

A photograph of a forest floor covered in vibrant green moss and fallen brown leaves. In the background, several tall, slender trees stand against a soft, out-of-focus light. A large, flat rock is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

2022 OCPR/OC Cisma Community Treatments: Funding Guidance

Overview

- 2022 funds are approximately \$250,000
 - Much higher in 2022 than it will be in subsequent years because of 2021 funds
- Projects should:
 - demonstrate best practices
 - treat high priority species
 - increase community awareness
 - and/or improve habitat
- Funds are not meant to be inclusive of all invasive species related projects, communities should strive to allocate dedicated funding to invasive species management and habitat improvement





Overview Cont.

- Any municipality or CISMA member can apply
 - Can be completed on private or public lands but **applicant** must manage the project with CISMA
 - E.g. CISMA will not coordinate directly with homeowners associations. They can apply via their local CVT though.
 - Projects can involve the same kind of project in multiple locations
 - E.g. Knotweed treatments across a community submitted as one project.
- Funds are not distributed directly to communities. *Projects* are funded and OC CISMA/OCPR will utilize county contracts/processes to execute work.
- OC CISMA can utilize a portion of funds for OC CISMA strategic goals
 - E.g. Phragmites/knotweed roadside treatments

Schedule

- Google Form sent to CISMA Members/posted online **Mid-July and mid-November** (annually)
- Projects submittal deadline **Mid-September and mid-January** (annually)
- Project selection announced **Mid-November and mid-March**
- Projects must be completed within approved fiscal year (October 1-September 31).
 - Projects/funds do not roll over!



What projects are eligible?

Each applicant can request up to 2 projects per category per year (6 total)

- Prevention
 - Boot brush stations
 - Detection or monitoring of new/priority species
 - Purchase of outreach materials (AIS signage, etc.)
 - Ordinance review/implementation
- Treatment
 - Treatment of priority species
- Restoration
 - Prescribed burning
 - Winter mowing
 - Native landscape conversion
 - Native seeding
 - Native tree planting
 - Planning or design of project



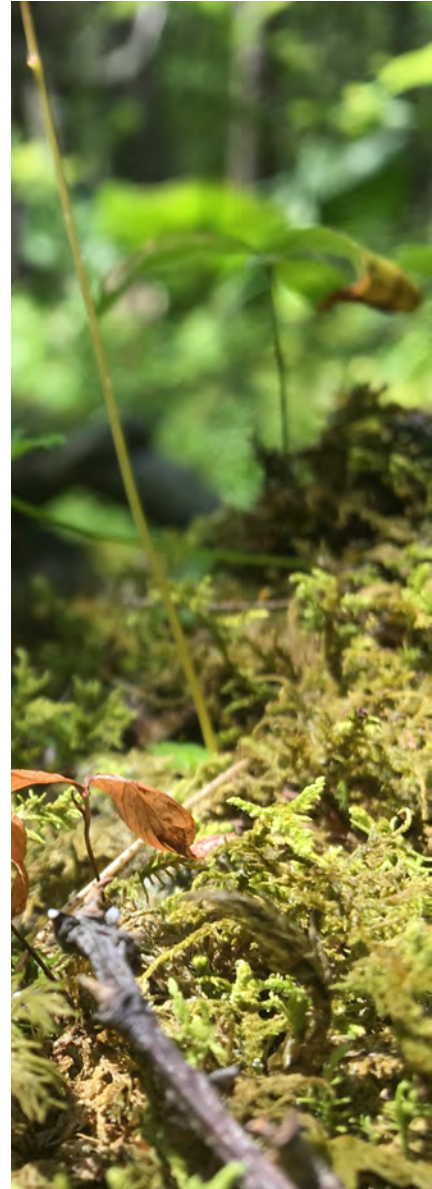
How projects will be selected

1. Municipalities/CISMA members will submit complete project requests (<https://forms.gle/t3RKNNob1EbVnSMH6>)
 - a. Provide as much information as possible!
2. OC CISMA/OCPR staff will initially subdivide projects to be completed by:
 - a. Staff (CISMA crew) OR
 - b. Contractors
3. Contractual projects will be quoted with OCPR existing blanket contracts
4. OC CISMA Treatment Subcommittee will evaluate all projects using the prioritization criteria and a Prioritized Project List will be created for all projects
5. The Prioritized Project List will be sent back to OCPR for review and approval by the OCPR Commission



What gets funded?

