

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2009 Phase 2 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**LCCMR ID: 058-B2**

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**Project Title:** Reducing Peak Water Flows with the Urban Forest

**Total Project Budget:** \$ \$140,700

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** 2 years July 2009 to July 2011

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ \$97,200.00

**Priority:** B2. Reduce Peak Water Flows

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**First Name:** David

**Last Name:** Bucklin

**Sponsoring Organization:** Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA)

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Windom MN 56101

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**Region:**

**County Name:**

**City / Township:**

SW, SE

Blue Earth, Cottonwood, Faribault,  
Freeborn, Jacks

**Summary:** This project will develop and implement a replicable process to reduce peak water flows using revitalized urban forests. This process can then be used throughout Minnesota.

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**Main Proposal:** 0908-2-014-proposal-2009LCCMR\_main\_Peak Flow\_.doc

**Project Budget:** 0908-2-014-budget-RFP\_2009\_Project Budget Peak Flows.xls

**Qualifications:** 0908-2-014-qualifications-2009 LCCMR project manager qualifications Peak FI

**Map:** 0908-2-014-maps-GBERBA - MAP -Peak Flows LCCMRdoc.doc

**Letter of Resolution:** 0908-2-014-resolution-Letter of Res. GBERBA Peak Flows.pdf

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# MAIN PROPOSAL

## PROJECT TITLE: Reducing Peak Water Flows with the Urban Forest

### I. PROJECT STATEMENT

This project will reduce urban storm water runoff by 540 million gallons in the Greater Blue Earth Watershed. This is 20% reduction in urban runoff in nine communities. This projection is based on "Identified Benefits of Community Trees and Forests" by Dr. Kim D. Coder University of Georgia 1996, and other similar studies. The stated benefit is "for every 5% of tree cover area added to a community, run off is reduced by approximately 2%". This run off reduction will also provide a similar reduction in multiple impairments now entering the Greater Blue Earth Basin through storm water runoff.

Our urban forests are a neglected resource. With this funding we will we will revitalize the green infrastructure in at least nine communities. Most urban forest plans were last updated when the Dutch elm disease came through in the 1960s. The nine communities will be one each in the counties of Blue Earth, Cottonwood, Faribault, Freeborn, Jackson, Le Sueur, Martin, Waseca, and Watonwan, all members of the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance.

The DNR Forestry will provide technical assistance and up to \$100,000.00 in cash to communities. The DNR will also document the project for replication in other watersheds.

What makes this proposal more critical is the impending arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer which will destroy up to 40% of our urban forests, our ash trees. A 40% reduction in urban trees will result in a sixteen percent increase in storm water runoff.

This grant proposal is based on a very successful LCCMR-funded tree program in Mountain Lake, Minnesota. After five years in Mountain Lake we have accomplished a 25%, 500 tree increase in the urban trees. This will result in a 10% decrease in storm water run off.

### II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

**Result 1 Choose communities and establish tree commissions. Budget \$ 32,700.00**  
**Deliverable Completion Date Winter 2009**

1 The SWCDs in each County overseen by GBERBA will select a community with a population of less than five thousand residents. A community of that size will have limited budgets to deal with the urban forest issues. The SWCD will contact the larger communities first by approaching the city council members. We will be open to the option of working with multiple towns in a county as funds allow. The City will agree in an official council resolution to participate in the program and commit the \$3,000.00 match per year for a minimum of three years. This is a 75% match to the LCCMR funds by each community. Each town will also designate a certified tree inspector. A volunteer citizen committee will be established to advise the City Councils and rewrite the City tree ordinance as needed to bring up to current standards.

**Result 2: Community Tree Surveys Budget: \$ 9,000.00**  
**Deliverable Completion Date Winter 2009**

1 Each Community will conduct a public tree survey. The survey will be done by Community Volunteers, SWCDs, DNR foresters, and the Minnesota Conservation Corps. if needed. The MCC staff will be hired with each communities match dollars. All public street trees will be surveyed. The survey will be a starting point that will give us tree specie populations in the urban forest and assist with tree selection. The survey will also identify tree openings, and hazard trees for removal.

**Result 3 Plant trees in the Communities Budget \$ 99,000.00**  
**Deliverable Completion Date Summer 2010-11**



## Project Budget

### Reducing Peak Water Flows with the Urban Forest

#### IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>% FTE</u>
<b>Personnel:</b> SWCD/County project coordinator in 9 Counties. 5% FTE X9	27,000.00	5%
The Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Staff, over all project coordination.	3,000.00	5%
<b>Other:</b> Project advertising and promotion. Local newspapers, and meetings. \$300.00 per Community = \$2,700.00	2,700.00	
<b>Other:</b> Tree purchase, planting, tree surveys. \$6,000.00 per 2 years x 9 communities.	108,000.00	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR</b>	<b>140,700.00</b>	

#### V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b> Community cash match amounts \$3,000.00 x 3 yrs x 9 communities. = <b>\$81,000.00</b> Landowner cash match, \$10 per tree x 180 trees over 3 years x 9 communities. = <b>\$16,200.00</b>	\$97,200.00	<i>Partially secured</i>
<b>Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period:</b> Potentially up to <b>\$100,000</b> of DNR Bonding Grant Funds to communities to cost share local implementation activities. If this LCCMR grant is successful we will apply to the DNR Community Forest Health Grant.	\$100,000.00	<i>Partially secured</i>
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b> Volunteers for tree commissions, 5 volunteers x 9 communities x 10 hrs per year x 2 years. = <b>\$9,000.00</b> GBERBA Technical and Policy meeting up dates and discussion on project. 150 hrs over 2 years. = <b>\$3,000.00</b> Minnesota DNR Forestry 5% x 5 staff = <b>\$15,000</b> (25% of an FTE) Minnesota DNR <b>\$10,000</b> for documenting project, including video production and printing costs.	\$37,000.00	

**2009 LCCMR Grant Request  
Project Manager Qualifications for David Bucklin.**

Cottonwood SWCD District Technician 19 years  
The Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Technical Coordinator 2006-present  
Member of the Mountain Lake Tree Commission from inception. 2004-present  
Manager of an EQIP Forestry stand improvement Grant, Buckthorn control 2006-2010

Presentation at the Minnesota SWCD Forestry Association Conference  
March 26-27, 2008. Emerging Issues On Family Forestland. The Emerald Ash Borer in  
Cottonwood County, and presented information on the Mountain Lake urban forest  
project.

Presentation at the MASWCD State Employees Training Conference, June 23-25 2008.  
The Emerald Ash Borer in Minnesota.

# GREATER BLUE EARTH RIVER BASIN ALLIANCE

This grant proposal will serve 40,000 people in nine communities within the Greater Blue Earth River Basin.

