

# Community Tree Planting Funds Available

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture/Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry is accepting applications for community tree planting projects.

This 50-50 local match grant can be met with funding contributions or in-kind services and is for distribution to community forestry projects across South Dakota. The maximum grant award is \$5,000 for a \$10,000 project.

Communities that have tree projects in need of funding are strongly urged to apply. "With the amount of damage to trees during the recent blizzard, this is an opportunity for communities to look to the future and replace the trees that were lost," said Urban Forestry Specialist Aaron Kiesz. "Our priority for funding will be to use this grant for pruning or replacing trees damaged during the recent winter storm."

Projects should benefit the community and can include park plantings, street tree planting, and other projects that promote community forestry. Deadline: January 31, 2006.

If you have any questions or would like an application, contact Aaron Kiesz at 1-800-228-5254 or [aaron.kiesz@state.sd.us](mailto:aaron.kiesz@state.sd.us). The application and instructions can also be downloaded at [www.state.sd.us/doa/forestry/forms](http://www.state.sd.us/doa/forestry/forms).