

2

08-DG-011420004-333

2008

NUCFAC 2008 Challenge Cost-Share Program  
Full Proposal Cover Sheet

CONTROL NO. 133-NA-C3-27(2)

PROJECT TITLE: University Green: University-Community Urban Forestry Partnerships

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

MAILING ADDRESS: 100 N. 20<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Philadelphia PA 19103

PROJECT CONTACT: Maitrevi Roy, Director, Philadelphia Green

PROJECT CONTACT'S: PHONE NO. 215-988-8873  
FAX NO. 215-988-8810  
E-MAIL mroy@pennhort.org

Is this project being developed to reach a minority or underserved population?  Yes  No

Is this pre-proposal being submitted by a minority or underserved population (owned/operated/directed) business, organization or college/university?  Yes  No

Pre-Proposal Request: \$50,000 + Matching: \$62,000 = Total Project: \$ 112,000

Final Proposal Request: \$ 50,000 + Matching: \$ 62,000 = Total Project: \$ 112,000

Summarize the proposed project in 100 words or less.

*University Green* will create and document replicable models of urban forestry partnerships between universities and their surrounding community. The project will use UC Green, a successful existing model, to refine, adapt and replicate the model at selected institutions. The results will be documented for statewide and national replication. Pennsylvania Horticultural Society will lead this effort with the assistance of UC Green, Penn State School of Forestry and University of Pennsylvania Netter Center for Community Partnerships. Results include improved quality of life, university-community relations, added stewardship by students and residents and a more sustainable local urban forestry program.

## 1. Scope and Applicability/ Justification

The goal of *University Green* is to develop a new, sustainable, replicable and nationally relevant, collaborative model of universities as anchors for urban forestry partnerships. This model will result in:

- Improved relationships between universities and the surrounding community
- Measurable increase in volunteer involvement in urban forestry.
- Healthier urban forest
- Better stewardship of community trees by both the university community and residents

The team for this project includes:

- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS)
- University of Pennsylvania Barbara and Edward Netter Center of Community Partnerships (UPCCP)
- Penn State University School of Forest Resources (PSU)
- UC Green

In the past, universities isolated their campuses from the surrounding community, especially those in challenging urban locations. But, times have changed. From a business perspective, the quality of life in the surrounding community impacts competitiveness— how well a university can attract quality students and faculty. From a social perspective, universities want to be good neighbors and are more sensitive to the community concerns about the impacts of new development, resident student population, parking and traffic. Today, higher education places greater emphasis on community service and service learning in ways that address community identified needs. As a result, there is a growing national network of universities that aspire to be transformative anchor institutions to enhance the quality of life in their surrounding communities, spur economic development, and accelerate community revitalization.

Urban forestry partnerships can connect universities and communities in multiple, positive and powerful ways. In addition to the physical and environmental benefits provided to the community, the partnership supports other university-community goals: natural resource stewardship, service-learning, service provision, faculty involvement, student volunteerism and applied research. Although partnerships with an urban forestry focus evolve naturally at universities with a forestry school or cooperative extension mission, urban forestry partnerships are rare elsewhere.

Universities have multiple operational resources and human resources that could support urban forestry partnerships:

- Faculty advisors
- Student volunteers
- Applied research projects
- Service learning projects
- Landscaping and ground crews,
- Real estate development and planning departments

**NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category**  
**University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

- Sustainability or climate action plan initiatives
- Grant writing expertise
- Organizational management

Even non-forestry areas of study could connect academically through service-learning courses. University sustainability and greenhouse gas reduction plans, likely to include urban forestry actions, could drive new types of partnerships. Finally, universities have strong best practice networks that excel at disseminating information to other institutions. Many communities have programs to train citizens about tree planting and care projects. But, these civic groups rely heavily on an ever changing roster of volunteers.

