The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 23.097 (1) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 23.097 (1).

SECTION 2. 23.097 (1) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 23.097 (1g).

SECTION 3. 23.097 (1r) of the statutes is created to read:

23.097 (1r) In addition to the grants awarded under sub. (1g), the department may award grants to counties, cities, village, towns, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Indian tribes or bands that apply for the grants for the costs of removing, saving, and replacing trees that have been damaged by catastrophic storm events in urban areas. To be eligible for a grant under this subsection, the damage must have occurred in an area for which the governor has designated a state of emergency due to a catastrophic storm event. The department shall notify each applicant for a grant under this subsection as to whether the application for the grant will be approved or denied within 60 days after the date the application is submitted to the department. A recipient of a grant awarded under this subsection is exempt from having to pay any percentage of the costs in order to receive the grant.