

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2011-2012 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 084-C3+4

Project Title: Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality Demonstration Sites

Category: C3+4. Technical Assistance and Community-Based Planning

Total Project Budget: \$ \$200,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 2.5 yrs, July 2011 - Dec 2013

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 19,000

Summary:

Degraded and eroded shorelines on fourteen private sites will be selected, designed, and installed as demonstration sites to improve habitat and water quality. Four workshops will promote the lakescaping model.

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Sponsoring Organization: DNR

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Location

Region: Statewide

Ecological Section: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ Employment	_____ TOTAL _____%

2011-2012 LCCMR PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: LAKESCAPING FOR WILDLIFE AND WATER QUALITY DEMONSTRATION SITES.

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Natural lake shoreline is one of the most endangered natural habitats in Minnesota. Shorelines featuring native plant species on the shore and in the water play a major role in protecting water quality and in providing essential fish and wildlife habitat. Preserving and restoring naturally functioning shoreland is a key step in good lakeshore stewardship.

This proposal marks the final step in a twelve year process to “institutionalize” the concept of lakescaping for wildlife as a strategy for improving water quality and fish and wildlife habitat on privately-owned lakeshore property. A total of 73 demonstration sites have been installed and planned in central, western, and southwestern Minnesota as part of the Habitat Corridors Partnership. The final 14 sites will provide new opportunities to select demonstration sites outside of the corridors used previously by the Habitat Corridors Partnership. It will bring the total number of lakescaping demonstration sites to 87. This final proposal involves working with LGU’s to transfer the strategies and procedures for implementing buffer zone projects to our local project partners. We will provide 3:1 cost-share dollars to plan and install those sites. Priority will be given to selecting eroding and degraded sites that were previously outside of the habitat corridors. Four workshops will train staff of LGUs how to initiate their own lakescaping projects in the future using local origin native plants for buffer zone plantings.

This work will be accomplished with one 100% unclassified specialist position from the DNR Section of Fisheries and two 10% technicians from the Nongame Wildlife Program staff. The Nongame Wildlife Program and Section of Fisheries staff will provide project guidance.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Lakescaping buffer zone demonstration sites. Budget: \$190,000

Fourteen lakescaping buffer zone demonstration sites will be selected on private lands in at least six counties. Selection criteria will give priority to severely eroded or degraded sites in locations outside of the wildlife corridor boundaries that were previously used. The sites will be planned, and installed using local origin native plants and in cooperation with staff from local government units who will be taught how they can take the initiative for planning and carrying out future lakescaping projects on their own. All plantings will be revisited for follow-through and to train LGU staff and landowners maintenance techniques. The outcome of this effort will be cumulative restoration of at least 1400 feet of shoreline on fourteen sites. All landowners will sign a ten-year agreement for maintenance of the sites.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Select, plan, and install 7 lakescaping buffer zone demo sites	Nov.1, 2012
2. Select, plan, and install 7 lakescaping buffer zone demo sites	Nov.1, 2013

Activity 2: Lakescaping techniques and technology workshops. Budget: \$7,500

Lakescaping workshops will be planned and carried out with local project partners representing LGUs mentioned below to teach the techniques for design and installation of native plant buffer zones on private lands so that these local organizations can continue these projects in the future on their own.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Plan and carry out 4 lakescaping technique and technology workshops for lakeshore owners and representatives of Local Units of Government	Nov. 1, 2013

Activity 3: Project Evaluation. Budget: \$2,500

Buffer zone demonstration projects will be checked following each planting season to evaluate techniques used and survival of the plants. Replanting will be done as necessary to help ensure long term project success.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Revisit all installed demonstration sites to evaluate the techniques used and plant survival so that corrective actions or replanting can be done as necessary.	Nov. 1, 2013

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

DNR Nongame Wildlife Program and Section of Fisheries staff will take the lead, with cooperation and in-kind support from the Cass County Environmental Services Dept, Thirty Lakes Watershed District, Sauk River Watershed District, Martin County SWCD, Heron Lake Watershed District, Otter Tail SWCD, Pelican River Watershed District and the Initiative Foundation.

