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Grants available for community orchards and food forest projects

(Anchorage, AK) – The Division of Forestry's Alaska Community Forestry Program is offering grants to support the testing and demonstration of fruit trees, and possibly nut trees, that can be grown in Alaska. Trees may be planted in an orchard or in public landscapes throughout a community. These projects will help the Community Forestry Program evaluate the success of different fruit trees and community orchard and food forest models, share results and make recommendations.

Grants may fund a traditional orchard or a food forest that mimics a natural forest ecosystem. Food forests include trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals to create the layers found in a forest. They produce a variety of foods, improve the soil, attract pollinators, and provide a diversity of habitat.

Individual grants will be in the \$1,000-1,250 range. For information, see the Request for Proposals, Application, and Grant Report form at <u>http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/grants</u>

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