

**NICHOLAS SIOUFAS** 

**REQUEST SUPPORT** 

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**MY EVENTS** 



2021 Growth Award

**INSTRUCTIONS** 

**APPLICATION** 

**MY EVENTS** 

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**APPROVED** 

# SUBMISSION FORM

MY APPLICATION

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# **Application Instructions**

- Community must have been certified as a Tree City USA last year and submitted a recertification application this year.
- Community must earn 10 points according to Growth Award Eligible Activities – which were new or significantly improved this year.
- Attach documentation for each eligible activity listed below.
   Appropriate documentation includes narrative descriptions, copies of documents, copies of printed brochures, and newspaper clippings.
- For a list of eligible activities, visit <u>https://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/growthAwards.cfm</u>

# **COMMUNITY NAME:**

New Rochelle

# CITY FORESTRY CONTACT

# **FORESTRY NAME**

Nicholas Sioufas

# **Forestry Address**

515 North Ave New Rochelle, NY 10801 United States

#### \*Email Address

nsioufas@newrochelleny.com

# **Phone Number**

+1 (914) 654-2013

#### **CATEGORY:**

A. Building the TeamC. Planning the WorkD. Performing the WorkE. The Community Framework

#### A. BUILDING THE TEAM

StaffBudgets

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

A1: Budget IncreaseA10: Green JobsA5: Emergency Appropriation

# A1. Budget Increase

### **Description:**

At the start of the upcoming fiscal year, the municipal forestry budget has been approved for an increase over the trailing three-year average, as reported on Tree City USA applications.

#### **Documentation:**

Provide budget amounts from prior TCUSA applications vs. upcoming year.

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

The trailing three-year average forestry budget is \$540,643 (2019-2021). For 2022, the forestry budget is \$585,680; an 8% increase over the trailing three-year average.

# ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD

(OPTIONAL)

Trailing 3-Years Forestry Budget.pdf uploaded.

### **A5. Emergency Appropriation**

# **Description:**

A supplemental budget process was used during the year to prioritize forestry activities during insect/disease outbreaks, storms, drought, wildfire, or other city emergencies.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe emergency and the process for receiving additional funds to address it.

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

During the year, contractual tree services/appropriations were undertaken in response to Hurricane IDA on 9/1/21.

ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

No file uploaded.

#### A10. Green Jobs

#### **Description:**

One or more individuals without formal experience in urban forestry—particularly youth, women, minorities, or other underserved segments of society—were provided internships, apprenticeships, job corps or other training and work opportunities within the urban forestry program. Include programs run by the community non-profit partner. Work status includes temporary, part-time, and full-time positions.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe training or work program and roster

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

The City created and staffed the full-time position of Sustainability Coordinator to oversee sustainability, environmental, forestry, climate, and other natural resource-related initiatives. Under the 2019 Climate Emergency declaration, the Sustainability Coordinator is tasked with identifying strategies to minimize declines in the City's existing tree canopy and create a smart tree planting system. See C6.

# ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

Job Posting - sustainability Coordinator.pdf uploaded.

#### C. PLANNING THE WORK

**PlansPolicies** 

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

C6: Policy or Plan Update

### C6. Policy or Plan Update

#### **Description:**

Any of the city's policies or plans for community trees were updated during the year to reflect goals and objectives for the upcoming five-to-ten-year period.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe policy or plan update, with summary of changes.

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

May 18, 2021, the City Council adopted a resolution declaring a climate emergency. Notably, the Council included a new policy directive for the City Manager and Sustainability Coordinator to identify strategies to minimize declines in the City's existing tree canopy and create a smart tree planting system. See attached resolution.

ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (PDF OF REVISED PLAN OR POLICY)

Adopted Legislation-Climate Emergency.pdf uploaded.

#### D. PERFORMING THE WORK

**Natural Areas** 

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

D25: Openspace Acquisition

# **D25: Openspace Acquisition**

#### **Description:**

Openspace land (such as forest, woodland, prairie, riparian corridors, etc.) was acquired during the year, either through purchase, donation, or long-term agreement (such as a conservation easement) and will be made available for public use.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe tract(s) acquired, ecological significance.

