



Eastern District Innovative Grant Program

Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Application Form

Completed application form should not exceed (3) pages, using a minimum font size of 11 point, and no less than 1-inch margins. Submit completed application electronically to karen.smiley@ces.uwex.edu, and fax signature page (if electronic signature not available), by **Friday, March 30, 2007**.

Project must be completed by December 31, 2007, unless prior approval received for extended timeline.

1. Project Title: DVD & Publication - “Stem girdling roots– impact, symptoms and prevention” (English & Spanish)

1. Funding Requested: \$ 2,800

2. Project Lead/Grant Applicant (Name & County): Vijai Pandian, Brown County

a) Project Collaborator(s) (if applicable)

N.E.W. Master Gardener Association

Green Bay Nursery

Green Bay Chapter Landscape Contractors Association

Tillman Nursery

3. Signature: _____ **Vijai Pandian** _____
Grant Applicant/Lead

4. Project Description

Situation Update:

Each year communities are transformed by planting tens of thousands of trees in parks, green spaces, landscapes, and along city streets. Many children, adults, government officials, city groups and professionals participate in tree planting events. These events are rewarding and provide participants with a sense of community pride and accomplishment. To most people, the tree planting is the brief process of digging the hole and backfilling around the roots or root ball with soil. Across the country most of the urban community forests are planted in the same fashion without knowing the consequence of improper planting depth. Recent university research and field observations by arborists have led to the discovery that planting the root collar of trees too deeply contributes to the decline and failure of new trees and trees that have been established in the landscape for many years. There are correlations between the depth of soil over the root collar of trees and predispositions to problems that shorten the lifespan of trees. Planting trees too deep acts as a primary stress factor leading to stem girdling root development where the secondary and feeder roots girdles the root collar region of the tree and sometimes even girdles the main flare roots. This causes decline of the tree leading to secondary infestations, potential tree damage during storms.

Objective:

Production of an audio-video educational training material (DVD) & publication on “Stem girdling roots of trees – impact, symptoms and prevention” in bi-language (English & Spanish) to assist commercial landscapers, nursery growers, Hispanic ground workers to adopt best management tree planting practices to prevent stem girdling root in urban forestry

Project Time Frame:

June 2007 – December 2007

Target audiences:

Commercial Landscapers - Green Bay and Fox City Landscape Contractors

Hispanic ground workers & maintenance

Extension Agents

Home Owners

Desired Outcomes:

Through this educational DVD and publication training material –

- 1) The target audiences will understand the importance of planting tree at right depth
- 2) The minority workers (Hispanic) and other landscapers will change their management practice in planting trees
- 3) Extension Agents, Master Gardeners will benefit from this educational training material in creating awareness on proper tree planting technique

Partnership:

Green Bay Landscape Contractor Association

Fox Valley Landscape Contractor Association

Green Bay Nursery

N.E.W. Master Gardener Association

Current Status of this project:

Preliminary production of the video section has been completed on October 2006. The funding was obtained from the Green Bay and Fox Valley Nursery, Landscaper Association.

5. Detailed budget breakdown (specifying the amount and purpose of funds requested from District Resource Management funds, and clarifying the source and amounts from other funds):

Proposed Budget:

Script Production		\$100
Translation		\$150
Voice Recording		
	English	\$125
	Spanish	\$125
Editor		\$1500
Publication		
	Drawings	\$150
	Copies	\$500
Video Production Coordinator	Salary (10 hrs)	\$150
	Total	\$2,800

6. If you have received Resource Management funds for a similar/related project, in the past, include the following information:

- a) Briefly describe your past experiences with resource management grants – project focus, funding received, project collaborators
- b) How is this project proposal new or different?