

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2012-2013 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**Project Title:**

**ENRTF ID: 076-D**

Restoring Water Quality on Fourteen Southern Minnesota Lakes

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**Topic Area:** D. Land Acquisition & Restoration

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**Total Project Budget:** \$ 695,405

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** 3 yrs, July 2013 - June 2016

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ 750

**Summary:**

This project will install 56 shoreland and 15 ag BMP projects that will improve water quality in 14 lakes in a tri-county area in Southern Minnesota.

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**Sponsoring Organization:** Le Sueur County

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Le Center MN 56057

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**Location**

**Region:** SE

**County Name:** Blue Earth, Le Sueur, Waseca

**City / Township:** Waterville, Elysian, Waseca, Madison Lake

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Knowledge Base
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extent of Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific/Tech Basis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urgency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Capacity Readiness	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leverage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOTAL <input type="checkbox"/> %



**RESTORING WATER QUALITY ON FOURTEEN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES**

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

South Central Minnesota lakes and streams located in Blue Earth, Le Sueur and Waseca Counties provide direct benefits that include improved water quality, hydrologic storage, and recreational opportunities and have a direct economic impact in the area. Local monitoring efforts have placed lakes and streams on the 2010 EPA approved 303d list of impaired waters. Scheduled Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plans are schedule beyond 2015. The overall goal of the three year project is to improve water quality of fourteen Southern Minnesota lakes and waterways in the tri county area. Direct outcomes are to complete at least 15 best management practices (BMPs) contracts on agricultural land in priority areas; complete at least 56 shoreland BMPs on 14 lakes for a total of 71 completed contracts. These projects are “shovel ready”. Another component of the project that is not requesting funding but has great local support is to engage, educate and inform at least 1000 citizens in the need to restore the water quality of the lakes.

Project outcomes are listed in comprehensive local water management plans and Soil and Water Conservation District plans as high priority. The project will achieve these goals and outcomes through competent water resource managers that work closely with the Board of Water and Soil Resources, the project team, active citizens and successful management of funding along with quarterly project evaluation. This project has solid integration with local communities. The City of Waterville has 6 high profile restoration projects and civic engagement included in this project. Ten area Lake Associations, the Tri County Coalition of Lake Associations and the Southern Lakes Chapter of the Minnesota Dark House and Anglers Association are also active partners. Momentum and excitement of the project would be hindered to wait four to five years until completion of TMDL Implementation Plans for Clean Water Funding to be available. Project partners are anxious to clean up the water now.

**II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

**Activity 1:** Complete 71 shovel ready agricultural and shoreland Best Management Practices projects 75%/25% Cost Share by June 2016. **Budget:** 695,405

The project will have completed at least 15 contracts for Ag Best Management Practices (BMPs) that will improve water quality, reducing excess nutrients and bacteria in the water column. The project will have completed at least 56 contracts for BMPs installed in shoreland that will improve water quality and reduce runoff on 14 lakes. Evaluation, prioritizing and implementing projects within the high priority watersheds of Whitewater and Waterville Creeks to reduce pollutant levels within these creeks will be completed. The technical committee will evaluate the activity progress and effectiveness of the projects.

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1: Prioritize agricultural and shoreland projects in July 2013.	August 2013
2: Complete at least 15 contracts for Ag BMPs in target areas with direct path to surface water with BMPs and 56 contracts for shoreland BMPs (native buffers shoreland restoration & retention practices)	June 2016
3: Provide Technical Assistance to participating landowners who qualified for 75/25 Cost Share projects.	June 2016

**Activity 2:** Engage at least 1000 Citizens to take ownership in improving water quality of the area lakes.

**Budget:** \$0.00 funds requested, In-kind \$217,773.00

At least 1000 Citizens will be engaged through project participation and input in watershed management. This includes bringing people together through participation in different avenues; this will carry the momentum of implementing projects that improve water quality.

Outcome	Completion Date
4: Conduct four Neighborhood Table Talk discussion groups regarding shoreland BMP perception during project length.	December 2015
5: Conduct one Coffee on the Cannon Event at a restored site in Waterville	Spring of 2016
6: Engage and educate at least 1000 citizens in watershed management through lake association meetings, activities, news releases, newsletters and up to six events.	June 2016

### III. PROJECT STRATEGY

#### A. Project Team/Partners

Project participation receiving funds through the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF):

- Le Sueur County
- Waseca County SWCD
- Le Sueur County SWCD
- Blue Earth SWCD

Project partners financially supporting the “Restoring Water Quality on Fourteen Southern Minnesota Lakes” project with cash match:

- Waterville Lakes Association
- Southern Lakes Chapter of the Minnesota Dark House and Anglers Association

Partners supporting the project through in-kind

- Lake Washington Improvement Association
- Lake Emily Association
- Waterville Lakes Association
- Gorman Lake Association
- Lake Francis Association
- Lake Elysian Association
- Madison Lake Watershed and Lake Association
- Waseca Lakes Association
- Tri County Coalition of Lake Associations
- City of Waterville
- Citizens

Partners supporting the project but have in-kind committed to other projects:

- Jefferson German Lake Association
- Lake Volney Association
- Le Sueur County Pheasants Forever Chapter

#### B. Timeline Requirements

The project is in place and ready to begin as soon as the agreement is signed. The project will be completed within the three year time frame of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016. The three year time frame will allow for unforeseen circumstances that might cause a delay such as uncooperative weather.

