



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2021 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2021-229

Staff Lead: Rory Anderson

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: July 29, 2021

Project Title: Woodcrest Trail Expansion

Project Budget: \$16,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Sara Gabrielson

Organization: Foundation for Healthcare Continuums - Woodcrest of Country Manor

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: July 28, 2021

Reporting Schedule: December 1 / June 1 of each year.

Project Completion: July 31, 2023

Final Report Due Date: September 14, 2023

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 08k

Appropriation Language: \$16,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Foundation for Health Care Continuum, doing business as Country Manor Campus, LLC, to construct a trail for public recreational use on land owned by the senior living facility in central Minnesota.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2024

Narrative

Project Summary: Country Manor requests \$16,000 to extend groomed trails through adjacent woodlands on the property of a senior living facility in Central Minnesota.

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

Nearly half of all Americans participate in some form of outdoor activity each year resulting in an increased reliance on access to public lands for recreation opportunities. A 2016 study published by Nature Sacred and the TKF foundation, found that the number of people living in towns and cities hovers around 80%, stressing the importance of the availability of parks and green space. The study also found that there are unmatched benefits to older populations in close proximity to nature, including affordable physical activity, improved mental health, and increased social interaction.

However, the emphasis on user-benefits and heightened energy around the demand for outdoor recreation opportunities highlights the importance to conserve the natural landscape, promote environmental stewardship, and work to create managed green spaces. As a result, there is an unprecedented need for private landowners and managers to further efforts to protect and preserve, as well as provide access to, natural areas. Woodcrest of Country Manor has a unique opportunity to address both concerns by offering safe and accessible outdoor recreation and education, in addition to conserving and restoring the surrounding ecosystems and native habitats.

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? i.e. What are you seeking funding to do? You will be asked to expand on this in Activities and Milestones.

The goals of this project are to restore and protect the natural landscape surrounding Woodcrest of Country Manor, as well as create a safe and accessible community trail system. Phase one will connect the trails to previously established paths to create 1.1 miles of groomed walkway, suitable for hiking, running, biking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, geocaching, and other outdoor recreational activities. Trails will be excavated and graded for maximum safety and stability, as well as marked with directional and interpretive signage to discourage users from disrupting local ecosystems, and to provide education about native species of plants and animals. Printed guides will provide residents, visitors, and enthusiasts information on the entire project, including trail maps, local history, and the underlying conservation efforts and benefits of outdoor recreation.

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

This project intends to protect and preserve native woodlands on the 137 acre property of Woodcrest of Country Manor. By creating managed green space for outdoor recreation, the trail system and conservation of the surrounding woods will protect the habitats of indigenous plants and animals, as well as provide ecological value and diversity to the local environment.

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

City(s): Saint Joseph

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

City(s): Saint Joseph, Saint Cloud,

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Trail Extension and Interpretive Signage

Activity Budget: \$16,000

Activity Description:

The addition of 0.4 miles of trail to the existing 0.7 miles will include excavation, grading, and supply and installation of class II granite. Utilizing the existing trail and service access, Since trail design and engineering have already been done, Henkemeyer Excavating will use those plans to perform site preparation by clearing the proposed length of the trail and hauling away any unusable, non-compostable material. Henkemeyer will then grade the trail for walkability. Once grading is finished, Class II granite will be hauled to the work site, and poured over the cleared path to create the trail bed. With the trail completed, directional signage and markers will be added to guide trail users. Interpretive signage for native plants and wildlife will also be posted at a later date, after research and identification. This step is not part of the project proposal, and will be performed in collaboration with the Stearns County Extension of Master Gardeners and various local educational institutions (unidentified at this time).

Activity Milestones:

Description	Completion Date
Installation of Trail Markers and Directional Signage	October 31, 2021
Supply and Installation of Class II Granite Trail Bed	October 31, 2021
Excavation and Grading	October 31, 2021

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Master Gardener Volunteer	Extension Master Gardener Program	Upon the completion of the trails and prairie restoration, the Stearns County Extension of the Master Gardeners volunteers will conduct field research to identify plant and wildlife species. Signage of identified species will then be marked along the trail and used in trail brochures.	No
Scott Keho	Country Manor Campus, LLC	Mr. Keho serves as the Capital Project Coordinator for Country Manor Campus, and will oversee all technical, construction, and maintenance elements of this project. Scott will be responsible for organizing all contracts, as well as providing supervisory leadership on-site.	No

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.

Our efforts to inform and educate our residents and the surrounding community about the project and the recommended funding from LCCMR, include a direct mailing to all Woodcrest tenants and families, press releases in local newspapers, and utilization of various web platforms, such as our websites and social media pages. Information will also be available in full-color brochures, as outlined in the work plan. All communications will include the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund logo and appropriate attribution language per the ENRTF Acknowledgment Guidelines.

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this be funded?

Ongoing implementation efforts will be funded and overseen by the Foundation for Healthcare Continuums. If additional funding is necessary, Country Manor Foundation will solicit cash and in-kind contributions from the serviced communities.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Henkemeyer Excavating	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The proposed contract will include excavating, grading, supply and installation.		X		1		\$15,000
							Sub Total	\$15,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								

							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
		Trail Signs and Wood Mounting Posts	Trails signs will provide location markers and directional navigation to users					\$1,000
							Sub Total	\$1,000
							Grand Total	\$16,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Contracts and Services - Henkemeyer Excavating	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The proposed contract will include excavating, grading, supply and installation.	Henkemeyer Excavating previous won a competitive bidding process for a trail building process (the existing 0.7 miles of trail) in 2018. Henkemeyer Excavating is the preferred service provider for this project due to their familiarity with the Woodcrest property, access points to the designated trail area, and knowledge of the specific equipment and services needed. We would like to bring them back as a single source contract for these reasons, knowing that they offer competitive pricing based upon their previous winning bid for the contract in 2018. This is a single source contract.

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Country Manor Foundation	These funds will be used for full-color printed brochures to be used as trail guides and provide educational information about the conservation project and process. These brochures will be available at the trail-head, in the lobby of Woodcrest of Country Manor, as well as published on the Woodcrest website. Additionally, this money will be used to supply the interpretive signage of native species, once research and identification are concluded.	Secured	\$1,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$1,000
			Funds Total	\$1,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [8c170b6d-041.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

The attached image is a satellite view of the 137 acre property at Woodcrest of Country Manor, prior to construction of the senior living facility. The wooded portion of the property has a .7 mile nature trail with a proposed addition of .4 miles of trail....

Financial Capacity

File: [5afb7cce-8b6.pdf](#)

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Country Manor Authorization Letter	fc60a2ed-2ee.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter or Other

Title	File
References	a225b340-d70.pdf
DBA Country Manor Campus	7c271034-a72.pdf
Signed Background Check Cert Form	51dd434d-355.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

I have changed the budget section to include the service contract as a generally ineligible expense, as well as included the requested justification. Please let me know if further evidence is needed to support our proposal.

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you agree travel expenses must follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, or sale of products and assets?

No

Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?

N/A

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?

N/A

Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

N

3/4" = 1000'

121

Lanig

Proposed
Prairie
Restoration

Woodcrest of
Country Manor

Proposed
Prairie
Restoration

Proposed trail
Extension

Rosewood
Nursery & Floral

52

94

