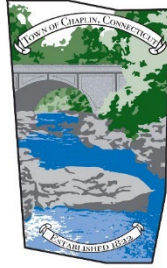


Town of Chaplin, Connecticut



Invitation to Bid (ITB) For Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Skid Unit

The Town of Chaplin and the Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) are seeking sealed bids for the purchase and delivery of a Forestry Skid Unit. Said unit will be installed on a 2022 Ford F-350 Single Rear Wheel (SRW) truck equipped with a Redding Classic II Utility Body and consistent with the specifications outlined in the Invitation to Bid (ITB).

Sealed bids will be accepted at the Chaplin Town Hall, located at 495 Phoenixville Road, Chaplin, CT 06235, until 12 PM prevailing time on September 4, 2025 at which time they will be publicly opened.

Bid documents and addenda, if any, are available on the Town of Chaplin website under "Town of Chaplin Notices" at <https://www.chaplinct.org/> and on the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Contracting Portal at https://portal.ct.gov/das/ctsource/bidboard?language=en_US.

The Town of Chaplin reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, to waive minor irregularities in the bidding and to award the bid to other than the low bidder if deemed in the best interest of the Town.

The Town of Chaplin is an Equal Opportunity Employer and, along with subcontractors, is committed to providing equal opportunities in employment and career advancement without unlawful discrimination.

BIDDER'S INSTRUCTIONS
Invitation to Bid (ITB)
For
Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Apparatus Upfit

The following instructions and specifications shall be observed by all proposers:

I. General information

The Town of Chaplin and the Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) are seeking sealed bids for the purchase and delivery of a Forestry Skid Unit. Said unit will be installed on a 2022 Ford F-350 Single Rear Wheel (SRW) truck equipped with a Redding Classic II Utility Body. The unit shall be designed for wildland and brush firefighting, but must also be capable of supporting a wide range of operations including:

- Off-road or remote-area water supply
- Structure fire overhaul
- Vehicle fires
- Small debris fires
- Rapid initial attack or support during mutual aid

The unit must feature a compact, rugged, and serviceable design to function reliably across varied environments. All components must be new and of current manufacture, and in full compliance with the specifications outlined in this Invitation to Bid (ITB).

II. Definitions

For the purposes of these documents:

The word "Town" means the Town of Chaplin, CT and "CVFD" means the Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department.

The word "Proposer", "Vendor", "Bidder" or "Contractor" refers to the party or parties submitting a bid to perform the work to be done or materials to be furnished under the Contract; the legal representatives of such party or parties.

III. Availability of Documents

Bid documents are available on the Town of Chaplin website at <https://www.chaplinct.org/> and on the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Contracting Portal at https://portal.ct.gov/das/ctsource/bidboard?language=en_US.

IV. Submission Instructions

All sealed bids must be received by the Chaplin First Selectman's Office located at **495 Phoenixville Road, Chaplin CT 06235** by September 4, 2025, at 12 pm and marked as **"Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Skid Unit"**. Bids received after the deadline will not be considered. Mailed bids should be post marked as:

Town of Chaplin

ATTN: Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Apparatus Upfit Bid
495 Phoenixville Road,
Chaplin CT 06235

V. Bid Requirements

Each complete bid submission must include the following:

1. A completed bid form.
2. An itemized quote that addresses each requirement outlined in the specifications section of this Invitation to Bid (ITB).
3. Proof of licensure to operate in the State of Connecticut (or in the applicable state corresponding to the business address).

VI. Solicitation Timeline

Release date: August 14, 2025

Bid Submission Deadline: September 4, 2025 at 12 P.M.

Bid opening: September 4, 2025 at 12 P.M. at the Chaplin Town Hall at 495 Phoenixville Road; Chaplin, CT 06235

VII. Evaluation Criteria

The Town of Chaplin will award the contract to the lowest responsible and qualified bidder who demonstrates the capability to provide the product efficiently and within a reasonable timeframe. The Town reserves the right to select a higher bid if it is determined that the bidder can deliver the product in a significantly shorter timeframe than the lowest bid.

VIII. Bid Contact

All questions can be directed to David Stone, CVFD Treasurer via email at dpw@chaplinct.org or by phone at (860) 455-0030, or to Deputy Chief Chris Bray via email at firemarshal@chaplinct.org.

IX. Sales and Use Tax

Vendors are reminded that the Connecticut State Sales and Use Tax and associated Federal taxes are not applicable under this contract, and therefore these taxes are not to be included in the price.

X. Certificate in Good Standing

Any corporation whose bid is being considered for acceptance by the Town may be required, if requested, to provide a "Certificate of Good Standing" from the Office of the Secretary of State for Connecticut.

