

**BID SPECIFICATIONS
FOR INVASIVE SPECIES
CONTROL
IN THE ESSEX COUNTY
HILLTOP RESERVATION**

SPECIFICATION INFORMATION:

The Essex County Hilltop Reservation is a nature preserve located on the Second Watchung Mountain in the host communities of Cedar Grove, North Caldwell and Verona.

The purpose of this bid specification is to provide the Essex County Parks Department with the services of a licensed professional for invasive species control in specific areas of the Essex County Hilltop Reservation for the following:

1. Eradication of common reed and mugwort (*Phragmites australis* and *Artemisia vulgaris*) in 3 open wetland areas in the southwestern portion of the Hilltop Reservation
 - a. These sites are marked B, D and E on the attached map, and are 3, 2 and 1 acres in size respectively (for a total of 6 acres)
 - b. The job must include mowing the treated sites after the common reed and mugwort have been eradicated
2. Eradication of Japanese wisteria and Japanese angelica tree (*Wisteria floribunda* and *Aralia elata*) on the eastern slope of the Hilltop Reservation
 - a. See attached trails map
 - b. The wisteria is limited to a relatively narrow band along the western edge of Cedar Grove Park in Cedar Grove (adjacent to the Hilltop Reservation), where the new park meets the forest edge, but extends the north-south length of Cedar Grove Park
 - c. The angelica tree grows in stands all the way up the eastern slope, from the northeastern corner of the Reservation in Cedar Grove to the southeastern portion just upslope from the northern end of Linn Drive in Verona. The successful bidder's target area for angelica tree eradication is limited to the eastern slope, from the eastern edge of the Reservation up to the main service road at the crest of the hill.

The successful bidder will work in conjunction with the Hilltop Conservancy, which will guide the vendor as to what areas / sites need to be addressed. The successful bidder will provide manpower, equipment, time and materials to the eradication of the target invasives listed above.

The successful eradication of 95% of the target invasives must be completed by the end of two (2) growing seasons (defined as Spring through late Fall). If

eradication is less than 95% the vendor must return to the site – at his / her own expense – until eradication meets the 95% requirement.

Prospective vendors must meet the following requirements:

- Pesticide operator licenses for Category 5 (aquatic) and Category 6 (general and right of way vegetation management) work
- Experience eradicating invasives in natural areas, e.g., nature preserves and / or reservations
- Demonstrated experience eradicating these target species: *Phragmites australis*, *Artemisia vulgaris*, *Wisteria floribunda*, *Aralia elata*

PAYMENT:

Vendor shall be paid only for the work actually completed. Invoices must have detailed descriptions of the control methods employed and the acreage treated as to comply with the pricing information on the proposal page. Essex County is tax exempt and will provide the vendor with their taxpayer identification number and certification if required.

CONTRACT PERIOD:

The contract period will be twenty-four (24) months from date of award with an option for a twenty-four (24) month extension of these services at the County's discretion and upon mutual agreement between the County of Essex and awarded vendor.

BID PROPOSAL PAGE

Vendor proposes to provide the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs with certified technicians to provide for the eradication of target invasive species in specified areas of the Essex County Hilltop Reservation for 24 months from date of award. This contract includes a 24 month option upon mutual agreement between awarded contractor and the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Item #	Item Name	Estimated Totals	Unit Rate	Total
1	Certified Technician Hours	<i>160</i>	_____	_____
2	Pesticide and Other Supply Expenditures	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	\$25,000.00
	Grand Total of Items #1 - #2			_____

Total In Words: _____

Company Name: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____