

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENTS

WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION GRANT

APPLICATION

2010



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Volunteer Fire Departments of Alabama, Alabama Forestry Commission, Rural Community
Fire Protection Institute and the USDA Forest Service

This grant project is offered as an equal opportunity to all people without regard to race,
color, national origin, religion, sex, veteran status or disability.

Application Deadline: Postmarked by JULY 2, 2010

Submit Project Proposal to:

Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments
660 Adams Avenue, Suite 345
Montgomery, AL 36104

Telephone 334-262-2833

Background:

Alabama has a strong, proud heritage in the volunteer fire service with more than 1,000 volunteer fire departments in the state with over 30,000 members. Alabama has a serious fire problem, both structural and wildland fire. Wildland fires, however, pose unique challenges to the fire service and require vastly different approaches to its prevention and suppression. As more people leave cities and build homes in the “Wildland/Urban” interface, it is critical that these concerns are addressed.

The most effective way to change this situation is to encourage people to be safer with fire and to change their attitude about fire through fire prevention. The volunteer fire departments in Alabama are well positioned and capable of playing a key role in making Alabama more fire safe. The volunteer fire departments are well respected in every community. Fire departments have tremendous capability because of the 30,000 members and even more auxiliary members. An effective wildland fire prevention program will provide a valuable community service and benefit the fire department by generating goodwill toward the department and by reducing the number of fires with which the department has to deal.

The fire situation is similar across the South and the nation. In the year 2000, Congress appropriated funds to federal wildland fire agencies in an effort to reduce losses from wildland fire. A portion of the funds for state agencies were earmarked to assist volunteer fire departments in being more effective in dealing with wildland fires, including preventing them. Funding for this project is provided through the Alabama Forestry Commission with funds from the USDA Forest Service.

Program Goals:

1. To reduce the number of wildfires and resulting structural losses in Alabama.
2. To increase the visibility and importance of volunteer fire departments in their communities.

Program Objectives:

1. To provide an additional means for the volunteer fire departments to have contact with the communities they serve to assist in public relations.
2. To encourage volunteer fire departments to identify and develop continuing funding sources for wildland fire prevention other than just this grant, for example, corporate sponsors.
3. To encourage volunteer fire departments to develop wildfire prevention plan for their communities.
4. To provide an opportunity for volunteer fire departments to coordinate their wildfire prevention program with the fire prevention program of the local Alabama Forestry Commission unit.

Eligible Recipients:

Volunteer fire departments organized as part of a municipality.

Volunteer fire departments that are non-profit organizations.

County fire associations that are non-profit organizations.

District fire associations that are non-profit organizations.

Grant Approval Process:

A committee selected by AAVFD will approve grant proposals. The selection committee will base their approval on the following criteria:

1. Grants will be competitive with those grant requests having the highest priority being funded.
2. Grant requests from the more rural areas of the state will be given a higher priority.
3. Grant requests from counties with high wildfire occurrence will be given a higher priority.
4. Grant requests in which the grantee is contributing a higher amount of matching money or man-hours will be given a higher priority.
5. A maximum of \$5,000 will be awarded per grant request. Funds permitting, exceptions may be made in the case of county or district association requests.
6. Items relating to fire suppression equipment, operational costs and etc. **will not** be considered as an appropriate grant request. Items related only to structural fire **will not** be approved. For example children smoke houses and home smoke detector projects.
7. Grants will be approved as equally as practical between the Alabama Forestry Commission's six administrative regions.
8. Grants should be aimed at reducing/preventing wildfires. For example wildfire promotional literature, videos, signs, education programs, public information meetings, newspaper ads, radio announcements and etc.

Grant Request Submission:

Grant requests should be submitted to the Alabama Association of Volunteer Fire Departments postmarked no later than **July 2, 2010** at 660 Adams Avenue, Suite 345, Montgomery, AL 36104, telephone #334-262-2833, fax # 334-262-2834. Emails containing grant applications will not be accepted.