XI. Acceptance/Rejection of Bids

The Town of Chaplin reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, to waive minor irregularities in the bidding and to award the bid to other than the low bidder if deemed in the best interest of the Town.

XII. Insurance Requirements

The contractor is required to provide valid certificates of insurance for the following coverage types:

- **Comprehensive General Liability:** Coverage must include premises/operations, contractual liability, independent contractors, broad form property damage, and personal injury. Liability limits must be stated as a combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage.
- **Automobile Liability:** Coverage must apply to owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles. The combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage shall be \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 aggregate.
- **Excess Liability (Umbrella Policy):** Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000.
- **Workers' Compensation Insurance:** Coverage must meet statutory requirements. The certificate must indicate whether the sole proprietor and/or partners have elected to be included under the policy.

Insurance certificates must be submitted to the town's designated agent within five (5) business days from receipt of an accepted bid form. Failure to meet this provision may result in the cancellation of award. Each certificate must include a clause providing for 30 days' written notice to the town in the event of cancellation.

XIII. Damages

The Vendor shall be liable for any damage caused to Town-owned property while performing work under the executed contract.

XIV. Addenda

If additional information becomes available or changes are made to the documents, an addendum will be issued not later than 3 days prior to the opening date. All addenda shall become part of the Contract Documents.

It is incumbent on the Vendor to ensure that it has received all issued addenda by checking the websites listed above. Failure of any Vendor to receive any such addendum shall not relieve it of the obligations under its bid.

XV. Withdrawal of Bid Submitted

Any bid may be withdrawn prior to the designated date and time for receipt of bids. Bids may be withdrawn sixty (60) days after the opening if no award has been made by the Town. If the Town does not award a contract within sixty (60) days after the opening, all bids will be null and void, except this time may be extended by mutual agreement of the Town and the selected vendor.

XVI. Freedom of Information

All bids shall be made available for public inspection, in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 1-210, Freedom of Information. Copies of any information resulting from any bid opening are generally not available until a contract has been awarded or a purchase order issued.

XVII. Non-Collusion

The individual signing the bid hereby declares that no person or persons other than members of its organization are interested in this bid or in the contract proposed to be taken; that it is made without any connection to any other person or persons submitting a bid for the same work and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud; that no person acting on behalf of or employed by the Town of Chaplin is directly or indirectly interested in the supplies or work to which they relate or will receive any part of the profit or any commission therefrom in any manner which is unethical or contrary to the best interests of the Town of Chaplin.

XVIII. Contract Execution

Upon selection, the Town of Chaplin will provide the successful bidder with a copy of the accepted bid form. This bid form, along with all associated attachments—including this Invitation to Bid (ITB) and the submitted itemized quote—shall collectively constitute the executed contract. The contractor shall be responsible for submitting all required insurance certificates within five (5) business days of receiving the accepted bid form.

SPECIFICATIONS

CVFD FORESTRY APPARATUS UPFIT 2025

General Overview:

The Town of Chaplin and the Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) are seeking sealed bids for the purchase and delivery of a Forestry Skid Unit. Said unit will be installed on a 2022 Ford F-350 Single Rear Wheel (SRW) truck equipped with a Redding Classic II Utility Body. The unit shall be designed for wildland and brush firefighting, but must also be capable of supporting a wide range of operations including:

- Off-road or remote-area water supply
- Structure fire overhaul
- Vehicle fires
- Small debris fires
- Rapid initial attack or support during mutual aid

The unit must feature a compact, rugged, and serviceable design to function reliably across varied environments. All components must be new and of current manufacture.

Itemized:

1. Fitment Requirements

- 1.1.** The skid unit must be designed to fit entirely within the bed area of a Redding Classic II Utility Body mounted on a 2022 Ford F-350 SRW.
- 1.2.** Maximum skid footprint shall not exceed 48" wide x 96" long.

2. Skid Construction

- 2.1.** Skid base constructed of a durable and corrosion resistance material.
- 2.2.** All components shall be securely mounted to the skid with proper vibration isolation and weather protection.
- 2.3.** Under-skid storage compartments shall be included and capable of housing:
 - 2.3.1.** Three (3) 8-foot lengths of 2.5" PVC suction hose.
 - 2.3.2.** Multiple hand tools (e.g., Pulaski, shovel, brush rake).

3. Pumping System

- 3.1.** End-mount Wick UltraFlow pump
 - 3.1.1.** Driven by a 20 HP Honda gasoline engine (electric start with recoil backup preferred).
 - 3.1.2.** Pump/engine assembly shall be accessible for maintenance.
- 3.2.** Pump Discharge Manifold must include:
 - 3.2.1.** One (1) x 1" Tank Fill / Circulate line.
 - 3.2.2.** One (1) x 1" Hose Reel discharge.
 - 3.2.3.** One (1) x 1" Overboard discharge with NH threads.
 - 3.2.4.** One (1) x 2 ½" Overboard discharge with NH threads.

