THE ILLINOIS NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
RESEARCH FUND

2018 GRANT PROGRAM

Application Deadline: January 26, 2018

Submit to: INPS Research Fund Grant Program
INPS Website: https://ill-inps.org/2018-research-grants/

Committee members:
Connie Carroll-Cunningham, President, INPS Forest Glen Chapter
Susanne Masi, INPS board member-at-large
Edie Sternberg, INPS Central Chapter, Grant Committee Chair
The Illinois Native Plant Society Research Fund was developed to promote the conservation of Illinois native plants and communities through scientific research.

**AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING**
$4500 is available for grants ranging from $500-$1500.

**ELIGIBILITY**
Any person, institution or group conducting research on Illinois native plants can apply, with the exception of Illinois Native Plant Society State Officers and Board members. Only one award will be given to any applicant. Eligible research projects may include studies on Illinois native plants (including those that are threatened or endangered) such as life history, reproductive biology, demography, genetics, site inventories, community ecology, as well as research on threats to native plants and communities, such as invasive species. Laboratory research and projects focused on research relating to education about or restoration of native plants and plant communities will be considered, but INPS funds cannot be used for plants or seeds.

Priority is given to: student research or projects that involve students; citizen science projects by qualified individuals; and projects involving volunteers. Priority is also given to projects conducted on public property or on private property having a Conservation Easement or which is designated as an Illinois Nature Preserve or a Land and Water Reserve. If a project is proposed for other private property, the applicant must explain how the project will benefit the public. All projects must demonstrate how they support the mission of the Illinois Native Plant Society, as presented on the INPS Home Page: https://www.ill-inps.org.

**GRANT AND FUNDING CYCLE: SUBMISSION, REVIEW AND REPORTING**
Proposals are due by January 26, 2018, including copies of any applicable permit applications or copies of permits already in place. **Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.** Permits must be in place before funding is released. Multi-year funding will not be considered. Confirmation of receipt of application will be made by email upon submission. Grant recipients will be notified by March 31, 2018 and 50% of grant funds will be disbursed by separate mail. Recipients will be asked to confirm via email that they agree to accept funding and will comply with the award criteria as outlined in the application, and to provide the name and address of the person or entity who should receive the funds, if not themselves. **Final reports are due to INPS by March 31, 2019. When reports are approved, the remaining 50% of funds will be disbursed.**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDED PROJECTS**
Projects which require a permit, e.g. scientific collector’s permit, endangered species permit, nature preserves special use permit or permit to conduct research on federal, state, county, or local municipality properties, will not be considered unless copies of these permit applications are included as part of this application. **INPS will not submit permit applications.** Approved projects will be handled as contractual arrangements between the Illinois Native Plant Society and the individual or group in charge of the project. Expenditures on contracts cannot exceed Illinois standard rates for mileage ($0.535/mile), lodging ($60/night for downstate counties not listed below; $70/night for Champaign, Kankakee, LaSalle, McLean, Madison, Peoria, Rock Island, St. Clair, Sangamon, Tazewell, Winnebago Counties; $80/night for DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, Will Counties; $132/night for Cook County) and per diem ($28 per day). Indirect costs required by
institutions cannot be included in the grant.

Providing matching funds from other sources (excluding grantee salaries and indirect costs) and volunteer participation will merit extra consideration. Other grants for the same project can be used as a match.

NOTE: Requests for the purchase of equipment (value equal to or greater than $100) will not be considered unless upon submission of the application and upon request of INPS, the equipment is mutually agreed to become the property of INPS following completion of the project.

Successful applicants will be asked to supply a Federal Vendor Number or Social Security Number as applicable. The final invoice will not be paid until the final report and invoice are received and approved.

FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS (upon completion and approval of which final funds will be released but not before January 1, 2019)
1. A final report must be submitted electronically to the INPS website by March 31, 2019 (Microsoft Word or PDF format only. Excel attachments acceptable). This report may take the form of a technical report or a manuscript for publication, and should include: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion and Summary sections. If the project is a part of a thesis, dissertation, or publication in preparation, draft sections are acceptable provided the draft includes an extensive results section that demonstrates the grantee fulfilled all requirements. A budget report must be submitted to demonstrate alignment with the budget submitted with the original application. Volunteers hours contributed should be recorded.
2. At least five color high quality digital images depicting the study species, project site, project activities, or other aspects of the project must accompany the final report. These images are intended to allow future grantees and INPS membership to see what type of research is being funded, and unless the grantee requests otherwise, these may be used for INPS digital media and marketing materials, such as the INPS website, The Harbinger, or Facebook page.
3. Grantees must publish project results in some form. Grantees are encouraged to submit to the INPS member newsletter, The Harbinger, and present their research project findings to a local INPS chapter meeting or the INPS Annual Gathering. If the project is suitable, recipients are encouraged to submit an article to INPS's professional journal, Erigenia, or another peer-reviewed journal.
4. Grantees must submit a short, popular-type article or news release to their local native plant society chapter newsletter AND a local newspaper or conservation newsletter which describes the project, its results, the importance to native plant conservation and how the project fits in with the INPS mission.
5. Copies of any publications or newspaper articles must be sent to the INPS grants email address, and, unless the grantee requests otherwise, these may be posted on the INPS grants web page.
6. All publications and presentations must include a statement that the project was funded by the Illinois Native Plant Society Research Fund.

For questions regarding the content of this program, contact: INPSGrant2018@gmail.com

For technical questions about website application contact: jcininpsgrant@gmail.com