**Background Information for**

**FCT Grant Applicants on criterion** [**62-818.007**](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)**(2)(d)5.**

**Florida Forest Service**

**Forest Stewardship Program**

Forest Stewardship is defined as active management of forests and related resources to keep forests productive and healthy for present and future generations, and to increase the economic, environmental and social benefits of these lands. Forest Stewards are landowners who manage their forestlands on a long-term basis by following management objectives that are multiple resource based, economically viable, conservative of natural resources and socially, environmentally and ecologically responsible. The Forest Stewardship Program addresses the improvement and maintenance of timber, wildlife, soil and water, recreation, aesthetics, as well as forage resources.

Eligibility:

FCT Grant Applicants with a project site with at least 20 acres of forest land and a desire to manage their ownerships according to Stewardship principles can participate in the Forest Stewardship Program.

Goals and Objectives:

The Florida Forest Stewardship Program is designed to encourage the state's forest landowners to practice stewardship. Specifically, the program objectives are as follows:

* Encourage non-industrial landowners to manage their properties according to the multiple-use concept.
* Increase awareness among the general public of the important amenities that Florida's forestlands, particularly non-industrial private forestlands, provide to all citizens of the state.
* Improve coordination among natural resource agencies and groups, both public and private, to better serve the state's landowners and achieve common goals.

Benefits to Participation: Landowners will receive:

* A meeting on their property with a team of resource professionals who will contribute to the development of their plan.
* A customized management plan based on the landowner's objectives. The plan will include forest stand characteristics, property maps, management recommendations, and a ten-year activities time line for future planning.
* An opportunity for future public recognition as a certified "Forest Steward."
* A quarterly Stewardship newsletter developed and distributed by the University of Florida, IFAS Cooperative Extension Service through the Florida Land Steward Partnership.
* The peace of mind in knowing that their property is being managed in a sustainable manner.

**Follow the steps to determine if your site qualifies for Florida Forest Service - Forest Stewardship Program points in Rule** [**62-818.007**](http://www.flrules.com/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=9K-7.007)**(2)(d)5, FAC.**

Is your FCT project site 20 acres or more?

NO - If not, STOP here; you do not quality for points under this criterion.

YES – Continue to Step II.

1. Are there a minimum of 20 acres of forested communities within your 2016-2017 FCT grant application project site?

 NO - If not, STOP here; you do not quality for points under this criterion.

YES – Continue to Step III.

1. Submit a completed “Forest Stewardship Program Application for FCT Applicants” (on next page) and supporting documentation to FFS. Allow a minimum of **4 weeks** for receipt of a FFS response letter.

NO – If the FFS letter indicates your site does not meet the minimum requirements, STOP here; you do not qualify for points under this criterion.

YES – The FFS letter indicates your site does meet the minimum requirements. Provide a copy of the FFS letter and all the supporting materials with your FCT Grant Application.

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**Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

**Florida Forest Service**

**Forest Stewardship Application**

**for**

**Florida Communities Trust (FCT) 2016-2017 Grant Applicants**

The Florida Forest Stewardship Program for FCT grant applicants has been established to provide services to the proposed forest landowner. To participate in this voluntary program, the FCT grant applicant is encouraged to implement conservation practices and be active stewards of the forestlands if the park site is acquired. The information on this application will help the Resource Professional work with those FCT grant applicants who are funded to develop forest stewardship plan.

**Key Contact**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_First Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_MI:\_\_\_\_

 (This must be the same person designated in the FCT Grant Application.)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local Gov’t/Nonprofit Environmental Organization: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City ­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, FL Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tract/Project Site information:**

1. Total FCT Project Site Acres: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; 2.Total Forested Acres: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Tract location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. Section(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Township: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_North or South; Range: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ East or West

5. County:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; 6. Current land use of forested acreage:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. With the understanding that this is a multiple resource management program, please rank the three most important objectives you want addressed in your Stewardship Management Plan. Use **1** to indicate most important and **3** for relatively less importance.

| Rank | Objective | Rank | Objective |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | Recreation | \_\_\_\_\_ | Wildlife Management |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | Aesthetics | \_\_\_\_\_ | Soil & Water Conservation |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | Habitat Management | \_\_\_\_\_ | Other (specify) |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | Forest Management | \_\_\_\_\_ | Other (specify) |

**Supporting Documentation: must include the following documentation with the application to be considered:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Copies of County Tax Maps or Plat Maps with the Property Boundary Clearly Shown

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Natural Community Map with FCT Site Boundary

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Aerial with FCT Site Boundary

Key Contact Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: incomplete application will not be processed. MAIL this page and the Supporting Documentation to:

Tony Grossman, Conservation Programs Manager
Forest Stewardship Program (FCT request)

3125 Conner Boulevard, i273

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650
Telephone: 850-681-5874
Email: Anthony.Grossman@FreshFromFlorida.com [[back to top]](#top)