

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2019 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 163-D

Communities and Citizens Manage Ash for EAB

Category: D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

Sub-Category:

Total Project Budget: \$ 3,246,610

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2022 (3 yrs)

Summary:

This project will reduce EAB through community developed management (inventory, management plan, removal, non-neonicotinoid treatment) and improve their community forest by involving citizens and planting a diversity of trees.

Name: Valerie McClannahan

Sponsoring Organization: MN DNR

Title: Senior Planner

Department: Division of Forestry

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St. Paul MN 55155

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Web Address

Location

Region: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

Alternate Text for Visual:

Graphics for EAB, tree planting, and healthy tree. Map of ash population by municipality.

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| _____ Funding Priorities | _____ Multiple Benefits | _____ Outcomes | _____ Knowledge Base |
| _____ Extent of Impact | _____ Innovation | _____ Scientific/Tech Basis | _____ Urgency |
| _____ Capacity | _____ Readiness | _____ Leverage | _____ TOTAL _____% |
| _____ If under \$200,000, waive presentation? | | | |



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template

PROJECT TITLE: Communities and Citizens Manage Ash for EAB

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is spreading at a faster rate within Minnesota each year. Cities with known EAB infestations has increased from 16 to 51 in the last few years. Delaying the spread of EAB into new areas of the state will benefit the economy, environment, and human health. This project will reduce the population of EAB by eliminating breeding sites, help communities understand the makeup of their community forest to develop management plans, and improve their community forest by involving citizens and planting a diversity of trees. A multi-partner project allows for the education and engagement of citizens and communities in managing EAB to reduce its population and slow its spread.

ENRTF funds will be used for:

- Providing technical assistance to communities and promoting EAB monitoring-based management strategies.
- Administering up to \$2,400,000 in grants to support the management of EAB through community forestry activities on public and private land to ensure an all-lands approach.
- Conducting citizen education and outreach to engage them in ash management and community forestry activities.
- Quantitatively evaluating the impact of management work on the growth and spread of EAB populations in Minnesota.

Communities, working with partners, will define the best ways to manage EAB and assist their citizens. Funded activities will include tree inventory, ash removal, treatment of valuable ash with the non-neonicotinoid injectable insecticide *emamectin benzoate*, tree planting, and citizen education and engagement.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: *Develop request for proposals and administer grants to provide up to \$2,400,000 in grant funds to approximately 50-160 Minnesota communities to support the management of EAB in community forests.*

A request for proposals (RFP) will be issued for a grant program to provide approximately 50-160 communities \$2,400,000 in funds, and technical assistance to communities to manage EAB through community forestry activities on public and private lands. Grant amounts are expected to be \$15,000 to \$50,000 per grant. Eligible applicants are cities, townships, counties, Tribal Communities, and non-profit organizations.

Project partners will work closely with applicants to develop grant proposals that identify program activities, goals, and projected outcomes. Hands-on assistance is an important first step to build relationships between project partners and prospective communities. ENRTF funds will support this investment of time and expertise to develop tailored plans that are suitable for each community. An independent review team made up of grant partners and Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee council members will advise in selecting grantees. Participating communities will be selected based on demonstrated need for financial and technical assistance, local forestry needs, vulnerable populations (e.g., elderly, low income, etc.), readiness to take on a project of their proposed scope and size, and commitment to sustainable community forestry programming. The project will work with communities of different sizes and geographic locations to have the greatest impact on community management of EAB.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$107,203

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <i>1. Write RFP, develop selection criteria</i> | <i>July-September 2019</i> |
| <i>2. Issue RFP with 3-month open period for communities within quarantine</i> | <i>October-December 2019</i> |
| <i>3. Issue RFP with 3-month open period for communities statewide</i> | <i>January-March 2020</i> |
| <i>4. Review proposals and select recipients of the grant funds</i> | <i>January 2020, April 2020</i> |
| <i>5. Develop work plans and grant agreements</i> | <i>February 2020, May 2020</i> |
| <i>6. Administer grants and ensure compliance with grant agreements</i> | <i>May 2020-2022</i> |



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) 2019 Main Proposal Template

Activity 2: Grantees and partners work to manage and reduce the impacts of EAB.

Communities and citizens need funds to reduce the impacts of EAB and slow its spread. Funds will be granted to communities to implement EAB management programs that minimize the impact of EAB within and slow its spread out of that community. Grantees will implement their grant work plans with technical support from project partners.

ENRTF funds would be granted for community forestry and ash management activities, which can include:

- conducting a tree inventory
- removing ash
- treating valuable ash with the non-neonicotinoid injectable insecticide *emamectin benzoate*
- planting trees for diverse forests
- working with partners to provide citizen education and engagement

Minnesota Department of Agriculture will work with communities to promote monitoring-based management to slow EAB population growth and spread. This activity also quantitatively evaluates the impact of management work on the growth and spread of EAB populations in Minnesota.

