# Community Forest Training Program COHORT 2

Are you a local government agency, land trust, or tribal entity interested in learning how to leverage local land assets to promote economic growth, foster a healthier environment, and strengthen your community?

For more than two decades, Trust for Public Land has led the community forest movement, collaborating with local partners, communities, and tribes to establish enduring, protected open spaces that are managed, owned, and enjoyed by residents. The **Community Forest Training Program** leverages TPL's expertise to educate local leaders on this innovative approach to forest conservation and best practices for ensuring economic, public health, and social benefits directly enrich communities.



## WHAT ARE COMMUNITY FORESTS?

Community forests are protected forest lands that contribute to healthy, flourishing communities, and they can be powerful tools for helping to enact local visions as articulated by residents. These unique assets are land-based economic development tools that deliver positive outcomes to the residents, visitors, and businesses located in their service areas, including economic development opportunities through recreation, timber, and tourism; environmental benefits such as watershed protection, habitat conservation, and preserved biodiversity; and more.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

The Community Forest Training Program is a 5-month virtual workshop series designed to provide land managers the strategies, skills, and resources needed to create and sustain community forests in their municipalities. This program will inform eligible communities across the U.S. about the benefits and possibilities of community forests; provide training and technical assistance that leverages TPL's best practices to support successful acquisition, governance, and stewardship; and support the creation of community forests on the ground where available. Each session will consist of:

- Virtual workshops (90 minutes) to enhance local capacity for community forest development.
- Experts and case studies providing best practices and strategies for acquisition and management.
- Peer support and networking to increase knowledge exchange, deepen collaboration, and foster community building for local leaders.

#### Topics covered will include:

- Benefits of Community Forests
- Planning & Land Identification
- Governance & Ownership
- Community Engagement & Visioning
- Management & Stewardship
- Funding
- & more!

## **SESSION DATES & TOPICS**

Each session will build upon the previous topic, requiring sustained attendance. The cohort will meet monthly between **November 2025 – March 2026** on **Tuesday from 12:00pm to 1:30pm PT**:



## **ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION**

This cohort represents TPL's second regional offering, which will focus on delivering technical assistance and learning opportunities to communities in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

To join the Community Forest Training Program: Cohort 2, participants must:
□ Be located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Kansas, Montana,
Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, or
Wyoming.
□ Represent one of the following organizational types:
Local government entity
○ Land trust
o Tribal entity
□ Be able to attend all five monthly meetings.
Register here by November 3, 2025.

## **CONTACT US**

Learn more about the 10-Minute Walk Park Equity Communities of Practice program and resources we offer <a href="here">here</a>. For questions regarding the **Community Forest Training Program**, contact the staff below.

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