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

Two parcels of land on Gloucester Place in New Rochelle, NY have been acquired by Westchester Land Trust (WLT) and will be permanently protected as a public nature preserve thanks to a partnership between WLT, Friends of Glenwood Lake Park (FGLP), and the City of New Rochelle. The properties are the last remaining undeveloped parcels around the lake and were a top preservation priority for all three partners. A funding consortium consisting of WLT, FGLP and many private donors made the acquisition possible. Ultimately, WLT's goal is to transfer the property to the City, who will add it to the City-owned Glenwood Lake Park assemblage.

Additionally, WLT has been awarded a \$23,000 grant from the Westchester Community Foundation to support the stewardship and restoration of the recently acquired property.

# ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

Growth Grant D25 records.pdf uploaded.

#### E. THE COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK

VolunteersAwarenessCollaborationOutreach

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

E14: Publicity CampaignE3: Non-Profit Tree GroupE20: Arbor Day EventsE8: Volunteer Tree Care

#### E3: Non-Profit Tree Group

# Description:

During the year, an independent non-profit organization dedicated to trees was chartered in the community and began delivering programs in the community, including tree planting, tree care, and education. Efforts may be focused on public or private property.

#### Documentation:

Describe organization, leadership, programs offered, provide link to website

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

Wards Acres Conservancy is a public-private partnership with the City (https://www.wardacresconservancy.org/). As described for E8, the Conservancy engages in forest stewardship.

ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD
(REQUIRED: PDF OF CHARTER
OR ARTICLES OF
INCORPORATION)

Home Ward Acres Conservancy.pdf uploaded.

# E8: Volunteer Tree Care

#### Description:

During the year, a program (i.e. TreeKeepers, Citizen Foresters, etc.) was in place to deliver training and to utilize citizen volunteers for basic tree planting and care activities (such as mulching, pruning, watering). Program is managed by either city staff or non-profit partner organization (see E3), and volunteer opportunities are regular and ongoing.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe program, volunteers, training, and annual accomplishments

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE

# **CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE**

#### APPLYING FOR.

Through Volunteer New York, volunteers remove invasive species, plant native trees, and steward the Wards Acres urban forest in New Rochelle, NY. The program is managed by the public-private partnership, Ward Acres Conservancy (see here for more information:

https://www.wardacresconservancy.org/). Volunteer days are regularly scheduled and attended every Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM. See the following link for more information about Outdoor Workdays at Ward Acres Park:

https://www.volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a075A00000jt5KdQAI

# ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

No file uploaded.

# E14: Publicity Campaign

### Description:

During the year, the city or non-profit partner launched a media campaign to inform citizens about the importance of community forestry, tree planting, tree care, or other important tree issues in the community.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe the issue and the campaign

# DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE APPLYING FOR.

The City of New Rochelle financially supported partner organization Healthy Yards New Rochelle's request for funds to produce Healthy Yard signs and promote awareness of healthy yard practices including but not limited to native tree plantings, mulch mowing, pollinator pathways, etc. Additionally, Healthy Yards New Rochelle hosted a native tree plant sale at the local Rose Hill Nurseries (see

https://rosehillnurseries.com/2021/09/12/rose-hill-nurseries-and-healthy-yards-new-rochelle-joining-forces-to-assist-in-the-restoration-of-a-natural-habitat/). For more about Healthy Yards New Rochelle see https://www.facebook.com/groups/1946244722204788/

see attached for additional records

# ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

Healthy Yards growth Grant Information.pdf uploaded.

# **E20: Arbor Day Events**

### Description:

During the year, the city or non-profit partner conducted additional Arbor Day events--beyond the official city observance--at local primary or secondary schools.

#### **Documentation:**

Describe additional events, locations, dates, number of students reached.

DESCRIBE HOW ACTIVITY
WAS ACHIEVED WITHIN THE
CALENDAR YEAR YOU ARE
APPLYING FOR.

The City of New Rochelle joined the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County (FCWC) Student Network, a group of motivated high school and college-aged environmental activists, for a ceremonial tree planting in front of City Hall on Friday, November 5th. FCWC Student Network spearheaded the event and planted an October Glory Red Maple in recognition of the Climate Emergency declared by Council earlier this year. (see more here (https://newrochelleny.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2817) and here

ACTIVITY FILE UPLOAD (OPTIONAL)

News Flash • FCWC & New Ro.pdf uploaded.