B. Timeline Requirements

Four lakescaping buffer zone projects and one workshop will occur from July 1 through November 1, 2011; seven lakescaping buffer zone projects and two workshops from March 15, 2012 through November 1, 2012, and three lakescaping buffer zone projects and one workshop from March 15 through November 1, 2013.

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

This is the last funding request to the LCCMR for Lakescaping Buffer Zone Demonstration sites on private land. These 14 demonstration sites bring to 87 the number of demonstration sites in 20 counties created since 2000 with LCCMR project funding. This has created a significant base of experience upon which local government units can proceed with private lakeshore owners.

2011-2012 Detailed Project Budget

IV. TOTAL TRUST FUND REQUEST BUDGET [Insert # of years for project] years

BUDGET ITEM (See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 13)	AMOUNT
Personnel: One 100% time unclassified NR specialist Ecological Services @ 64,000/year x 2 years = \$128,000 to plan, coordinate and carry out installation and site selection for 14 buffer zone demo sites, July 1, 2011 through November 1, 2013 (\$84,390 salary/ \$43,610 benefits).	\$128,000
Personnel: Two 10% Nongame Wildlife Program technicians @ \$5,500/year x 2 years = \$22,000. These technicians will assist with site selection, installation, and followup maintenance with the 14 buffer zone demo sites and workshops.	\$22,000
Contracts: Contracts for presentations at four techniques and technology workshops. \$ 7,500 by landscaping/lakescaping consultants.	\$7,500
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Plants and lakescaping supplies like erosion control fabric and bio-logs for demo site installation. \$16,000/year x 2 = \$32,000	\$32,000
Travel: Instate travel expenses will cover costs for travel to evaluate and select project sites and to plan, install, and evaluate those sites.	\$ 10,500
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST	\$200,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: Nonstate dollars include matching funds provided by participating homeowners (\$7,000) and funds from participating LUGs \$12,000.	\$ 19,000	<i>Pending</i>
Other State In-kind \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: 1. DNR shared services for project support	\$ 9,372	Estimated DNR shared services
2. DNR division shared services for project support	\$ 12,000	<i>Estimated</i>
In-kind Services During Project Period: 1. Participating homeowners will provide a minimum of \$500 of in-kind labor services for installation, planting, and followup maintenance of their lakeshore sites at 14 sites.	\$ 7,000	Pending
2. Section of Fisheries and Nongame Wildlife Program supervisor staff time for project administration, visits to field sites, and involvement and attendance at workshops.	\$ 12,000	Pending
Remaining \$ from Current ENRTF Appropriation (if applicable): Current funding remains for HCP project Phase 6 (part 2j) which will be spent by June 30, 2011..	\$61,660	<i>Budgeted to spend</i>
Funding History: LCCMR has provided funding for Lakescaping demonstration sites in five previous biennia: FY 00-01: \$140,000; FY 02-03: \$325,000; FY 04-05: \$223,100; FY 06-07: \$205,000; FY 08: \$100,000; FY 09 - 10: \$75,000.	\$1,068,000	N/A

Carrol L. Henderson, bio

Carrol Henderson has been supervisor of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources= Nongame Wildlife Program since 1977. He has a B.S. in zoology from Iowa State University (1968), and a Master of Forest Resources degree in ecology from the University of Georgia (1970).

Henderson is author of the DNR book "Landscaping for Wildlife" and is co-author of "Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality". He was a major contributor to the production of the CD-Rom entitled "Restore Your Shore." He was the original project manager for creation of Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality buffer zone demonstration sites through a grant from the LCMR in 2000 and has managed that project and subsequent LCCMR grants as part of the Habitat Corridors Partnership that have resulted in the selection, planning, and installation of 86 shoreland buffer zone demonstration sites during the past 10 years. He has planned, organized, and carried out lakescaping workshops as part of those grants for lakeshore homeowners, lake associations, nursery managers, realtors, and officials from local units of government.