In Philadelphia, the involvement of a university partner has been a true anchor for this work, lifting it to a higher, more sustainable level. When the University of Pennsylvania decided to radically transform its relationship with West Philadelphia neighborhoods, one of the earliest initiatives launched was UC Green ([www.ucgreen.org](http://www.ucgreen.org)), an urban forestry program. Started in 1999, this initiative united the university administration, community organizations, city agencies, university students, and residents in local greening efforts. The program used tree planting projects to achieve multiple goals—improve the quality of life in West Philadelphia neighborhoods, support local tree planting efforts, foster applied urban environmental research projects for faculty and connect students with tree planting community service opportunities. People from diverse backgrounds come together on shared projects and develop friendships and strengthen the social fabric of the community. PHS provided training, guidance and technical assistance to the fledgling program. UC Green is now a separate 501c3 organization with two full-time staff. Each year, UC Green plants 200 urban street trees, employs a seasonal youth corps to care for 500 trees and leverages over 1,300 hours of service from student and community volunteers.

Many communities have citizen training programs (Tree Tenders, Citizen Forester, Tree Stewards) that have trained thousands of citizens to engage in tree planting and care projects. But these informal civic groups rely heavily on the energy and expertise of an every changing roster of volunteers. We believe that the additional support of a neighboring university can lift up this work to a new and more sustainable level. We believe tree planting and care partnerships are an effective strategy to strengthen and improve town / gown relationships.

Because this partnership does not rely on an academic forestry or horticultural program, UC Green is a replicable model for universities across the country. Two additional universities in West Philadelphia, Drexel University and University of Sciences, have joined the UC Green partnership. We have been already been contacted by several other universities or community groups in search of assistance to form a partnership. But, replication has stalled due to lack of dedicated staff time. Additional resources are needed to support staff to intensify and expand the existing collaboration; to do outreach, training and mentoring of new partnerships; and to develop documentation necessary for national and international replication. We have identified 18 potential *University Green* partnerships to explore as part of this process.

**NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category  
University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

Neighborhood, County	University/ College (# students)	Community-based Partner	Status
<b>Philadelphia County</b>			
East Falls	Philadelphia University (3,200)	East Falls CDC, East Fall Tree Tenders	Beginning
East Oak Lane/ Olney	LaSalle University (6,200)	Oak Lane Civic Assoc. ,OARC	Beginning
West Philadelphia	University of Pennsylvania (23,000) Drexel University (18,000) University of Sciences (2,800)	UC Green, Powelton Civic Association, Spruce Hill Civic Association	Mature
Wynnewood, Bala Cynwd,	St. Josephs University (7,700)	Friend of Morris Park, Bala Cynwyd Neighbors	New
<b>Delaware County</b>			
Aston	Neuman College (3,000)	TBD	New
Chester City	Widener University (4,500)	TBD	New
Ridley Park Borough, Delaware	Swarthmore College (1,500)	Ridley Park Shade Tree Commission	New
Springfield Township	Penn State Delaware County (3,000)	TBD	New
<b>Chester County</b>			
Kennett Square	Lincoln University (2,400)	TBD	New
West Chester Borough,	West Chester University (13,000)	West Chester Shade Tree Commission	New
<b>Montgomery County</b>			
Ambler Borough, Montgomery	Temple University - Ambler	Ambler Tree Tenders	Beginning
Collegeville/ Trappe, Montgomery	Ursinus College (1,500)	TBD	Beginning
Norristown	Bryn Mawr (1,800)	TBD	Beginning
Norristown	Cabrini College (2,200)	TBD	Beginning
<b>Bucks County</b>			
Morrisville/ Yardley	Bucks County Community College- Newtown (10,000)	TBD	New
Doylestown	Delaware Valley College (2,000)	TBD	New

**2. Literature Review**

## NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership

We conducted a literature review for information on partnerships between universities and civic tree planting programs. We found a large and growing body of literature documenting university and community partnerships that includes:

- HUD Office of University Partnerships
- Campus Compact Consortium
- Learn & Serve
- Pew Partnership for Civic Change.

