

## UPPER WILLAMETTE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3291 W 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Eugene, OR 97402 • [uwsxcd.org](http://uwsxcd.org) • 541.852.6680

### 2024 Farm & Ranch Disaster Response Mini-Grants

The Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District is offering mini-grants of up to **\$2,000** to assist local producers who were impacted by the January 2024 ice storm. Eligible producers should operate farm or ranch businesses as a primary or significant household income source; be located in the District [geographic boundary](#); and grow or raise food products primarily for local markets. For the purposes of this funding opportunity, “food products” includes vegetables, fruits, berries, meat, dairy, eggs, beans, grains, and nursery and seed production of edible plants.

Funding requests will be accepted until **Thursday, April 4th at 5 PM**.

Eligible uses of grant funds include:

- Repairing or replacing damaged infrastructure or equipment that is directly related to the operation of the farm or ranch (e.g. hoopouses, irrigation infrastructure, livestock fencing, etc.)
- Removing trees, limbs and debris that impact farm or ranch business operation
- Mitigating loss of crops or crop damage (e.g. replacing lost plants)
- Other storm-related damages or impacts, specifically associated with operating a farm or ranch business
- *Reimbursement for already completed projects*: If you are requesting funds for a project already completed, you will be required to upload a photo of the completed project and a dated receipt/s to confirm that the project was completed after the ice storm and prior to this application.

Ineligible uses of grant funds include:

- Damages to housing (please contact [Red Cross](#) for resources related to housing)
- Compensation for lost wages or income
- Home gardens or “hobby” farms / ranches

We have a total pool of \$38,000 for this funding opportunity and anticipate being able to make approximately 15-20 grant awards. Grant funds will be provided as a lump sum. Recipients will be required to complete a report documenting the use of funds and project completion within 60 days.

Requests will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Documented damage to farm or ranch business operations directly attributable to the January 2024 ice storm.
- Clear and specific description of how grant funds will be used to assist with storm damage recovery.
- Project is achievable with the funds requested and can be completed within 90 days.

If the District receives requests for more funding than is available, we will prioritize distributing funds to producers in multiple District zones, and prioritize funding for producers that meet USDA criteria for [historically underserved producers](#).

**To apply for a grant**, register at: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=uwsxcd> and use the application template included below to prepare responses. Applications must be submitted via the online portal by **5 PM on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**. With questions, contact Jared Pruch at [grants@uwsxcd.org](mailto:grants@uwsxcd.org).



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### Registration & Application

**Note:** This form is provided for applicants to prepare answers that will be submitted through our online grant management system, Foundant. Applicants will need to create an account at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=uwsxcd> prior to submitting an application.

Please note the character limits on each question.

#### Registration

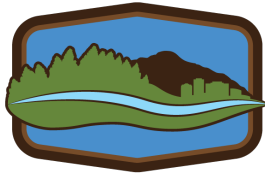
- **Organization Name.** If you represent an organization or entity, enter that name here. If you are applying as an individual landowner, enter your name here.
- **EIN / Tax ID (##-#####).** If you do not have an EIN or Tax ID, enter 00-000000.
- **Website (optional)**
- **Telephone number**
- **Address 1** (mailing address – physical address of farm or ranch will be requested later, if different from mailing address)
- **City, State, Postal code**
- **First Name, Last Name**
- **Business Title**
- **Email / username**

#### Eligibility quiz

- Is your farm or ranch located within the boundaries of the Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District? See this [map](#) for reference.
- Do you operate your farm or ranch business as a primary or significant source of household income?
- Does your farm or ranch grow or raise food products primarily for local markets?
- Are you seeking funding for expenses specifically associated with the impact of the January 2024 ice storm?

