Hawkins</td> <td><b>UCF COORDINATOR PHONE</b> 478-951-8286</td> </tr> </table>	<b>UCF COORDINATOR NAME</b> Seth Hawkins	<b>UCF COORDINATOR PHONE</b> 478-951-8286
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<u>Forest Inventory and Analysis</u>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>UCF COORDINATOR EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us">shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us</a></td> </tr> </table>	<b>UCF COORDINATOR EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us">shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us</a>	
<b>UCF COORDINATOR EMAIL</b> <a href="mailto:shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us">shawkins@gfc.state.ga.us</a>			
<u>Stewardship</u>			
<b>Urban and Community Forestry</b>			
<u>Water Quality</u>			
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			

# Giveaway Projects

Distribution of small, containerized (1-15 gallons) trees  
and educational materials

Provide details of distribution plan:

- Number and species of trees distributed
- How will recipients be selected
- How will event be promoted or marketed
- How and where will trees be distributed
- How will education information (publications, videos, species fact sheets) be given to recipients
- How will zip codes or planting locations be collected from recipients
- How will trees remaining after event be distributed





# Ineligible Projects



- Beautification projects
- Community orchards/food forests
- Landscaping for new/recent construction projects
- Trail construction/maintenance.

Food forests and larger plantings may be eligible to apply through GFC's Trees Across Georgia (TAG) grant program which will be available in August 2023.



# Eligible Organizations



- Local Governments
  - Counties
  - Cities
  - Towns
- Nonprofit organizations
- Educational Institutions
- Tree boards/Community or civic groups [non 501(c)3] in partnership with local government or non-profit organization
- **All applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and FEIN (Federal Employer Identifier Number)**
  - Sam.gov
  - Do not need to register, just obtain UEI



# Grant Funds and Match



- Requests for funds should not exceed \$15,000
  - Can be used for trees, watering or staking materials, delivery fees
  - Most installation costs should be part of match, but will consider professional installation costs if needed
- 100% disadvantaged funded by IRA – no match required
  - Need to provide screen shot from CEJST showing the disadvantaged tracts (where planting will take place or where you will focus tree giveaway)
  - Also need to provide written justification



# Match Funds



- If project is not providing 100% of benefits to a disadvantaged community, your application must include a dollar for dollar match
  - \$10,000 grant award requires \$10,000 match, so total cost of project = \$20,000
- Match can be in the form of:
  - Cash or In-kind Contributions
  - Can not be from Federal funds, GFC staff time or funds allocated to another project
- Include letters of support in application



# Match



- Cash match must be used for project expenses
  - Submit receipts with final report
- In-kind contributions
  - Value of donated goods or services (ex: load of mulch from EMC, printing company donates signage)
  - Value of equipment used (ex: 4 hours of tractor usage to dig holes and move mulch)
  - Value of staff or volunteer time
    - Use wage rate for paid staff
    - Use Independent Sector rate for adult volunteer time, federal minimum wage for children
    - Have sign-in sheets that collect volunteer name and contact info
  - Submit sign-in sheets, receipts, or other documentation with final report



# Timeline



- August 31, 2023, 5 pm – Application Deadline
- September 30, 2023 – Applicants notified
- March 30, 2024 – Project completed, Final Reports due
  - Forms for Final Reports will be sent to recipients
  - Final reports should include before & after pictures, results, final reimbursement request and documentation of all expenses and match



# Resources and Submittable



- Resources (publications, fact sheets, videos, websites, etc.) listed on Grant Guidelines
- GFC will provide copies of Tree Owners Manual and species fact sheets (recipient will need to print copies)
- Apply using Submittable grant platform



# Submittable



<https://gatreecouncil.org/what-we-do/georgia-releaf.html>



# Resources



Mary Lynne Beckley

[marylynne@gatreecouncil.org](mailto:marylynne@gatreecouncil.org)

478-210-5900

Joan Scales

[jscales@gfc.state.ga.us](mailto:jscales@gfc.state.ga.us)

478-733-2604