We sought examples of non-profit partnerships and public/private partnerships for urban forestry to see what roles universities have played. We attended a national conference on university-community partners “Urban Anchors in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania to learn more about work in other cities. Urban forestry sources reviewed include: [www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org), Alliance for Community Trees, Home Depot Foundation and Arbor Day Foundation.

We also conducted a web search to locate case studies and success stories. In general, we found examples of universities with forestry, horticultural or other natural resource degree programs that are providing urban forestry services to local communities:

- Urban Ecology Institute at Boston College;
- Urban Resource Initiative at Yale School of Forest Resources;
- Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry at UMass Amherst;
- Community Forestry Program Work Team, Cornell University.

We did not find any specific articles, publications or web content documenting ongoing urban forestry partnerships at universities that were not tied to a natural resource academic program. The “Urban Anchors” conference confirmed our belief that many universities are actively seeking new ways to collaborate with communities. Although the conference did not highlight any urban forestry partnerships, most people we spoke to informally were receptive to the concept of a UC Green model as part of a larger university community partnership.

We believe a huge university audience that could be targeted to incorporate urban forestry partnerships within larger community partnerships, community service or other community revitalizations programs. Our model would not be dependent on the university having some type of a natural resource degree program.

### **3. Organization/ Methodology**

The *University Green* project team will progress through several phases to expand, replicate, document and disseminate the model programs. The methods include education, training, technical assistance, seed funding and on-the-ground projects.

#### Expand the Existing Model

The project team will work to expand the existing UC Green model which includes partnerships with three universities in West Philadelphia. Potential partnership activities to be evaluated for an expanded UC Green partnership include:

- a service learning course for environmental studies students;

## NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership

- a UC Green work-study opportunities for university students;
- an internship position at UC Green for university students;
- introduce urban forestry service-learning activities to six university-assisted public schools;
- enroll teachers from to six university-assisted public schools in PHS’s Green City Teachers program;
- promote urban forestry “senior projects” to seniors at three university-assisted high schools; and
- link the three university-assisted high schools to UC Green Corps summer jobs.

### Replication Sites

The project team (PHS, UPCCP, PSU, UC Green) has already developed a preliminary list of universities and communities to be targeted (see page 2). The team will take the following steps to move the project forward:

- identify a point of contact at each targeted university and community;
- develop materials (how-to-guide, descriptions of alternative models, PowerPoint presentation, newsletter article, and other educational materials) documenting the UC Green model in both hardcopy and digital formats.
- Identify a point of contact at each targeted university—office of community partnerships, civic engagement, community relations, dept. of planning/ real estate, etc.
- Identify a point of contact in each targeted community—Tree Tenders, community development corporation, civic organization, shade tree commission.
- Meet with potential community partners to brief them on concept and gather background on community / university relationships.
- Schedule and facilitate exploratory meetings with targeted universities and communities groups.
- Recruit at least 4 members of each targeted university and community to attend Tree Tenders training.
- Schedule and facilitate an advanced “how to” training for emerging partnerships. Up to ten university and community partnerships will be trained.
- Offer small challenges grants (cash match from university or local government required) available to emerging partnerships that complete both the Tree Tenders and the advanced training. A minimum of five partnerships projects will be selected to receive challenge grants (require a cash match).
- PHS will participate on the planning committee for the five selected partnership projects.
- After each initial partnership project is completed, document the successes and shortfalls of the trained and/or funded projects in articles and presentations for national audiences.

### Documentation

The project team will develop a well edited, graphically attractive how-to guide including descriptions, case studies, bibliography, PowerPoint presentation, newsletter article, and other educational materials in both hardcopy and electronic formats.

### Dissemination

## NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership

The project team will have two phases of dissemination of findings to urban forestry and university audiences. The first phase will disseminate information about the UC Green model within the 5-county region. The second phase will disseminate findings of the six University Green partnerships to a state and national audiences. Dissemination methods include traditional media (journals, newsletters), new media (websites, blogs) and conferences.

