



LES MEHRHOFF PLANT BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION GRANT

Introduction

Dr. Leslie J. Mehrhoff worked tirelessly to preserve plant biodiversity in Connecticut, New England and beyond through his work with invasive species and rare and endangered plants. He was the founder of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG), and served as Director of the Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE). Les also worked for the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UConn as the curator of the George Safford Torrey Herbarium. As a naturalist, Les was active in numerous conservation organizations including the New England Wildflower Society, the Connecticut Botanical Society, the Torrey Botanical Club, and many, many others. His dedication to the preservation of natural communities through the knowledge, control and eradication of invasive species plays a pivotal role in the understanding of wetland science which the Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists (CAWS) strives to promote. CAWS is pleased to announce a \$1,000.00 annual grant in Les' honor which is aimed at protecting the plant communities of Connecticut.

Grant Objective

CAWS is seeking to provide support for on-the-ground preservation efforts or invasive control efforts conducted by non-profit, community groups, or individuals directed at preserving plant biodiversity within Connecticut. The recipient/group need not be a member of CAWS in order to apply. Ideal candidates would include Land-Trusts, Garden Clubs, Citizen & Student Conservation Organizations and related groups.

Size and Use of Grant

The grant amount is \$1,000. The grant is intended to aid on-the-ground control and/or preservation efforts for plant communities within Connecticut. Funds provided are intended to be used for direct implementation actions. This grant is not directed toward research. It is expected that the funded project will include a monitoring component to evaluate its efficacy.

Awarding of Grants

The CAWS Selection Committee will award the grant on the basis of:

1. statement of need
2. goals of the project
3. implementation plan
4. ecological benefits
5. monitoring plan/success criteria

Limitations:

1. Applicants must certify on the application, that if the funding will (or may) support the chemical control of invasive species, that the parties conducting the spraying are appropriately licensed by the state of Connecticut to apply pesticides. Applicants must certify that any required federal, state, or local permits which may be required are obtained prior to the implementation of project goals associated with grant funding.

Application Procedures

To apply, submit only the following:

- Application Form (type or print neatly on the attached form) identifying person responsible for the implementation of the proposed project;
- Statement of Need that includes the title, project objective, proposed start and finish dates;
- Description of the proposed site, including the target species, natural community, or critical habitat, history of the impact of invasive species on the target species or community, and site ownership/access permissions;
- Description of the proposed work plan, detailed methods of invasive species removal practices to be employed, safety precautions to be used to protect existing vegetation within the treatment area, any proposed acquisition actions for property (if applicable), and monitoring protocols for the effectiveness of the proposed action;
- Project budget;
- List of any land use permits which may have already been issued related to the proposed action;

Send the application either by email (preferred) to: wetlands@ctwetlands.org or Mail Application to:

Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists
Mehrhoff Grant Committee
C/O Cynthia Rabinowitz
PO Box 365
Bethlehem, CT 06751

Applications must be postmarked or emailed by March 1, 2012. Applicants will be notified by the Selection Committee by March 12, 2012, and the successful recipient's name and project will be announced at the CAWS annual meeting on March 22, 2012. The recipient will be asked to submit a project report and expenditure summary at the completion of the project. The recipient will also be asked to present the project at the next annual CAWS meeting (either in short oral presentation, or a poster presentation). If the recipient is not available to present the project at the next meeting, he or she must notify the current CAWS president at least three months prior to the next meeting.



**APPLICATION FORM
LES MEHRHOFF PLANT BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION GRANT**

Application Deadline – March 1, 2012

Email (.pdf format preferred) to: wetlands@ctwetlands.org

or

Mail Application to:

Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists
LES MEHRHOFF PLANT BIODIVERSITY PRESERVATION GRANT Committee
C/O Cynthia Rabinowitz
PO Box 365
Bethlehem, CT 06751

Applicant Information

Name(s) _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Project Information

Project Title _____

Duration of Project: From _____ To _____

Total Project Budget _____

To Whom Funds Should Be Paid _____

How did you hear about CAWS _____

Application Checklist:

(attach only materials listed below and adhere to page and word limits)

- application form (2 pages)
- one page project summary (limit to 400 words)
- one page income and expense report
- two (2) photographs of the project site/area
- certification for proper pesticide use

Application Deadline: Postmarked or emailed by March 1, 2012

Application Certifications (applications will not be accepted without the endorsement of these certifications)

I/We agree to recognize the Connecticut Association of Wetland Scientists (CAWS) as having supported this project, and to submit a project report and expenditure summary at the completion of the project. I also agree to present the project at the next annual CAWS meeting. If I am not available to present the project at the next meeting, I will notify the current CAWS president at least three months prior to the next meeting.

Initials _____

I/We certify, as a recipient of the Les Mehrhoff Plant Biodiversity Preservation Grant, that any funding from this grant which is used for the application or use of pesticides will comply all State of Connecticut pesticide application rules and regulations, particularly for the use in and around wetland and watercourse areas.

Initials _____

I certify, as a recipient of the Les Mehrhoff Plant Biodiversity Preservation Grant, that I/We will obtain any/all relevant land use permits from Federal, State, or Local agencies prior to implementing any proposed actions associated with funding resulting from this grant.

Initials _____

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)