Technical assistance from project partners (University of Minnesota, Tree Trust, and Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa) and grant funds will be used to conduct activities that strengthen community forests through citizen education and engagement. This includes education about EAB and ash management, education and engagement in early detection of EAB, planting tree, and training citizens in activities to manage newly planted trees.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$3,139,407

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Community forests in cities and towns will be protected and improved. Each grantee will be required to include specific language in the work plan to characterize their work, which can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree inventory or survey results • Development of a management plan • Number of low-quality or infected ash removed • Number of high-quality ash protected • Number of trees planted to increase diversity • Citizen education and engagement results | May 2020-2022 |
| 2. Quantify the value of environmental and economic benefits of work performed by determining energy conservation, air quality improvement, stormwater control, and CO2 reduction. | May 2020-2022 |
| 3. MDA will coordinate tree condition assessments in management areas as a baseline measure of EAB impacts. | August 2019, 2020, 2021 |
| 4. MDA and UMN will visually assess EAB infestations in selected areas to track the distribution of EAB populations, and assess density and population size in selected infested areas by sampling branches and trees. MDA will host EAB monitoring and management workshops with communities. | Winter/Spring Summer 2020, 2021, 2022 |

III. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding

| Name | Title | Affiliation | Role |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Gary Michael & Unclassified Staff | Forestry Administrative Supervisor and Unclassified Staff in Forestry Division | Minnesota Department of Natural Resources | Provide grant administration, contract management, grant compliance checks, grant reporting, communications, and unclassified staff supervision. |

2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

Project Title: Communities and Citizens Manage Ash for EAB

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET: 3 years

| BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses") | AMOUNT |
|---|---------------|
| Personnel: • Department of Natural Resources Project Administrator: \$300,000 (73% salary, 27% fringe) 1 FTE - DNR will hire an unclassified Project Administrator who will administer grants and contracts allocated by the project. | \$ 300,000 |
| Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: • Grants to municipalities or other entities (\$2.4 million) for management of EAB infestations. • Minnesota Department of Agriculture Scientist (\$165,000) - MDA will hire an unclassified Scientist (50% FTE) along with a part-time field assistant equaling 0.5 FTE. These staff will be responsible for assessing tree condition and infestations, and will host EAB monitoring and management workshops throughout the state. • The University of Minnesota, <i>Forest Resources department</i> (\$140,000) – Community forestry outreach, and citizen engagement and training. • The University of Minnesota, <i>Forest Resources department</i> (\$150,000) – Data collection and analysis • Tree Trust (\$65,000) – Community engagement tree planting education and volunteer events. • Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa (\$45,000) –Operationalizing work plan activities. | \$ 2,920,000 |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies: | \$ - |
| Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): | \$ - |
| Travel: We will utilize Department vehicles which is the most cost effective means of travel to conduct assistance and grant compliance checks. | \$ 5,000 |
| Additional Budget Items: DNR's direct and necessary costs (~\$21,610 total) pay for activities that are directly related to and necessary for accomplishing appropriated programs/projects. Direct and necessary costs cover HR Support (~\$4,432), Safety Support (~\$918), Financial Support (~\$3,911), Communication Support (~\$1,251), IT Support (~\$10,039), Planning Support (~\$1,059) | \$ 21,610 |
| TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST = | \$ 3,246,610 |

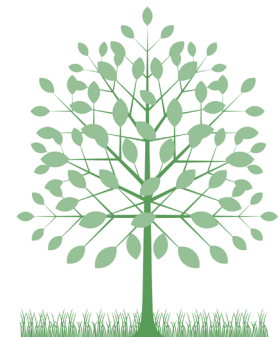
V. OTHER FUNDS *(This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)*

| SOURCE OF FUNDS | AMOUNT | Status |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: Community grant match | \$ - | |
| Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | \$ - | |
| In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | \$ - | |
| Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation: | \$ - | |
| Other Funding History: | \$ - | |

COMMUNITIES & CITIZENS MANAGE ASH FOR EAB

There are approximately 2.65 million ash trees in our communities. It costs \$1,000 on average to remove and replace a single ash tree. If left unmanaged, infested ash trees become exceedingly brittle and a serious hazard in the landscape and if all ash are simply removed it will result in an increase of 1.7 billion gallons of stormwater entering our system annually.

Funding from ENTRF will Slow the Spread of EAB, prevent hazardous trees from injuring people or property, maintain quality trees and their stormwater management benefits, and increase tree diversity to minimize future threats.



Stress

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is spreading at a faster rate within Minnesota each year and communities and citizens don't have the resources to manage it fast enough.

Needs

- Tree inventories
- EAB management plans
- Removal of poor quality or infested ash trees before they become a hazard
- Treatment of high quality ash trees with non-nicotinoid insecticide
- Tree planting for diversity

Benefits

- Slow the Spread
- Maintain safety
- Clean air
- Clean water
- Cooling shade
- Higher quality of life

Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

Organization Description: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)'s mission is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.

Project Responsibilities: The project manager will be responsible for providing overall program management and technical direction for the project; directing project staff, contracting for professional services and grant contracts in support of the program; coordinating with project partners; preparing and submitting work plans, updates and final reports.

Project Manager: Valerie McClannahan

Education

Bachelor of Science, Horticulture

Emphasis on Sustainable Agriculture, Minor in Urban Forestry

Graduated December 2011

University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Master of Education

Emphasis on Adult Education

Graduated December 2016

University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Qualifications

Senior Planner – Urban and Community Forestry Program and Grant Manager *03/2016-Present*
Minnesota Department of Forest Resources, St. Paul, MN

Assist the Statewide Urban and Community Forestry programs within the Division of Forestry to ensure shade tree and community forest resources are maintained and managed to enhance the physical, social and economic well-being of the state's communities.

Volunteer and Program Coordinator

University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

01/2012-03/2016

Built relationships with municipalities, non-profits, UMN Extension, and Soil and Water Conservation districts and coordinated input to develop unique programs and education courses that enhanced community forests statewide.

Committee Work

Minnesota Society of Arboriculture

President, manager of staff and agency liaisons

01/2018-Present

Vice President, manager of Programs and Education

01/2015-12/2017

Work collaboratively to advance the practice, science, and technology of tree care through education.