### 4. Products

All *University Green* products included in this grant will be provided **free of charge** either in hardcopy, CD or downloadable PDF documents from websites.

#### Tree Tenders Handbook

One copy will be given to each university or community partner that attends Tree Tenders' 9-hour basic training. Additional copies of the handbook in PDF format will be available for downloading by anyone from the PHS website ([www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org](http://www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org)).

#### University Green CD

We will duplicate 1,000 copies of this CD to be distributed at training workshops for regional university and/or community partners, as well as, state and national audiences during the dissemination phases of the project. This information on the CD will also be posted in downloadable format at PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources TreeVitalize ([www.treevitalize.net](http://www.treevitalize.net)) and PHS websites. Contents of the CD will include:

- PowerPoint Presentation - How To Organize a Community Tree Planting
- PowerPoint Presentation – Community Benefits of Trees with additional component relating to schools and youth
- PowerPoint Presentation – UC Green- case study of a University Community Partnership
- Report – UC Green Annual Report
- Instructional Video – How to Plant a Tree (balled& burlapped, bare root and containerized)
- Instructional Video – Building the Urban Forest- Bare Root Method
- Green City Teachers training session on Tending the Urban Forest
- Other relevant educational information identified during introductory meetings and project development.

### 5. National Distribution / Technology Transfer of Your Findings

Findings will be disseminated by the Project Team to two distinct target audiences— university audiences and urban forestry audiences. The dissemination will consist of:

- article submissions to publications and journals such as: *City Trees*, *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*;
- developing content for websites targeting urban forestry and/or university audiences at websites of organizations listed below.

Another important method to disseminate findings is through national and regional networks. PHS and Penn State will be responsible for provide information to urban forestry networks:

## **NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

- American Forests
- Alliance for Community Trees
- Future of Life
- Pennsylvania Community Forestry Council
- Environmental Advisory Council Network

University of Pennsylvania's Netter Center for Community Partnerships will be responsible for disseminating project findings to university networks including:

- Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhoods Development (40 colleges and universities in the greater Philadelphia area)
- National Replication Program for University-Assisted Community Schools (20 sites across the country)
- Campus Compact (coalition of nearly 1,100 colleges and universities)
- Annual Institute: Service Learning and Civic Engagement

The project team will also identify statewide and national conferences and work together to submit proposals to present to statewide and national audiences such as: PHENND Annual Conference, Student Service Leaders Conference, University Community Partnership Conference, Alliance for Community Trees Conference, National Urban Forestry Conference.

### **6. Project Evaluation**

Individuals completing the Tree Tenders basic and advanced training will leave with in-depth knowledge of urban forestry. Students are tested as part of the course and a post completion survey is conducted to gauge the impact of training. Students and residents who participate in hands-on planting projects will have more limited knowledge, but more than before. We understand goals for the project must be measurable and we will document our success accordingly:

- 40 University or community representatives attend informational meeting
- 10 Universities/ communities form a project team and participate in training sessions
- 5 Universities that fund a dedicated position (e.g. Executive Director of UC Green)
- 5 Universities that plan partnership projects as an ongoing part of community partnerships and community service activities.
- 3 Applied research projects related to urban forestry initiated
- 3 Service learning projects related to urban forestry initiated
- 300 volunteers (students and community residents) participate in hands-on tree planting or care activities

### **7. Experience/ Personnel/ Adequacy of Resources**

The team for this project includes the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Philadelphia Green, the largest urban greening program in the country; Penn State School of Forest Resources; UC Green and the University of Pennsylvania Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships, a national leader for fostering innovative university-community partnerships. All



**NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category**  
**University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

have extensive experience with partnership projects. PHS and Penn State have assisted over 40 urban forestry projects over the past three years. The key people leading this project include:

**Mindy Maslin, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society**

Mindy Maslin has been a community organizer since joining VISTA in 1980. Her degree from Temple University is in social work, but her passion has always been in environmental education. For the last 15 years, Mindy has been teaching tree awareness and stewardship through the PHS's Philadelphia Green program. She developed the Tree Tenders program that boasts over 2,000 graduates. Awards include the National Arbor Day Education Award and Pennsylvania Community Forests Achievement Award.