#### C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

Long-term funding strategy is to improve the water quality of Southern Minnesota lakes. This will be done through present and future cost share projects and carry the momentum of civic engagement. There will come a time when shoreland best management practices will be the norm. This project will lead to future funding through state grants, foundation funding, and private money of citizens restoring their own shoreline.

**2012-2013 Detailed Project Budget**

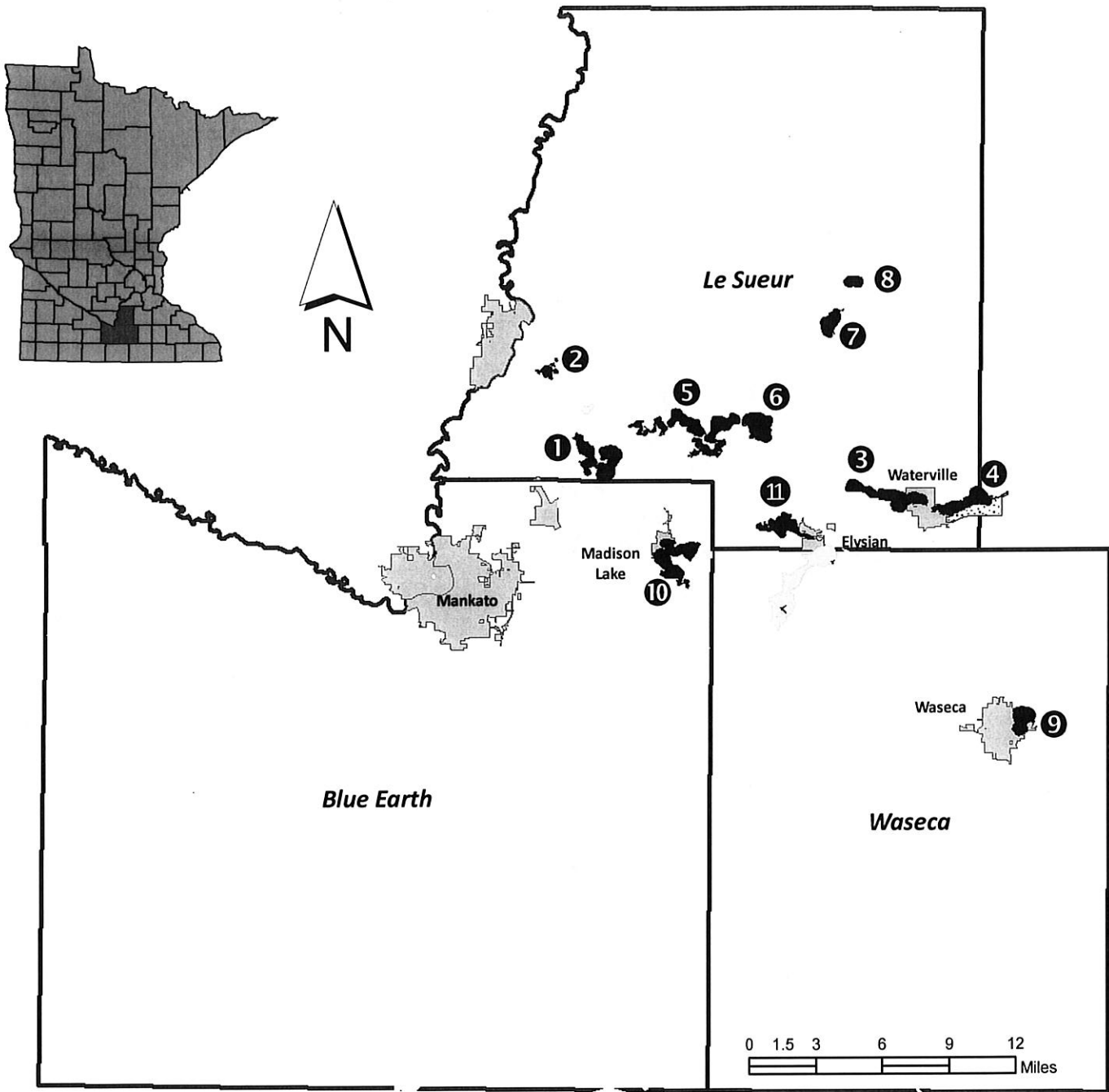
**IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET for July 2013-July 2016**

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>Additional Budget Items:</b> 75% Cost share for 56 shoreland and 15 Ag BMPs projects	<b>\$ 695,405</b>
<b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =</b>	<b>\$ 695,405</b>