- Projects will be approved/selected in the order they appear on the Prioritized Project List, up to the funding total
 - OCPR may right-size projects and maximize equity
 - Example: Unlikely to fund 2 huge projects vs. a smaller number of projects
 - If initially “selected” projects cannot be completed the next project(s) on the list will be funded.
- Initially approved/selected projects may not be completed due to factors outside of anyone's control (weather, contractor scheduling, etc.)
 - Those projects will be prioritized at the top of the following years list (no need to re-apply)
 - All other projects will need to re-apply



Scoring: All projects

- Factors that will improve scores:

- New projects
- Previous successful collaboration with CISMA
- CISMA members in good standing
- Reasonable
 - Timeline (within fiscal year, reasonable for style of project)
 - Scope
 - Budget
- Maintenance and/or monitoring plans
- Project oversight is reasonable for OCP/OC CISMA staff



OC CISMA/OCPR Project Prioritization Criteria			
EVALUATION SCORING CRITERIA		Project Title	
Background	Score 0-5	Section Weight	Weighted Total
Applicant provided adequate contact information and description of the project (5= complete and thorough, 3= mostly complete but some information missing, 0= information not complete, project cannot be evaluated)			
Project applicant is a current CISMA member in good standing (5=yes, 3= no, but applicant has no ability to influence membership, 0=no)			
TOTAL	0	0.15	0.00
Project Benefits	Score 0-5	Section Weight	Weighted Total
TREATMENT ONLY: Project addresses a high priority species (EDR, State or CISMA priority species list). (5=definitely, 3=somewhat, 1=low priority, 0=not a priority)			
TREATMENT ONLY: Project will result in improvements to a high quality and/or rare natural community, or significant vector to a high quality and/or rare natural community, or provides significant habitat for rare or unique wildlife or wildlife migration. (5=definitely, 3= improvements to medium quality or underutilized vector, 1= improvements to degraded habitat or insignificant vector)			
RESTORATION OR PREVENTION ONLY: Project will result in improvements to a high quality and/or rare natural area/community or is highly visible to the public (5= improvements to high quality/highly visible site, 3= improvements to medium quality or medium visibility site, 1= improvements to low quality or low visibility site)			
RESTORATION OR PREVENTION ONLY: Project will provide ecological benefits to surrounding natural or human communities (5= tangible benefits provided, 3= incidental benefits may be provided, 0= no measurable benefits identified)			
TOTAL	0	0.35	0.00
Project Importance and Maintenance	Score 0-5	Section Weight	Weighted Total
Project has a reasonable timeline and scope (5= project can be completed within timeline listed and/or OCPR fiscal year and scope will address project objectives, 3= project timeline is unknown or longer than funding period and/or project scope will address some project objectives, 0= project timeline is too long or confusing and/or scope does not address project objectives)			
Future maintenance and/or monitoring is identified and funded (if necessary) (5=yes, 3= partially, 0= no)			
This project has been funded previously (5= no, 3= yes, but additional funding from OC CISMA/OCPR is reasonable, 0= yes, project should continue to be funded through alternate sources)			
If applicant previously applied for CISMA funding did the applicant assist in completing project objectives (5= haven't previously applied or were successful, 3= partially assisted 0= didn't participate/objectives were not met)			
TOTAL	0	0.30	0.00
Budget and Implementation	Score 0-5	Section Weight	Weighted Total
Project budget is reasonable within funding constraints (5= OCPR has adequate funding for project in fiscal year, 3= project can be modified to meet funding constraints, 0= project funding exceeds funding available)			
Project oversight is reasonable for OCP/OC CISMA staff to ensure success (5= OCPR has contractors and staff available for the style of project proposed, 3= OCPR can bid contracts or amount is low enough to hire contractors, 0= contractors not available and/or staff cannot provide project management)			
TOTAL	0	0.20	0.00
TOTALS	Section Totals	Section Weight	
Background	0.00	0.15	
Project Benefits	0.00	0.35	
Project Importance and Maintenance	0.00	0.30	
Budget and Implementation	0.00	0.20	
SECTIONS TOTAL SCORE	0.00	1.00	