**Mike Hardy, Acting Executive Director, UC Green**

Since UC Green's origins as a neighborhood initiative of the University of Pennsylvania, under Esaul Sanchez, its first Executive Director, Hardy was a principal in the multiple tree planting and block improvement projects of UC Green and its many partners; during the tenure, 2004 – 2007, of its last full time Executive Director, Amanda Benner, he was the Chair of UC Green, Inc, a 501.c3 organization whose Board of Directors includes representatives from the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the University City District and the communities of University City. Since its initiation, he has served on the project team of the Spruce Hill Community Association Block Improvement program, winner of the Scotts Company's Community Beautification Gardener of the Year Award for 2004.

**Hillary Aisenstein, University of Pennsylvania, Netter Center for Community Partnerships**

Hillary Aisenstein is the Director for the Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND). PHENND is a consortium of 40 institutions of higher education in the Greater Philadelphia region that seeks to help campuses connect to their communities through mutually beneficial service and service-learning partnerships. In 2003, PHENND started a multi-organization coalition in Delaware County that provides volunteer income tax services to low-income families. Ms. Aisenstein is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies. Ms. Aisenstein serves as President of the Executive Board of the Penn State Cooperative Extension for Philadelphia County. She is also on the Local Advisory Board of National Student Partnerships.

**Julianne Schieffer, Extension Forester, Penn State School of Forest Resources**

With a B.S. in Urban Forestry and Botany from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, and a M.S. in Tree Pathology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Julianne's specialty is trees and natural resources impacted by humans and infrastructure. Among her experiences, she has served as the first city forester in Easton, Pennsylvania, taught shade tree pathology at UMASS, and empowered thousands of Community Tree Stewards, and Tree Tenders to care for their community trees. She currently serves SE Pennsylvania as the Extension Urban Forester, where she offers funding, technical assistance, and organizes educational programs. She has spoken at numerous conferences and workshops on topics ranging from pruning to working with government officials.

**NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category**  
**University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

Other senior staff from the PHS, U Penn, and PSU will be available on an as needed basis to advise the project team, including Maitreyi Roy, Senior Director Philadelphia Green (PHS); Cory Bowman, Associate Director of the Netter Center for Community Partnerships (U of Penn) and Dr. William Elmendorf, Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist (Penn State)

NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category  
 University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership

3. Budget and Funding

Organization: Pennsylvania Horticultural Society  
 Project Title: University Green: Urban Forestry Partnerships with Urban Universities  
 Total Cost: \$112,000

Line Item	Federal Funds Requested	Non-Federal Match		Total	Source of Matching Funds
		Cash	In-Kind		
Mindy Maslin, PHS 335 hrs	24000			24000	
Julianne Schieffer, PSU 60 hrs			3000	3000	Penn State Ext/
Hillary Aisenstein, U of Penn 60 hrs			3000	3000	Univ. of Pennsylvania
UC Green Exec Director TBD 150 hrs	6000			6000	
Graphic design services			3000	3000	PHS
Printing - Tree Tenders handbook 200 copies x \$10			2000	2000	PHS
Duplication - University Green CD 1,000 copies x \$2	2000			2000	
Challenge grants for 5 partnership projects \$10,000 x 5 projects		50000		50000	Foundation grant to PHS; Cash match from Universities
Tree Tender Speaker Honorariums 10 Speakers x \$100			1000	1000	PHS
National Conference fees & travel \$2,000 x 3 conf x 3 people	18000			18000	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50000</b>	<b>50000</b>	<b>12000</b>	<b>112000</b>	

**NUFAC 2008 Challenge Cost Share Grant Program – Outreach Category**  
**University Green: An Urban Forestry University-Community Partnership**

**9. Timeline**

The project will be completed over an 18-24 month period. The final schedule may need to be adjusted to reflect the tree planting season when hand-on training and projects implementation can occur.