**V. OTHER FUNDS**

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:</b> Waterville Lakes Association \$500; Darkhouse Association \$250; At the time of proposal submittal, we are seeking more cash match from participating lake associations.	<b>\$ 750</b>	<b>Secured</b>
<b>Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:</b>	<b>NA</b>	
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b> In-kind value is based on the 2011 Independent Sector's Value of Volunteer Time. This is what the US EPA recommends using for in-kind. Project specific in-kind consists of BMPs:\$258,935 (Landowner cost share and Counties, Cities, SWCD, Lake Associations in-kind); Civic Engagement and Education: 217,773 (Counties, Cities, Lake Associations, citizen involvement).	<b>\$ 476,708</b>	
<b>Remaining \$ from Current ENRTF Appropriation (if applicable):</b>	<b>NA</b>	
<b>Funding History:</b> Le Sueur County: Previous funding has been water quality assessment and implementation through the Clean Water Partnership Program (1990's to present): Upper Cannon (\$184,588), Lake Washington, Jefferson German chain of lakes and Lake Volney (Assessment \$261,602; Implementation \$668,222), BWSR Challenge Grants (drainage inventory- \$40,000 and barley study- \$6,742), Two Surface Water Assessment Grants: Le Sueur Creek/Forest Prairie (\$54,383) and Gorman and Sabre Lakes (\$48,342), State Conservation Cost Share, Clean Water Funding for the Jefferson German chain of lakes septic inventory (\$381,008), DNR Shoreland Habitat Restoration Grant (\$45,000).	<b>\$ 1,689,887</b>	

# Restoring Water Quality on 14 Southern Minnesota Lakes



Lake Number	Lake Name	DNR Lake ID	Lake Area (acres)	Maximum Depth (ft)
1	Lake Washington	40011700	1,519.43	51
2	Lake Emily	40012400	300	37
3	Lake Tetonka	40003100	1,357.77	35
4	Upper Sakatah Lake	40000200	892	12
5	Jefferson Chain of Lakes			
	East Jefferson	40009201	646.5	37
	Middle Jefferson	40009204	664.22	8
	West Jefferson	40009202	438.8	24
	Swedes Bay	40009203	492	6
6	German Lake	40006300	791.62	51
7	Gorman Lake	40003200	521.11	14
8	Lake Volney	40003300	268.86	67
9	Clear Lake	81001400	652	34
10	Lake Washington	7004400	1439.24	59
11	Lake Frances	40005700	927	60

## Legend

-  Sakatah Lake State Park
-  Targeted Lake
-  Lake
-  Municipal Boundaries
-  Targeted Counties

05/03/2012

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# LAUREN RUTH KLEMENT

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## Employment

### Le Sueur County Environmental Resources Specialist

*December 2005 to Present*

Supervisor: Kathy Brockway; 507-357-8538

Address: 88 South Park Avenue, Le Center MN 56057

Full Time, Local Water Management; shoreland regulations, septic inspections

- Coordinate the Jefferson German Lakes Septic Inventory project (\$380,000)
- Coordinate four Clean Water Partnership Projects (Volney, Jefferson/German, Washington and Upper Cannon) (\$394,588)
- Developed, submitted, and funded (\$184,588) the Upper Cannon Assessment Project
- Local Water Plan revision; Local Water Plan Project Review
- Annual Natural Resources Block Grant submission and grant reporting
- Septic inspection,
- Shoreland regulations/site visits, restoration orders
- Project development and grant writing
- GIS
- Educational outreach
- Initial advocate for a local septic loan program, then group organizational effort for creating the Le Sueur County Septic Upgrade Loan Program (SULP) and administer the SULP

### Greater Blue Earth River Basin Watershed Initiative Coordinator

*November 2003 to December 2005*

Supervisor: Three Rivers Resource Conservation and Development Council; Greg Roiger, 2007 Chair  
507-345-7418 #5

Address: 1160 Victory Drive #4, Mankato, MN 56001

Full Time, EPA funded project

- Coordinate the Targeted Watershed Grant for the Greater Blue Earth River Basin (\$800,000).
- Coordinate workshops, educational events, citizen stream monitoring, conservation cost share projects, wetland restorations, buffer strip incentive, monitoring component and nutrient management.
- Grant Writing (two 319 projects were funded for approximately \$ 370,000)

### *Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance Coordinator through a contract with the RC&D*

Coordinate the GBERBA Alliance

- Create Watershed Strategic Plan
- Coordinate Policy, Executive and Technical Committee meetings
- Create Policies and Procedures

## Education

September 1992 – December 1994 University of Wisconsin-R F.

Address: 410 South Third Street River Falls, WI 54022-5001

**BS in Agriculture**, Degree in Soil Science Major/ self made minor with agronomy and agricultural engineering

- Soil Judging Team, 8<sup>th</sup> place in a national competition, and several team awards of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place.
- Have the agricultural knowledge to do Ag Inspections

## Other Qualifications

- Computer experience including GIS
- Wetland Delineation training (Le Sueur County Technical Evaluation Panel member)
- Attended all required courses for septic certification for inspections in 2007
- Attended Community Systems Grant Writing Workshop and Grant Management Workshop in 2004 and 2005
- Attended a two-day workshop in 2007 on developing conservation selling skills