#### Application Questions

1. **Project name.** Provide a simple, short name for this request, e.g. "Spencer Butte Farm Hoophouse Repair."
2. **Briefly describe your farm or ranch operation.** What do you produce, how long have you been in business, and where do you sell your products (please specifically include local outlets - e.g. CSA, farmers market, grocery store, farm to school). *3,500 characters max*
3. **Briefly describe any practices that protect or enhance soil and water quality.** For instance, reduced tillage, cover cropping, rotational grazing, integrated pest management, irrigation efficiency, erosion control, wildlife habitat enhancement. Certifications are not required but you can mention them if applicable. *3,500 characters*
4. **Street address where your farm or ranch operation is located.**



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5. **Annual gross sales of your operation:**
  - Under \$100,000
  - \$100,000-\$500,000
  - More than \$500,000
6. **Please indicate if the primary farm or ranch operator/s meets criteria of USDA [historically underserved producers](#)** (check all that apply)
  - Limited resource farmer or rancher
  - Beginning farmer or rancher
  - Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher, including Tribal, indigenous and people of color
  - Veteran farmer or rancher
7. **Briefly describe the impact of the January 2024 ice storm on your farm or ranch business.**  
What overall impacts did the storm have on your farm or ranch business and property? *3,500 character max; photo uploads allowed*
8. **How much funding are you requesting?** Maximum of \$2,000.
9. **What is the total cost of the project you are requesting funding for?** We understand that many or most projects will cost more than \$2,000 to complete - please note an estimated total project cost.
10. **Have you already completed the project you are requesting funding for?**
  - Yes (If yes, you will be asked to provide photo documentation and receipts of the project)
  - No
11. **What are you seeking grant funding for?** Please be specific. If you can upload a photo that conveys the need for funding or the project you would use the funding for, please upload that here. If you are requesting funds for a project already completed, you are required to upload a photo of the completed project and a dated receipt/s to confirm that the project was completed after the ice storm and before this application. *3,500 characters max; photo uploads allowed*
12. **We are sharing a partial list of other disaster assistance programs here, in case your farm or ranch business is eligible.** This is for information purposes and it not a comprehensive list.  
[USDA Disaster Assistance Programs at a Glance](#)  
[Small Business Association Disaster Assistance](#)  
[Lane County Ice Storm Housing Damage Survey](#)  
[American Red Cross Southwest Oregon](#) (local office)  
[211info](#) - service referral for utility assistance, food, basic needs, mental & behavioral health, disaster services, and more.
13. **Agreement to complete final report and share photo(s) of completed project.** I understand that - if awarded grant funds - I must complete a final report summarizing how grant funds were used within 60 days of project completion, including at least one photo documenting the project. The final report will be a short (~1 page) narrative description of the project that was completed, a list of what the funds were spent on, and a photo(s) documenting the completed project. We encourage but do not require "before / after" photo documentation.  
*Photo documentation will not be used publicly without your permission.*



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- Yes
- No

**14. Certification.** By submitting this application, the applicant certifies that:

- Funds will be used only for the purposes approved by Upper Willamette SWCD and as authorized under ORS 568.550. Funds will not be used for lobbying, for attempts to influence voting or legislation, or for litigation of any kind.
  - Any and all activities funded through the contract must take place within the UWSWCD boundaries. Please verify that your project and all associated activities fall within the boundaries; note that SWCD boundaries are not necessarily the same as County boundaries or Watershed Council boundaries.
  - The project/event will comply with Upper Willamette SWCD's non-discrimination policy.
  - Subject to the limitations of the Oregon Tort Claims Act (ORS 30.260 through 30.300), the applicant organization agrees to be responsible for its actions and any damage or third-party liability arising from the organization's activities related to its agreement with Upper Willamette SWCD. It agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Upper Willamette SWCD and its officers, directors, agents, and employees from any and all losses, claims, damages, and expenses resulting from or arising out of the acts or omissions of the applicant and its officers, directors, agents, and employees under the agreement.
  - The applicant agrees that obtaining permits, if needed, is the applicant's responsibility. Upper Willamette SWCD is not responsible for the safety of organizers or participants in the project/event, or for providing insurance coverage. The applicant is advised to check to be sure adequate insurance coverage is obtained for the project/event.
- Yes
  - No

15. If awarded a grant, you will need to sign an agreement letter and provide a copy of your Form W9. Notifications of awards will be made by April 25th. Please consider completing this brief feedback form to help us understand how we can improve this process in the future. Responses are anonymous. <https://forms.gle/kFDdzFrByGKcFBiZ8>

*Once you have completed your online application, you will receive an email confirmation notifying you that the proposal has been successfully completed.*

*If you encounter challenges or have questions with the application process, contact Grant Management Specialist Jared Pruch at [grants@uwsxcd.org](mailto:grants@uwsxcd.org).*