Scoring: Project Specific

Treatment projects

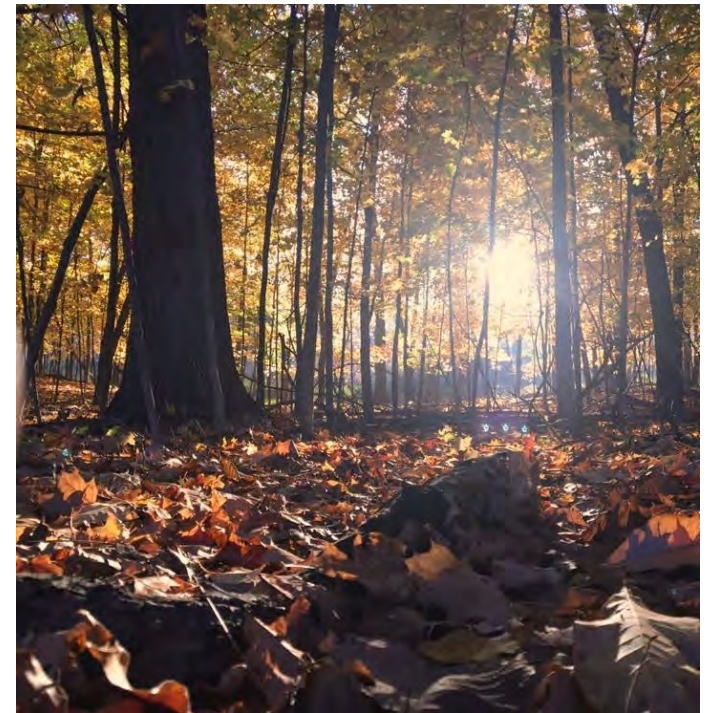
- Address **high priority species**
- Improve **high quality/rare natural community**, or significant **vector** to a high quality and/or rare natural community; or provides significant **habitat for rare or unique wildlife or wildlife migration**.

Restoration and Prevention projects

- Project will result in improvements to a **high quality and/or rare natural area/community** or is **highly visible to the public**
- Project will provide **ecological benefits** to surrounding **natural or human communities**

Applicant Responsibilities

- Reply in a timely manner to messages from OCPR/OC CISMA staff.
- Communicate and obtain necessary permissions from the property owner(s) and/or neighbor(s)
- Attend project walk throughs
- Complete project maintenance such as sign installation and maintenance, watering of seeds/trees/native plants and other maintenance (i.e. follow-up treatments).
 - Specific guidance about required maintenance for each project type will be provided.
- Promote the project funding source through installation of small signage provided by OCPR at the project location and promote the projects through newsletters, social media or other relevant communication channels.



OCPR/OC CISMA Responsibilities

- Retain contractor(s) and provide all project related oversight in the areas of:
 - Bidding and payment
 - Permitting
 - Scheduling
- Follow best management practices
- Communicate schedule requests to applicants in a timely matter for approval and discussion



Project Examples

- A local city has garden beds in front of City Hall they would like to convert to a pollinator garden
 - Measure the area, seek internal approvals, apply for restoration funding
- 3 homeowners associations have complained about phragmites in their neighborhoods
 - Collect permissions from all affected landowners and apply for treatment funding
- A community trail would like to install boot brush stations at all their primary entrance points with signage
 - Ensure all landowners have provided permission and apply for prevention funding
- You have something that looks “bad”
 - Call Erica or Kegan for a site visit! OC CISMA/OC Parks staff will help you scope projects and techniques



