

Colorado Native Plant Society Mission Grant Purpose and Application Guidelines

PURPOSE

The Mission Grant of the Colorado Native Plant Society supports projects that advance the Mission of the Society:

“The Colorado Native Plant Society is dedicated to furthering the knowledge, appreciation and conservation of native plants and habitats of Colorado through education, stewardship and advocacy.”

To further **education** about Colorado's native plants and habitats, grants may be given to fund (among other things):

1. The creation or publication of various forms of media designed to inform people about native plants and habitats
2. The creation of educational programs and projects
3. Events/activities that further knowledge of native plants
4. Research that furthers the knowledge of Colorado's native plants and habitats, with a desired outreach and education component.

To further **stewardship** of Colorado's native plants and habitats, grants may be used to fund (among other things):

1. Projects designed to protect or conserve Colorado native plants and habitats
2. Publications (e.g., blogs, websites, articles, podcasts) designed to promote stewardship of Colorado's native plants and habitats.

To further **advocacy** of Colorado native plants and habitats, grants may be provided to financially support (among other things):

1. Legislation that benefits native plants and habitats
2. Other conservation agencies that support native plants and habitats

ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Projects must contribute to the Mission of the Colorado Native Plant Society.
- 2) Funds must be used specifically for implementation of the proposed project.
- 3) One or more applicant(s) must be a CoNPS member at the time of submission.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must complete an online application and upload a concise but detailed document file comprising:

- cover letter with applicant's name, Society membership status, mailing address, email address, phone number, and organization, if appropriate;
- resume or curriculum vitae detailing applicant's qualifications to accomplish project;
- statement of how the project advances the mission of the Colorado Native Plant Society through education, stewardship, and/or advocacy;
- description of Colorado native plant(s), native plant community or habitat benefitting from proposal;

- photos, schematics, or mock-ups of project, as appropriate;
- desired funding amount (up to a maximum of \$1000 per proposal) and detailed line-item budget of how it will be used; indicate **whether partial funding would be beneficial**;
- commitment to conditions of award as described below.

Condition of the award: One year after the award has been administered (April 1st or October 1st), recipients are required to:

- submit a brief article suitable for publication in *Aquilegia* that describes the products and/or accomplishments that resulted from funding;
- provide documentation of how the funding was allocated (e.g., materials, salary);
- satisfy other requirements or requests made on a case-by-case basis.

SELECTION PROCESS

The Colorado Native Plant Society Board of Directors or their invited reviewers are solely responsible for evaluating project proposals and determining the amount of the award granted for selected Mission Grant projects. Grants will be chosen based on how well the proposed project(s) meet the criteria outlined in this document and the Society's available budgets. Grants will be awarded twice every calendar year, once in spring and once in fall. To be considered, spring proposals must be received by e-mail by February 1st and fall proposals by August 1st. To apply, complete the online application at <https://conps.org/conps-grants/>, which requires uploading a document file comprising the documents described above under "Application requirements." Applicants will be notified by e-mail of the Society's decision by April 1st for spring applications and October 1st for fall applications.

The following criteria will be considered in rating applications (see rubric at www.conps.org):

- quality of proposal (well written, clear purpose, detailed budget, tangible product(s), and timeline);
- description of how the proposed activity advances the mission of CoNPS through education, stewardship, and/or advocacy;
- description of the benefits to Colorado native plants, native plant communities, and/or native plant habitats;
- summary of applicant's experience and ability to bring project to a successful completion (including other funding being sought or other organizations involved in the project);
- commitment to documenting expenditures and summarizing outcomes within one year of receiving an award, as well as contributing an article to *Aquilegia*, if appropriate;
- description of benefits to partner organizations that advance the mission of CoNPS.