Final Reporting:

Approved grantees must submit a final report to AAVFD no later than **October 29, 2010**. The report must include: (1) a narrative of what was done on the project, (2) how the grant funds received were actually spent (**with receipts**) and how many man hours the grantee put into the project, (4) approximately how many people in the community were contacted through the project. All work on the project must be completed prior to **October 29, 2010**. **Any unused funds MUST be returned with your final report to AAVFD by October 29, 2010**. If you failed to return a final report for a previous grant, you will not be eligible to receive an additional grant until documentation has been received.

2010

AAVFD WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION APPLICATION

Project title: _____

Fire department or other organization making application:

PERSON TO WHOM INFORMATION AND GRANT CHECK WILL BE MAILED

Contact person: _____ Telephone number _____

Address _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Email address _____

Alternate contact person: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

FEIN for fire department: _____

Amount requested: \$ _____

Matching funds available: \$ _____

Total project budget: \$ _____

Project start date: _____ Project completion date: _____

****If additional space is needed for the following sections, please attach additional sheets to application:**

Statement of need (A precise statement of the problem to be solved.): _____

Under the new Homeland Security regulations, any Department receiving federal grants must certify that the majority of its membership has been trained in the National Incident Management System and that the Department uses the standard Incident Command System when responding to fires, accidents and other emergencies. The Chief of the Department signature is required in the following statement. The Department must maintain documentation to show that they are in compliance in case of an audit.

I certify that our Volunteer Fire Department has adopted NIMS and uses ICS in their day-to-day emergency operations.

Certified By: _____ (Fire Chief)

Grant applications submitted by county associations must be accompanied with a resolution passed by its Board of Directors.

Grant applications submitted by a coalition of fire departments must have signatures from each fire chief participating as members of the coalition.

I, _____, a Notary Public, hereby certify that _____, whose named as an officer in a fire department, county association, fire district or a representative of a coalition signed the foregoing grant application, and who is known to me, acknowledge before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of said agreement, he as such an officer, has full authority to act on behalf of said group.

Given under my hand and official seal this _____ day of _____.

Notary Public

2010 GRANT PROPOSAL BUDGET

Be specific about items including in the budget. If you plan to purchase books or other educational materials, list the items and provide the cost of each.

Title of Project: _____

Proposed Budget:

Budget Item(s)	Amount Requested
Education Programs	\$ _____
Public Involvement/ Public Information Meetings	\$ _____
Advertisement	\$ _____
Public Notices	\$ _____
Promotional Literature	\$ _____
Equipment	\$ _____
Supplies	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

List Other Sources and Financial Commitment from Each:

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$ _____

PROJECT AREAS

Education Programs

1. Puppets
2. Robotics
3. Smokey Bear costumes
4. Wildfire related videos
5. Any material with fire department name and wildfire prevention message
6. Wildland fire material designed for school programs, hunting clubs or civic organizations

Public Involvement/Public Information Meetings

1. Portable TV/VCR
2. Wildfire related videos for homeowners
3. Brochures
4. Door hangers
5. Signs with wildfire messages

Advertisement

1. Wildfire prevention radio spots
2. Wildfire prevention newspaper ads

Public Notices

1. Handouts concerning wildfire prevention to be distributed to homes in your coverage area.

Promotional Literature

1. Printed material with fire department name and wildfire prevention message to be given away to the public.

Unauthorized Purchases

Fire extinguishers
Smoke detectors
Sparky the Dog costumes
Uniforms
Hats, t-shirts or golf shirts for fire department use only
Children's Plastic Fire Helmets
Food (refreshments)
Food supplies (refreshment supplies)
Gas
Mileage/Travel reimbursement
Transportation
Salaries or wages
Fire department office supplies – paper, toner, ink, printers, scanners, post it notes, legal pads
Computers unless specified in grant application
Camera (video, digital or 35mm)
Blank videotapes
Postage or shipping costs of mailings
Fire safety houses
Smoke detector installation (screw drivers, drills)
Poster or pictures for fire station unless wildfire safety related
Batteries
Fire department office equipment or firehouse furniture
TV/VCR unless specified in grant application