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Department of
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PRESS RELEASE

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State forestry offers grants for projects to reduce water pollution

(Anchorage, AK) – Organizations wanting to implement stormwater mitigation and green infrastructure projects in their communities can now apply for a grant from the Division of Forestry’s Community Forestry Program (CFP) to help reduce pollution in natural water bodies.

With funding from the U.S. Forest Service, the CFP has grants for projects such as planting trees, building rain gardens and bioswales, installing permeable pavers, building green roofs, or other projects that will help mitigate storm runoff.

“The goal is to increase resilience due to extreme weather events and filter and remove pollutants that would otherwise enter natural water bodies,” said CFP manager Jim Renkert with the Division of Forestry. “These projects will help make our streams, lakes and ponds cleaner, which will improve fish, plant and wildlife habitat.”

Organizations may apply for up to \$15,000 to fund these projects. The CFP will distribute approximately \$30,000 to organizations during the 2022-2023 field seasons.

Groups eligible to submit project proposals include all non-federal organizations, state agencies, local governments, Cooperative Weed Management Areas, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, registered non-profits, local communities, and Alaska Native organizations. For more information about green infrastructure projects, go to <https://www.fairbankssoilwater.org/resources-green-infrastructure.htm>.

The deadline to apply is February 28, 2022. For applications and instructions on how to apply, go to the Division of Forestry’s Community Forestry Program website at <http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/grants>.

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Photo captions – credit Alaska Division of Forestry

Rain barrel – A rain barrel is set up to capture water runoff from a roof at a business in Fairbanks.

Rock garden – A rock garden in Fairbanks helps to capture and filter storm water runoff.