

OVERVIEW

TREESTAND SAFETY GRANT

Background Information:

The Treestand Manufacturer's Association (TMA) is a not-for-profit 501(c) (6) corporation with its charter being: ***TO PROMOTE TREESTAND SAFETY THROUGH EDUCATION AND QUALITY IN MANUFACTURING.*** Founded in 1995, TMA currently has over fifty (50) members consisting of manufacturers, retailers and industry associates that support and promote treestand safety. TMA's role is to foster relationships with organizations who promote hunting, hunting ethics, hunting safety, wildlife conservation and public awareness of the hunting experience. TMA also establishes industry standards and requires its members to actively seek certification of conformance. Testing is conducted by designated independent testing firms and products that meet TMA standards are published on our web site: www.tmastands.com, to assist the consumer and retailer in their purchase. The association also publishes various materials that promote treestand safety.

To show TMA's support and encourage each state agency to take a leading role in efforts to promote treestand safety, the association offers the **TREESTAND SAFETY GRANT**. The purpose of the grant is to establish a source for financial assistance and also training for staff and/or volunteer instructors. Training and Certification is administered by the Treestand Manufacturer's Association (TMA).

Eligible Applicants:

State Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Programs seeking to train and expand their staff and/or volunteer instructors knowledge on current treestand safety practices.

State Agencies/Applicants submitting an application (**APPLICATION - TREESTAND SAFETY GRANT**) will have the option of selecting from two (2) training courses listed below:

1. ***Basic Instructor's Course:*** a four (4) hour course consisting of (2.5) hours of classroom instruction and (1.5) hours of field demonstrations. Upon completing the course, ***Certified Instructors*** are provided the necessary materials to conduct treestand safety training in their Hunter Education and Bowhunter Education Programs.
2. ***Certified Trainer's Course:*** an eight (8) hour course consisting of (4) hours of classroom instruction and (4) hours of field demonstrations and proficiencies. Upon completing the course, ***Certified Trainers*** are provided the necessary materials to conduct treestand safety training for additional staff and/or volunteer instructors to become Basic Instructors.

Grant Awards:

Grant Awards for any State Agency/Applicant will be determined by the TMA Board of Directors. Grant Award Funds will be limited to one of the following:

- \$1,000 (One-thousand dollars) or
- \$1,500 (One-thousand five-hundred dollars)

Grant Award Funds will depend on which type of training course is selected on the Application submitted during any one calendar year (January 1 – December 31).

Eligible Costs:

Grant Award Funds will be provided for such costs as: the purchase of Training Equipment, Personnel (In-Kind), Supplies, Travel, Food or other materials necessary to be used during a *Basic Instructor's Course or Certified Trainer's Course* and as deemed necessary by the State Hunter Education Coordinator/Administrator.

Grant Contingencies:

- State Agency/Applicant is willing to schedule a Treestand Safety Instructors Course for a minimum of twenty (20) instructors at any one course. All courses have been scheduled through TMA.

OR

- State Agency/Applicant is willing to conduct at least one (1) Treestand Safety Certified Trainers Course with a minimum of twenty (20) students at any one course. All courses have been scheduled through TMA.
- State Agency/Applicant is willing to purchase or agrees to provide the necessary training equipment through TMA. All treestands, climbing aids and Fall Arrest Systems (Full Body Harnesses) used during the Treestand Safety Instructor's Course are certified to TMA standards.
- Each State Agency/Applicant as well as Instructors and/or Certified Trainers, to the best of their ability, are willing to teach hunter education students as well as other hunter education instructors, the current treestand safety principals covered in the courses.
- Each State Agency/Applicant as well as Instructors and Certified Trainers, to the best of their ability, are willing to implement the current treestand safety principals covered in the courses into the State Hunter Education and/or Bowhunter Education Course.

Training Report:

Successful Grant Recipients agree to submit a **TRAINING REPORT - TREESTAND SAFETY GRANT** to the TMA Office within twelve (12) months from the date the Grant Award is approved. The report should include documentation of the Treestand Safety Instructor's Course for Instructor and Certified Trainers and status of all Grant Contingencies.

General Instructions:

The TMA Board of Directors will evaluate the proposals based on the criteria specified in the **APPLICATION - TREESTAND SAFETY GRANT**. All Grant Award Funding will be determined by the TMA Board depending on availability of funds and also order of receipt of completed application from State Agency/Applicant. All State Agencies/Applicants will be notified of the status of the Grant Awards within thirty (30) to forty-five (45) days from receipt of their completed application.