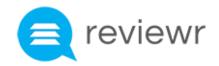
https://www.facebook.com/FCWCStudents/)

## Total: 41

By checking the box, you are granting the Arbor Day Foundation and its assigns, licensees, successors, representatives, employees, program partners, and agents (collectively, the "Arbor Day Foundation"), the irrevocable and unrestricted right to use uploaded images from this application. You grant the Arbor Day Foundation the irrevocable right to use, copy, prepare derivative works from, distribute and publish the provided photographs in any medium or means of distribution, including print, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter and in Arbor Day Foundation publications or on its website, for any lawful commercial or other purpose, and to register the copyright of such photographs throughout the world. By granting rights to the photos, you are representing that you own the rights to all the uploaded pictures on this application and that Arbor Day Foundation has permission to use said photos.



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# SUBMISSION FORM

MY APPLICATION

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What category best describes your community?\*

City

# MAYOR OR EQUIVALENT INFORMATION

# MAYOR NAME

Mayor Noam Bramson

#### **PROFESSIONAL TITLE**

Mayor

#### **MAYORS ADDRESS**

515 North Ave New Rochelle, NY 10801 United States

#### **EMAIL ADDRESS**

nbramson@newrochelleny.com

#### PHONE NUMBER

+1 (914) 654-2153

# CITY FORESTRY CONTACT

(This is the person from your community we will be reaching out to if we have any questions about the application.)

#### CITY FORESTRY CONTACT'S NAME

City Forester Nicholas Sioufas

#### **PROFESSIONAL TITLE**

City Forester

# \*Shipping Address for Recognition Materials

515 North Ave New Rochelle, NY 10801 United States

#### CITY FORESTRY CONTACT'S EMAIL ADDRESS

nsioufas@newrochelleny.com

#### **PHONE NUMBER**

+1 (914) 654-2013

# Standard 1 - A Tree Board or Department

#### SELECT WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOUR COMMUNITY

Community has a Department Chair or City Manager

### **Board Member 1**

#### **BOARD MEMBER 1 NAME**

Nicholas Sioufas

#### **BOARD MEMBER 1 EMAIL**

nsioufas@newrochelleny.com

# **Department Chair/City Manager**

#### DEPARTMENT CHAIR/CITY MANAGER NAME

**Charles Strome** 

#### **PROFESSIONAL TITLE**

City Manager

#### PHONE

+1 (914) 654-2140

#### **ADDRESS**

515 North Avenue New Rochelle, NY 10801

#### **EMAIL ADDRESS**

Cstrome@newrochelleny.com

# Standard 2 - A Community Tree Ordinance

# DATE CURRENT TREE ORDINANCE WAS ESTABLISHED 3/17

# Our ordinance below\*

Uploaded files have not changed

#### \* Attach File

Each applicant is required to upload their community's current tree ordinance.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

NAME	CREATED DATE	
new rochelle tree	Feb 17, 2022 12:56:09	<u>View Edit Download</u>
law	PM CST	<u>Delete</u>

# Standard 3 - A community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita

Please answer the questions below with the full numerical amounts and do not use symbols or commas. (i.e. 5000.01 not \$5,000.01). If a category does not apply to you, please enter 0.

For a list of qualifying expenses, <u>click here</u>.

#### \* Community Population

79067

#### \* Tree Planting and Initial Care

Include cost of tree purchases, labor and equipment for planting, planting materials, stakes, wrapping, watering, mulching, competition control, etc.

40000

# \* Tree Maintenance

Include pruning, insect and disease management, fertilization, watering, etc.

0

#### \* Tree Removal

Include cost of equipment, supplies, labor, etc.

365201

# \* Management

Include public education, professional training, memberships, salaries, street and park tree inventory.

135491

# **Utility Line Clearance**

(If allowed by your state coordinator).

0

#### \* Volunteer Time

Number of volunteer hours and other contributions from civic organizations.

