



Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund Application

BACKGROUND: The Restoring Colorado's Forests Fund (RCFF) is a donor-supported program established in 2003 to provide no-cost tree seedlings to landowners whose forested properties have been impacted by large-scale disturbances, such as fires and floods. Priority RCFF seedlings are meant to be planted on lands most severely impacted by wildfires and other disturbances. Donations to the fund are used to pay for seedlings that will be given to qualified applicants free of charge for reforesting state and private lands within Colorado. The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) administers RCFF and will award applicants through a competitive ranking process. The availability of seedlings is based on CSFS Nursery's capacity to produce seedlings and the extent of donations annually.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants may be individual landowners, homeowner associations, groups of landowners, state land management agencies and local government entities. Planting projects must be (1) on private, state or county land within Colorado; (2) currently, partially or previously forested and impacted by a disturbance; (3) on a property to which the applicant has the legal authority to implement the planting project; (4) based on a CSFS forester site evaluation and recommendations; (5) and for at least the minimum request of 210 seedlings.

RANKING: Priority ranking will be given to applications that best convey the need for seedlings dependent on soil, water quality and wildlife habitat improvements and that provide the greatest public benefit. Ranking will be based on both a forester's evaluation and the content of the application. CSFS field offices will rank local applications and then send the ranked applications to the Program Manager for review and final determination. Seedling allocations will be decided by January 2025. The Colorado State Forest Service reserves the right to reject any applications they deem do not meet the intent of the RCFF program.

DEADLINES: Application period is **July 1 to September 30 annually**. Submit your completed application by mail, email or in person to your local [CSFS field office](#) no later than **September 30** to be considered. Applications must be legible and include all requested information. Approved applicants should expect to receive notice of awarded seedlings in January 2025.

INSTRUCTIONS: Applicants must complete all boxes for consideration. The application can be filled in digitally using a PDF editing tool such as Adobe Acrobat.

Box 1 – Applicant information.

Box 2 – Address and/or GPS coordinates of where the planting site is located along with other pertinent planting site information.

Box 3 – Incident that affected the applicant's forested property and the year it occurred. *Example: High Park Fire, 2012.* Include burn severity for the planting site if applicable. Contact your local [CSFS field office](#) for a site evaluation.

Box 4 – Indicate if there is a Forest Stewardship Plan, management plan or other site-specific plan for the property. Specify any funding assistance programs that have been used to reforest. *Example: RCFF, 2014.*

Box 5 – Briefly describe the planting site and how the planting will enhance water quality, prevent soil loss, benefit wildlife and positively affect the landscape. Why should this area be reforested?

Box 6 – The CSFS Nursery will grow requested species and quantities based on priority ranking. Consult your CSFS forester for assistance in choosing which species are best suited to the planting site — **210**

SEEDLINGS MINIMUM.

Box 7 – Choose a delivery method (Pickup at CSFS Nursery in Fort Collins or delivery to local field office) for

awarded seedlings. Consult your CSFS forester for timing recommendations.

Box 8 – This certifies that a CSFS forester evaluated the property and provided sound, scientifically based recommendations for the planting project and that the applicant agrees to plant according to those.

MONITORING AND REPORTING: To enhance the success of our reforestation projects, we kindly request your permission for the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) to conduct monitoring of planting areas to assess tree growth, provide expert guidance and collect valuable data. Your collaboration will ensure better outcomes and transparency for our shared goal of restoring Colorado's forests. This may include photos, mapping planting areas, testimonials, etc.

1. Applicant Contact Information

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

2. Planting Site Property Information

Address or GPS Coordinates _____

Is the property part of a subdivision? Yes No

If yes, name of subdivision/lot _____

County _____

Total Property Acres _____

Estimated Forested Acres - Pre/Post Disturbance _____ Previously Forested Acres

_____ Current Forested Acres

Intended Planting Acres _____ Acres

(100-200 seedlings/acre recommended)

3. Fire/Natural Disturbance Information

Incident Name and Year _____

Burn Severity (if applicable) Low Moderate High NA

Presence of Natural Seedling Regeneration Low Moderate High NA

Species Present _____

4. Landowner Assistance History

Does the property have a current Forest Stewardship Plan, management plan or practice plan?

Yes No

Has the property owner received previous forestry funding assistance (i.e. RCFF, EQIP, WHIP, EFRP, EWP)?

Yes No

If yes, Program and Year: _____

5. Project Description

6. Seedling Request – Minimum Request of 210 Seedlings

Species	Quantity (multiples of 30; 210 minimum)
Colorado blue spruce, <i>Picea pungens</i>	
Engelmann spruce, <i>Picea engelmannii</i>	
Lodgepole pine, <i>Pinus contorta</i>	
Limber pine, <i>Pinus flexilis</i>	
Ponderosa pine, <i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	
Quaking aspen, <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	
Douglas fir, <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	
TOTAL:	

7. Seedling Pick-Up From CSFS Field Office

Designate timing for seedling pickup based on forester recommendations

April 2025 May 2025

8. Certification

I hereby agree to plant seedlings according to the recommendations of the CSFS Forester.

Landowner Signature _____ Date _____

For Official Use Only

Field Office _____

County _____

Date _____

Field Office Rank _____

I hereby certify that I have evaluated the property, recommended the appropriate seedling species and quantity requested and verified appropriate planting sites.

CSFS Forester Signature _____ **Date** _____