	Month																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				planting season						planting season						planting season		
Award notification - Team develops detailed workplan, including national dissemination plan (targeted conferences, websites, newsletters, journals, etc.)	█	█																
Recruit and convene a planning committee to evaluate, expand and begin to document the existing UC Green Model		█	█	█	█	█												
Outreach to potential neighborhood and university representatives, hold individual meetings		█	█															
Hold Tree Tender training session for university and community partners				█														
On-site training for university and community partners at UC Green community project; educational tour of UC Green project sites				█	█	█												
Challenge Grant process- design application, issue RFP, convene review committee, make awards				█	█	█												
Technical assistance for tree planting project planning and implementation								█	█									
Convene challenge grant projects for assessment, documentation, discuss maintenance and make changes for future											█							
Technical assistance for project planning and implementation														█	█			
Prepare documentation and products for national dissemination						█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Implement national dissemination plan - attend conference, submit articles and content to targeted media.														█	█	█	█	█

**Supplemental Material Submitted**

- Partnership Letter from UC Green
- Partnership Letter from University of Pennsylvania
- Partnership Letter from Penn State University



UC Green  
3616 Lancaster Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
January 24, 2008

#### Letter of Support for the University Green Project

The mission of University City Green is to promote, coordinate and support, with its partners, volunteer community greening in University City's diverse urban neighborhoods. Its partners have and do include Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, University City District, TreeVitalize, PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and all of University City's community, civic, and park organizations and public schools. In the last three years alone, it has planted 1,000 trees, engaging 4,000 volunteers in over 12,000 hours of community greening; increased property values in University City by \$13.5 million; developed a weekly summer UC Green Pruning Club and hand-pruned 40 city blocks; recycled 9,000 sq. ft. concrete for new tree pits and to reduce storm water runoff; developed the UC Green Corps summer youth employment program in 2006 and increased its capacity to care for 300 young trees to 500 per week in 2007; supported multiple community groups with revitalized greening efforts and block improvement projects in both the Spruce Hill and Cedar Park neighborhoods, grew an e-mail newsletter list to over 900 subscribers and for every \$1 spent on projects, raised at least \$4 via in-kind contributions and operated under budget and annually increased the organization's financial reserves.

University City Green is pleased to support and will be an enthusiastic contributor to the University Green project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'M. Hardy'.

Michael D. Hardy  
Chair, Board of Directors  
And Interim Executive Director, UC Green



Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development

3451 Walnut Street, Suite P-117  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6205  
215-573-2379  
215-573-1134 fax

January 24, 2008

Ms. Patrice Carroll  
Project Director  
TreeVitalize  
100 N. 20<sup>th</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Ms. Carroll:

I am pleased to write a letter of support for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's application to the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council Challenge Grant Program.

As you know, the Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND) is a network of colleges and universities in the Greater Philadelphia region. We work to foster mutually-beneficial campus-community partnerships and over the years have developed a significant number of contacts across the region. In addition, we are quite active in various national networks doing similar work such as Campus Compact.

We are very much looking forward to supporting your efforts to replicate UC Green as a successful model around the region and around the country. As a student who interned with UC Green at its inception, and now a homeowner in West Philadelphia with a UC Green tree in front of my house, I know first-hand its positive impacts on campuses and communities.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to mobilize our network on behalf of such a worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hillary Aisenstein".

Hillary Aisenstein  
Director



January 24, 2008

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 1003  
Sugarloaf, CA 92386-1003

Dear Friend;

Please consider this letter a confirmation of Penn State School of Forest support for the University Green: University-Community Urban Forestry Partnerships grant proposal. We can furnish contacts, publicity, organization, technical assistance and presentations for furthering a sustainable model of outreach as outlined in the proposal.

Sincerely,

Julianne Schieffer  
Extension Urban Forester  
Penn State School of Forest Resources