Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program

BACKGROUND

The Community Wildfire Defense grant aims to fund revision or development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), or the implementation of projects described in a CWPP. This grant program supports the goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy:

- Establishing fire adapted communities
- Restoring resilient landscapes
- Fostering safe and effective response to wildland fire

The Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program is funded through the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA), which will provide $1 Billion in funding over 5 years. Funds are awarded through a competitive process. These funds are used for projects on non-federal lands and cannot be used to compensate federal labor or expenses.

CONTACT

CWDG Coordinator

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COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN PROPOSALS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING INTENT:

- CWPPs must collaboratively help identify community risk and resilience to wildfire, formulate a plan to reduce risk, prioritize fuel reduction efforts, and address measures to reduce structural ignitability.

GRANT AMOUNT & MATCH

- Budget requests should be $250,000 or less.
- Requires a 10% match, calculated as a percentage of total grant funds requested.

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE DEFENSE IMPLEMENTAITON PROPOSALS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING INTENT:

- Protect communities through outcome-driven, cross-boundary, innovative projects that align with priority areas identified in the Montana Statewide Wildfire Risk Assessment.
- Qualifying projects should fall into one or more categories:
  - Reduce hazardous fuels on non-federal land
  - Fire adapted community prevention and education

GRANT AMOUNT & MATCH

- Budget requests must be $10 million or less.
- Requires a 25% match, calculated as a percentage of total grant funds requested.

The funding for this program is derived from a federal award of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. This institution is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.
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