North Carolina Native Plant Society

c/o North Carolina Botanical Garden Totten Center 3375 Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3375

NCNPS Tom & Bruce Shinn Grant Program 2010 Guidelines to Applicants

What is the North Carolina Native Plant Society?

The North Carolina Native Plant Society (NCNPS) is a non-profit educational and conservation organization whose purpose is to promote the enjoyment and conservation of North Carolina's native plants and their habitats through education, protection, propagation and advocacy. We educate the public about the beauty, diversity and environmental importance of the native flora of North Carolina through lectures, symposia, workshops, field trips, sponsorship of research projects, publications, and activities. We encourage the preservation and protection of naturally occurring plant communities on public and private land; relocate natives from areas threatened by destruction and support restoration of native habitats. We encourage cultivation and propagation of native plants, promote native plants as desirable alternatives to exotic plants, and support the commercial availability of nursery-propagated native plant material.

The Tom & Bruce Shinn Grant Program

The North Carolina Native Plant Society is offering a financial grant of up to \$1,000.00 for the purpose of supporting research on native plants. This grant will be awarded to United States citizens attending North Carolina schools who are graduate students or qualified undergraduate students working on projects with an advisor to support basic or applied research in botanical or horticultural areas that fulfill the mission and/or objectives of the North Carolina Native Plant Society.

Eligible Projects

Projects eligible for funding may include but are not limited to:

- Floristic surveys.
- Surveys of local green space acquisitions or significant natural areas.
- Research to protect and preserve endangered or threatened species at risk within their native habitat.
- Horticultural research of native species not found in the nursery trade.
- Research on species genotype or ecotype range and importance.
- Restoration of native species or their habitats.
- Research and management of pest plant species.

How to Apply for a Grant

We have no standardized application form. Your proposal should contain the following elements:

- Name, address, phone number and e-mail address and date submitted.
 Note: Please insure that the address you use is the best address to receive your notification, especially if you are away from school.
- 2. A short statement explaining your specific interest in native plants.

- 3. A concise project description (no more than two pages). Include a summary, then describe why this project is needed, location, objectives, hypotheses where appropriate, data collection and analysis methodology, who benefits and how and names of other organizations involved. Highlight aspects of the work that you believe are important and creative and how the project will advance the knowledge of North Carolina's native plants and vegetation. It is acceptable to include brief but relevant references to published literature within the two page description. Successful grants have made the relevancy of the project understandable to the reviewers.
- 4. Academic status with a letter of recommendation from a sponsor, such as an academic supervisor or major professor. (one page limit)
- 5. Project schedule must be submitted (normally one-year).
- 6. Budget: Summarize how NCNPS grant funds will be used. Show how additional funds or support, if expected or received, fit into the overall budget. NCNPS encourages applicants to seek additional funding because NCNPS is unable to provide full funding for most proposed projects. Paying tuition or conference registrations are not acceptable expenses.

Completed application must be received by the last day of February of each year to be considered. All applications must be submitted in writing and by electronic mail.

Mail application to: David McAdoo

Grant Committee

North Carolina Native Plant Society

5701 Regents Park Road Kernersville, NC 27284

Direct any questions to David McAdoo at 336-996-2324.

E-mail: david@ncwildflower.org

Only those applications that follow the above guidelines will be reviewed.

Review

The proposal should be brief and concise. The reviewers are volunteers who are plant enthusiasts, not academics. Members of the Grant Committee will review proposals using these criteria: completeness, technical quality, consistency with NCNPS goals, intended use of funds, and likelihood of successful completion. The Grant Committee brings its recommendations for awarding a grant to the NCNPS Board of Directors as soon as a decision is reached. We will notify applicants by April 30th.

Obligation of Grant Recipient:

- The grantee will submit an article to be published in *Wild Flower, The Journal of the N.C. Native Plant Society* upon completion of the project. Deadline for the article is November 15 depending on the project completion date. Articles may range from 1000 to 2200 words and should be written in laymen's term as much as possible. Photographs may be submitted electronically with your article. Article length and details are flexible and can be negotiated with the NCNPS editor.
- Acknowledge the NCNPS in any reports, publications, or other products resulting from the work we support.

- Submit any relevant rare plant or plant community data to NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, any Land Conservancy, or the U.S. Forest Service. Include the latter two only if work is conducted on Land Conservancy preserves or in national forests. The NCNPS should also receive a copy of this information.
- If the project is not completed within one year, a progress report shall be submitted by the end of the first twelve months.
- The grantee may be requested to give an oral report at a society meeting, in a delivery style appropriate for a symposium or professional meeting.
- The grantee is encouraged to lead a field trip for NCNPS members to the study site(s)
- An itemized account of expenditures is required at the end of the grant period.
- All paperwork must be received via mail and via electronic mail.

Completed applications shall be received by the last day of February of each year.

The recipient will be notified by April, 30th.