

# **The Friends of Nachusa Grasslands**

## **2012 Scientific Research Project Grant Policy and Instructions**

The goals of the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands (the Friends) are to build an endowment for long-term protection; promote volunteerism; and encourage science and education at Nachusa Grasslands in Franklin Grove, Illinois.

To support scientific endeavors, the Friends may award monetary grants to qualified candidates conducting scientific research significant to Nachusa Grasslands. Research projects should focus primarily on prairie and savanna land management practices, such as prescribed fire, seed collection, weed control, and natural areas restoration.

### **Qualifications for Scientific Research Project Grants:**

- The expected outcomes of the scientific research project should be pertinent and practical to the specific work and goals of Nachusa Grasslands.
- Research must be conducted at Nachusa Grasslands – additional sites may be included, but the majority of the study should take place at Nachusa Grasslands.
- Proposals will be evaluated in regard to each project's direct applicability to challenges in management practices for restoration effectiveness and species of concern.

### **Scientific Research Project Applicant Criteria:**

- University or college graduate students enrolled in pertinent programs of study;
- Members of pertinent organizations; or
- Individuals who have previously demonstrated valuable results in pertinent research.
- Applicants will be evaluated in regard to their standing and experiences as well as their project proposals.
- Members of the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands may apply for grants, but may not simultaneously serve on the Selection Committee.
- Applicants must obtain permission to conduct research at Nachusa Grasslands by contacting Bill Kleiman ([bkleiman@tnc.org](mailto:bkleiman@tnc.org)) or Cody Considine ([cconsidine@tnc.org](mailto:cconsidine@tnc.org)).

### **Scientific Research Project Grant Amounts:**

- The minimum individual grant in 2012 is \$400.
- The maximum for all grants in 2012 is \$2,000.
- Grants must be used between February 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013.
- Recipients may be supported by other organizations for the same research project.

### **Ownership, Reporting, and Sharing of Research Findings:**

- Grant recipients own their research and may publish (or not publish) their findings as desired.
- Recipients must formally (in print) acknowledge the support provided by the Friends in all presentations, posters, publications, and reports.
- Grant recipients must use a format provided by the Friends to submit a written report of their research findings to the Friends, including an accounting of how the grant was spent.
- The specific timing of the report will be mutually determined by the individual and the Friends.

- With the collaboration of the recipients, the Friends may publicize the research grants or outcomes.
- Recipients are encouraged to share their data with other Friends grantees and Nachusa researchers as appropriate.
- Recipients will be invited to present a brief overview of their projects at the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands Annual Meeting on Saturday, July 21, 2012, at 1 p.m. in the Headquarters Barn. If they are not available, they will be requested to submit a report to be distributed at the meeting.
- Recipients may also be asked to share their findings at additional events, such as Nachusa Grasslands' annual Autumn on the Prairie celebration on the third Saturday of September.

**Scientific Research Project Subsequent Awards:**

- There is no limit on the number of grants an individual may receive as long as any prior awards are noted on the application.

**Application Process Instructions:**

1. Download the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands 2012 Scientific Research Grant Application form from the Friends of Nachusa Grasslands web page ([www.nachusagrasslands.org](http://www.nachusagrasslands.org)).
2. Save the form to your desktop with a unique filename that includes "Friends of Nachusa Grasslands 2012 Scientific Research Grant" and your last name.
3. Complete the application, tabbing between form fields.
4. Save the file as a Word document or a PDF.
5. Attach the file and your résumé or curriculum vitae to an e-mail, and send it to [nachusagrasslands@gmail.com](mailto:nachusagrasslands@gmail.com).
6. The subject of the email should be "2012 Scientific Research Grant" and your last name.
7. A receipt e-mail will be transmitted to you.
8. You may also direct questions to [nachusagrasslands@gmail.com](mailto:nachusagrasslands@gmail.com).
9. Incomplete applications will not be considered. However, a member of the Selection Committee may contact you or your references for clarification of a submission. Failure to respond to a request for information will result in rejection of your application.

**Dates to Remember:**

- Deadline for applications: October 31, 2011, by 5:00 p.m. CST
- Announcement of grant recipients: by February 1, 2012
- Grants **must** be used between February 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013.