

Composting and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) Pilot Project

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

June 17, 2022

<u>Agency:</u> US Department of Agriculture	<u>Bureau:</u> Natural Resources Conservation Service
<u>Application Deadline:</u> September 1, 2022	<u>Max Award:</u> \$250,000

Description

The purpose of the CFWR program is to enter into cooperative agreements with eligible entities to develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans. Projects can be located in all community types including rural, urban and suburban.

Eligible Recipients

1. City or township governments
2. County governments
3. Independent School Districts
4. State-designated Indian Tribes
5. Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
6. Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally-recognized tribal governments)
7. Special district governments
8. Municipal Governments

Any award made pursuant to this NFO will be made to a single entity. Applicants that apply as “partnerships” or other similar groupings must clearly describe the relationship between the applicant and the partner entities. In all but exceptional cases, it must be reflected in the award as an awardee/sub awardee relationship.

Matching Grant Requirements

25% cost share requirement

Eligible Projects

This program provides financial assistance to eligible entities to carry out activities for one or more of the following purposes. While applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that meet more than one of the objectives below (inclusion of multiple objectives will be considered when ranking proposals), OUAIP will accept proposals that address at least one of the following:

- Generate compost.
- Increase access to compost for agricultural producers.
- Reduce reliance on, and limit the use of, fertilizer.

- Improve soil quality.
- Encourage waste management and permaculture business development.
- Increase rainwater absorption.
- Reduce municipal food waste; and
- Divert residential and commercial food waste from landfills.

In addition to meeting one or more of the above purposes, applicants are encouraged to align their project proposals to address priorities on environmental justice, racial equity, climate, invest in disadvantaged communities and climate smart agricultural practices.

Applicants should plan their projects based on an estimated project start date of February 08, 2023 and be two (2) years in duration.

New or Existing Program

Existing program - formerly known as Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CCFWR) pilot projects

Tips for Being Competitive

Priority will be given for each of the following elements that are included in a project:

- Anticipate or demonstrate economic benefits for the targeted community;
- Incorporate plans to make compost easily accessible to agricultural producers, including community gardeners, school gardens, and producers;
- Integrate food waste reduction strategies, including innovative food recovery efforts such as, but not limited to, food gleaning, storage, and preservation techniques; and
- Include a robust plan that describes collaboration with multiple partners.

Labor Requirements

None stated

Examples of Prior Award Recipients

In FY2021, the City of Cincinnati, OH received funding for a Cincinnati Community Composting Collaborative. This project will develop multiple small and medium scale (<500 sq/ft) decentralized community composting and food waste drop off sites across the City, utilizing city facilities, community gardens/orchards, and existing compost businesses/non-profit partners to collect vegetative food scraps and create compost to be utilized at multiple urban agriculture sites throughout the City and beyond.

Agency Contact

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Upcoming Webinars and Information Sessions

USDA posted a pre-recorded webinar that can be viewed on [YouTube](#).

**Types of Partners
Required**

One of the Merit/Technical Criteria for application evaluation is the “ quality of the plan for collaborating with multiple partners, including public or private entities, nonprofit or for-profit entities, academic institutions (including minority-serving colleges and universities), and/or other appropriate professionals, community-based organizations, and local government entities to achieve project objectives and outcomes.” Strong applicants will list two or more partners from diverse disciplines and expertise to achieve project objectives and outcomes. Partners from a wide range of organizations are encouraged in order to join strength and skills.

Total Allocation

\$10.2 million

**Anticipated Award
Date**

The estimated timeline is to make selections by October 30, 2022 and execute awards by February 08, 2023.

**Link to Grant
Opportunity**

- [Grant Opportunity on Grants.gov](#)
- [USDA Program Page](#)