### **Correct Examples:**

- 10
- 12
- 284
- 3778

# **Incorrect Examples:**

- 10 hrs
- 12 hours
- \$284.94
- 3,678

1000

#### Other

Include any other expenses not mentioned.

(

Please specify other expenses (if applicable)

**TOTAL Expenditure Per Capita: 7.20** 

**TOTAL Expenditures: 569232.00** 

# **Community Tree Management Statistics**

Please include only whole numbers below.

\*Number of Trees Planted

103

\*Number of Trees Pruned

0

\*Number of Trees Removed

112

# **Attach Files**

Annual work plan (if required by your state).

# **ATTACHMENTS**

NAME

CREATED DATE

No Data

Supporting budget document(s).

**ATTACHMENTS** 

NAME	CREATED DATE	
2021 Forestry	Oct 7, 2021 9:09:12 AM	<u>View</u> <u>Edit</u> <u>Download</u>
Budget	CDT	<u>Delete</u>

# Standard 4 - An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

DATE OBSERVANCE WAS HELD

4/30/21

Did your community's Arbor Day celebration include any type of participation from K-12 schools?\*

Yes

# Attach Your Signed Arbor Day Proclamation\*

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

NAME	CREATED DATE	
Proclamation	Oct 6, 2021 1:38:47 PM	<u>View Edit Download</u>
4/30/2021	CDT	<u>Delete</u>

# **Supplemental files**

This can be a program from your Arbor Day events, photos, or press releases.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

NAME	CREATED DATE	
Arbor Day 2021	Oct 6, 2021 1:40:00 PM	<u>View Edit Download</u>
Flier	CDT	<u>Delete</u>

# What is something that has changed in your community as a result of earning Tree City USA recognition?\*

Each year since joining Tree City USA, the City of New Rochelle recognizes the importance of trees and their contribution to the communities' quality of life with ceremonial tree plantings and educational campaigns. The city's participation instills a sense of communal pride and enhances public awareness and appreciation for trees and their ecosystem services. Over the years, several tree-oriented volunteer groups and programs have taken hold in the City's parks and forested areas. The city's natural forests and the landscaped canopy is a tremendous resource for both educational, cultural, and ecological services.

# Through which, if any, professional networks or organizations do you receive information or education that is useful to your job?

Sustainable Westchester; Love Em' and Leave Em' Campaign; Federated Conservationists of Westchester County; Arbor Day Foundation; NYS Turf and Landscape Association; NYS DEC; NYS DEC ReLeaf Region 3; NYS Dept. of Ag. & Markets; Healthy Yards New Rochelle.

# **Signature Form**

\* <u>Before you print off your signature form, all sections of the application must be complete.</u>

To finalize your application, you will need to obtain a signature of your mayor or top city official. Your application requires the appropriate signature to be complete.

CLICK ON THE BUTTON BELOW TO POPULATE YOUR MAYOR SIGNATURE PAGE. (YOU WILL NEED TO PUSH THIS BUTTON ANYTIME YOU MAKE REVISIONS TO YOUR APPLICATION.)

Populate Signature Page

**Download Mayor Signature Form** 

Scan and upload the signature form

### Upload the signature form here

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

NAME	CREATED DATE	
new rochelle	Jan 11, 2022 1:05:19 PM	<u>View Edit Download</u>
signature	CST	<u>Delete</u>

By checking the box, you are granting the Arbor Day Foundation and its assigns, licensees, successors, representatives, employees, program partners, and agents (collectively, the "Arbor Day Foundation"), the irrevocable and unrestricted right to use uploaded images from this application. You grant the Arbor Day Foundation the irrevocable right to use, copy, prepare derivative works from, distribute and publish the provided photographs in any medium or means of distribution, including print, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter and in Arbor Day Foundation publications or on its website, for any lawful commercial or other purpose, and to register the copyright of such photographs throughout the world. By granting rights to the photos, you are representing that you own the rights to the uploaded pictures on this application and that Arbor Day Foundation has permission to use said photos.

Please press the submit button below, once your application is complete. A successfully submitted application will redirect you to a

new page. If you are not redirected, please scroll to the top of your application to see a notification of what information is missing/incorrect in order to submit your application.



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