

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

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 244-FH

Restoring Tree Cover and Diversity to Houston Streets

Category: H. Proposals seeking \$200,000 or less in funding

Sub-Category: F. Methods to Protect, Restore, and Enhance Land, Water, and Habitat

Total Project Budget: \$ 83,080

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2021 (2 yrs)

Summary:

We are seeking funds to plant 120 trees from multiple genera to replace those lost to Emerald Ash Borer. Assistance for current property owners will benefit future generations.

Name: Susan Wiegrefe

Sponsoring Organization: City of Houston, MN

Title: Nature Center Manager

Department: _____

Address: 105 W Maple St
Houston MN 55943

Telephone Number: (507) 896-4033

Email nature@houstonmn.us

Web Address www.houstonchamber.com/

Location

Region: Southeast

County Name: Houston

City / Township: Houston

Alternate Text for Visual:

A residential street in Houston without tree cover. Tree in 2012 photo was removed when destroyed by Emerald Ash Borer.

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| _____ 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**

PROJECT TITLE: Restoring Tree Cover and Diversity to Houston Streets

- I. PROJECT STATEMENT** Houston's urban tree cover has been devastated by Emerald Ash Borer. Between city removals and those by electric utility around 200 of the 1123 trees listed in our tree inventory have been killed. The cost to replant them in this low income community (median household income \$37143 by 2016 American Community Survey) is beyond the ability of current residents and city. Funds for replanting would restore trees and all the benefits they provide for current property owners and future residents and visitors.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Coordinate planting of 120 native trees on City boulevards

ENRTF BUDGET: \$81280

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|--|------------------------|
| <i>1. Review and prioritize planting sites, update tree survey</i> | <i>November 2019</i> |
| <i>2. Solicit bids for trees and their professional installation; sign agreement</i> | <i>November 2019</i> |
| <i>3. Provide information and outreach to citizens, sign them up, educate on aftercare</i> | <i>April 2020</i> |

Activity 2: Design garden of native shrubs and herbaceous perennials to replace hedge of invasive species

ENRTF BUDGET: \$1800

| Outcome | Completion Date |
|---|------------------------|
| <i>1. Design garden</i> | <i>February 2020</i> |
| <i>2. Provide educational meetings and recruit volunteer gardeners to install and mulch</i> | <i>April 2020</i> |
| <i>3. Coordinate procurement, installation, and establishment care</i> | <i>May 2020</i> |

III. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding

| Name | Title | Affiliation | Role |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Susan Wiegrefe | Nature Center Manager | City of Houston | Grant Manager |

B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding

| Name | Title | Affiliation | Role |
|-------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | | | |

IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:



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

V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS:

VI. SEE ADDITIONAL PROPOSAL COMPONENTS:

- A. Proposal Budget Spreadsheet**
- B. Visual Component or Map**
- C. Parcel List Spreadsheet**
- D. Acquisition, Easements, and Restoration Requirements**
- E. Research Addendum (not required at proposal stage)**
- F. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**
- G. Letter or Resolution**
- H. Certified Audit or 990 Tax Information**

2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

Project Title: Restoring Tree Cover and Diversity to Houston Streets

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 2 years

| BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses") | AMOUNT |
|--|------------------|
| Personnel: 1) Planting Site Prioritization and Tree Survey Update 2) Project Management, Sourcing, Coordination 3) Planting Plan Development | \$ 3,600 |
| Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: | \$ - |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies: 1) 120 2" calliper trees of various native genera - installed 2) 30 2 gallon potted shrubs, 3) 240 plugs of native herbaceous woodland plants | \$ 79,400 |
| Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements): | \$ - |
| Travel: visit potential suppliers of trees to verify quality | \$ 80 |
| Additional Budget Items: | \$ - |
| TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST = | \$ 83,080 |

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: | N/A | |
| Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: | N/A | |
| In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: contribution of City via employee labor, use of equipment and mulch; \$100 per tree contributed by property owners | \$ 13,200 | |
| Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation: | N/A | |
| Other Funding History: | N/A | |



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Google

2019 ENRTF Grant – Project Manager Qualifications

Susan Wiegrefe, Ph. D.

Sue has been part-time manager of the Houston Nature Center for the last 18 months and in that capacity has been in charge of event/program creation, gift shop, visitor information, and publicity. She also works with the Friends of Houston Nature Center on fund raising and volunteer coordination.

Prior to being hired by the city of Houston she taught for the University of River Falls Department of Plant and Earth Science for 4 years in the Horticulture program. Among the courses she taught is Nursery Management/Arboriculture and Woody Ornamental Plants.

She attained Certified Arborist status with the International Society of Arboriculture in 2009 (# WI 0811A). She worked as an independent contractor for the Wachtel Tree Science and Service as part of a team conducting a street tree inventory for the city of Madison, WI in 2009.

She lead a tree breeding program at the Morton Arboretum for almost 10 years handling budgets, operations, procurement, and support staff of employees and volunteers.

She has a B.S. in Horticultural Science from University of Minnesota, a M.S. in Horticulture from University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Ph.D. in Plant Breeding and Plant Genetics from University of Wisconsin-Madison with dissertation on the molecular phylogenetics (evolutionary relationships) of the elm and hackberry families.

She manages the complexities of a small sheep, fruit and nut farm near Mabel, MN when she is not working at the Nature Center.