



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Headquarters

2901 West Truman Boulevard, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0180

Telephone: 573-751-4115 ▲ www.MissouriConservation.org

SARA PARKER PAULEY, Director

Missouri Department of Conservation Volunteer Fire Assistance Matching Funds Grant

*If you are no longer the chief of this Fire Department,
please forward this application to the current fire chief.*

Dear Fire Department Cooperator:

This grant offering is for fire departments wishing to apply for a Volunteer Fire Assistance Matching Funds Grant. The application form is enclosed. In order to be eligible for funding, completed applications must be submitted to the Forestry Section and/or postmarked by **Friday, October 14, 2022**.

Guidelines for the Volunteer Fire Assistance Matching Funds Program are as follows:

1. Grant funds are available to organize, train, and equip fire protection units in rural areas for the purpose of saving lives, protecting property and suppressing wildland fires.
2. Grant funding will be awarded for 50% of approved purchases with a maximum reimbursement of \$4,000 and a minimum of \$250. This means that if approved, your department must spend \$8,000 to receive the \$4,000 maximum, and \$500 must be spent in order to receive the \$250 minimum. Fire department funds must be available and committed when application is made.
3. Fire departments which have a completed and MDC-approved *Community Wildfire Protection Plan* (CWPP) will be eligible for an additional \$500. Grant funding will be awarded as stated in item 2 above, but the maximum reimbursement will be \$4,500 (fire department must spend \$9,000 to receive \$4,500 reimbursement). *Note: to be eligible, fire departments must include a copy of their MDC-approved CWPP containing all approving signatures along with the grant application.*
4. Only communities or protection areas with populations of 10,000 or less with a current Mutual Aid Agreement with Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), Forestry Section, are eligible. Current Mutual Aid Agreements must be on file with MDC at time of application submission.
5. Reimbursement shall not be made for purchases made prior to the date of the award letter.
6. Grants will be evaluated based on information submitted on the application. Information which is incomplete or illegible will result in a lower ranking of the application. False or incorrect information will void your application.
7. Applications **will not** be considered for the following:
 - a. Repair or construction of buildings

COMMISSION

MARGARET F. ECKELKAMP
Washington

STEVEN D. HARRISON
Rolla

MARK L. McHENRY
Kansas City

WM. L. (BARRY) ORSCHELN
Columbia

- b. Land acquisition
 - c. Water lines and wet hydrants (dry hydrants will be considered)
 - d. Any operational expenses such as insurance, vehicle or building repairs, extended warranties or service packages, utility bills
 - e. Vehicle, trailer, ATV or UTV purchases
8. Highest priority will be given to fire departments filling needs for wildland personal protective equipment, wildfire suppression equipment and communications equipment. Past cooperation in reporting wildfire suppression activities of the fire department to MDC is also considered when awarding grants.
 9. **All** items on the *VFA Project Application* must be completed in order for your request to be given full consideration. If more space is needed on the application form to adequately answer the questions, please attach additional pages.
 10. Application for funds must be made on the *VFA Project Application* form. Submit one application per department or protection district. If multiple applications are sent, the first one received will be considered. **Do not submit applications for separate stations or units.** This application may list all the needs of the department.
 11. Make one copy of the application for your records and send the application, properly signed and dated to:

Mail: VFA Fire Grant Applications
Missouri Department of Conservation
Attn: Forestry Section
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

Email: FireGrants@mdc.mo.gov
 12. Applications postmarked or received after the deadline will not be eligible for funding.
 13. Award letters for fire departments receiving funds will be sent out by the end of November, 2022.
 14. If your fire department is awarded funding, this is considered an agreement and commitment to spend the awarded funding. If your fire department is awarded funding and then does not submit any form of reimbursement, your fire department will be considered in void of this agreement and will not be eligible for funds the following year.

We look forward to receiving your application. If you have any questions, please contact Ben Webster, MDC Fire Program Supervisor, at (573) 522-4115 ext. 3113.

Sincerely,



Justine Gartner
State Forester