- 3.2.5.** One (1) Pressure Gauge (liquid-filled, glycerin type preferred).
- 3.2.6.** One (1) Adjustable Pressure Relief Valve.
- 3.2.7.** One (1) Drain Petcock.

3.3. Pump Intake connection to be 2 ½" NH with female threads

4. Water Tank

- 4.1.** 200-gallon poly water tank.
- 4.2.** The tank must meet NFPA 1906 wildland fire apparatus requirements for baffling and be suitable for multi-purpose fire suppression including urban-interface support.
- 4.3.** Features shall include:
 - 4.3.1.** 8" x 8" x 8" fill tower with hinged lid.
 - 4.3.2.** Overflow screen and vent.
 - 4.3.3.** Clear water level sight gauge.
 - 4.3.4.** Low-mounted tank-to-pump connection.
 - 4.3.5.** Minimum 1" fill port.
 - 4.3.6.** Minimum 2" drain port with valve.
 - 4.3.7.** Full lifetime manufacturer's warranty.

5. Hose Reel Assembly

- 5.1.** Low-profile electric rewind hose reel.
- 5.2.** Orientation must allow for rearward hose deployment toward the back of the vehicle.
- 5.3.** Include a roller guide assembly.
- 5.4.** Powered via vehicle battery connection with appropriate overcurrent protection (fuse or breaker).
- 5.5.** Reel must accommodate a minimum of 100 feet of 1" Mercedes Textiles Boostlite hose.
- 5.6.** Reel hose must be equipped with an adjustable tip nozzle capable of 60 gallons per minute 100 one hundred PSI.

6. Included Equipment

- 6.1.** Three (3) 8-foot lengths of 2.5" PVC suction hose.
- 6.2.** All required hoses, wiring, mounting hardware, valves, and fasteners shall be included and factory-installed.
- 6.3.** All plumbing shall be hard-piped or high-quality flexible hose that is rated for pump pressure and temperature.

7. Warranty and Documentation

- 7.1.** Warranty specification on all components and workmanship shall be included in the bid packet.

8. Delivery and Inspection

- 8.1.** Unit must be delivered pre-assembled and ready for installation into the department's utility body.

8.2. Delivery address:

Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department
106 Phoenixville Road
Chaplin, CT 06235

8.3. Final inspection and acceptance shall be conducted by CVFD staff, including operational verification of pump, reel, discharges, and all features.

The Bidder/installer must include an itemized quotation within delivered bid packet.

Exceptions:

All exceptions to these specifications must be shown on the quote with an explanation

Delivery Schedule:

The Vendor shall deliver the unit to the listed delivery address at a time coordinated with the Bid Contacts, and on a date after September 25th.

Timeline of installation:

The Contractor shall deliver a fully completed product, in accordance with the specifications, within the timeframe specified on the submitted bid form. Failure to meet the contractual delivery deadline may result in a price reduction of up to fifty dollars (\$50) per day for each day beyond the agreed schedule. A request for a time extension may be submitted to the First Selectman, who retains sole discretion to approve or deny such requests. In making this determination, the First Selectman will exercise reasonable judgment and consider any delays caused by factors beyond the Contractor's control.

**Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Skid Unit
Bid Form**

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Project Contact: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Contact Email: _____

Brief Company Description and Relevant Experience

Please provide a concise overview of your company, including its history, core services, and qualifications. Additionally, describe your experience with projects of a similar scope and nature.

(Attach additional pages if more space is needed.) _____

Number of calendar days after contract execution

your company will be prepared to receive the vehicle: _____

Number of calendar days required to complete all work after the vehicle has been received: _____

Addendum received:

Total Bid Price: _____

Attachments:

- An itemized quote that addresses each requirement outlined in the specifications section of this Invitation to Bid (ITB).
- Proof of licensure to operate in the State of Connecticut (or in the applicable state corresponding to the business address).

By signing below, the undersigned certifies that all information provided in this bid submission is accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge, and agrees to the terms and conditions outlined in the Invitation to Bid.

Authorized Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Print Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Skid Unit

Accepted Bid Form

(Town use only)

On behalf of the Town of Chaplin, I hereby accept the bid submitted by the contractor named herein, in connection with the **Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Forestry Skid Unit** Invitation to Bid (ITB), published on _____ and closed on _____.

The completed bid form, along with all associated attachments—including the Invitation to Bid (ITB) and the contractor's itemized quote—shall collectively constitute the executed contract between the Town of Chaplin and the Vendor.

Company Name: _____

Accepted by:

Name: _____

Title: First Selectman

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(see attached contract documents)