



## Request for Funding for CCGA Advocacy and Outreach Project for 2023-2024

CCGA Advocacy and Outreach proposes funding of \$400 for a series of Demonstration and Training Workshops in the use and operation of the Burro Rx Carbon Monoxide Sprayer. In agreement with NeighborSpace this machine will be made available to CCGA's Advocacy and Outreach Committee at no cost.

Many of our community gardens are not directly supported by NeighborSpace; but are often stewarded and maintained by elderly persons. There may not be enough robust garden volunteers. Use of poisoned traps endangers gardeners and other wildlife. For these reasons, Advocacy and Outreach Committee will transport the Burrow Rx machine to selected sites\*\*, provide information about rat deterrence, demonstrate identification of rat burrow holes and tunnels, and eliminate rats with the use of the machine. Rats are euthanized by carbon monoxide gas safely injected into the holes. Any CCGA community gardener is welcome to attend the demonstrations to be trained for use of the machine on their own.

### Costs:

\$200 for purchase of one case of special smoke oil. This oil is critical to identifying the rat entrance burrows, tunnels, and exits and serves as a warning agent to those present, although open air application endangers no one. Repeated applications may be necessary depending on the degree of infestation and follow up reporting.

\$150 for transportation of the machine for each workshop.

\$50 for additional expenses of 10w30 motor oil and gasoline. (The Burrow Rx has a Briggs and Stratton engine typical of a small lawnmower.)

Gardeners may help with transportation or additional expenses where possible.

A report and photos of the project, i.e. simple write up on the/results will be available in a timely manner for a final report to LVMH in 2024.

\*\*A survey of rats in community gardens was undertaken by Chicago Park District Community Garden Program during September to November of 2023 in which close to 20 community gardens noted rat activity in their gardens. Our workshop series will draw on these contacts to pilot the program. Follow-up will be done by CCGA Communications through our Newsletter and website.

Questions may be addressed to May Toy, CCGA Advocacy and Outreach Committee, [mtoy.usa@gmail.com](mailto:mtoy.usa@gmail.com). Submitted December 17, 2023