

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2020 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**Project Title:**

**ENRTF ID: 156-D**

Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for EAB

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**Category:** D. Aquatic and Terrestrial Invasive Species

**Sub-Category:**

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**Total Project Budget: \$** 5,929,174

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** June 30, 2023 (3 yrs)

**Summary:**

Project will reduce EAB through community developed management (inventory, canopy assessment, 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

**Job Title:** Coordinator

**Department:** Division of Forestry

**Address:** 500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul MN 55155

**Telephone Number:** (651) 259-5283

**Email** valerie.mcclannahan@state.mn.us

**Web Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Location:**

**Region:** Statewide

**County Name:** Statewide

**City / Township:**

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**Alternate Text for Visual:**

Graphics for EAB, tree planting, and healthy tree. Example of tree survey data. Canopy assessment maps and change rates.

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



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)  
2020 Main Proposal Template**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for EAB

**I. PROJECT STATEMENT**

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is spreading at a faster rate within Minnesota each year and it is imperative for communities to know where their canopy cover is located and how it is changing over time. The number of counties with known infestations rose dramatically within the last few years. Delaying the spread of EAB into new areas of the state will benefit the economy, environment, and human health. The citizens of Minnesota deserve the support and education they need to manage and protect their community forests from EAB.

ENRTF funds will:

- Provide technical assistance to communities and promote monitoring-based management strategies;
- Provide canopy assessments, statistically sampled tree surveys, and an analysis of community tree benefits for 350-400 communities statewide;
- Administer up to \$4.4 million in grants to support the management of EAB through community forestry activities on public and private land and in urban and rural communities;
- Offer education and outreach to engage citizens in ash management and community forestry activities;
- Quantitatively evaluate the impact of management work on the growth and spread of EAB populations.

This project will put vital tools in community’s hands so they can best define the way they need to manage EAB and enable them to assist their citizens. Funded activities will include: conducting a tree inventory, removing ash, treating valuable ash with the non-neonicotinoid injectable insecticide *emamectin benzoate*, and planting trees for diverse forests. Communities will work with partners to assess infestations, and provide citizen education and engagement to manage and improve community forest canopy.

**II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES**

**Activity 1 Title:** *Develop request for proposals, administer grants, and implement grant projects to support the management of EAB in community forests.*

**ENRTF BUDGET:**  
**\$5,317,881**

**Description:** Communities and citizens need assistance to reduce the impacts of EAB and slow its spread. A request for proposals (RFP) will be issued for a grant program to provide an estimated 200 communities \$4,400,000 in funds, and technical assistance to communities to manage EAB through community forestry activities on public lands. Grant amounts are expected to be \$15,000 to \$100,000 per grant. Eligible applicants are cities, townships, counties, and Tribal Communities. 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. Project partners include the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), the University of Minnesota (UMN), Tree Trust (TT), and Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa (Corps). These partners will work closely with applicants to develop work plans that identify program activities, goals, and projected outcomes while additionally providing technical assistance in implementation.

| <b>Outcome</b>   | <b>Completion Date</b>           |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <i>1. RFP development, open application period, and review and select proposals</i>  | <i>July 2020 – January 2021</i>  |
| <i>2. Develop work plans and grant agreements</i>  | <i>February 2021</i>             |
| <i>3. Grant activities are ongoing, annual work plans received and reviewed</i>  | <i>May 2021-2023</i>             |
| <i>4. UMN &amp; MDA will conduct tree condition assessments as a baseline measure of EAB impacts and to track distribution, density, and population size</i> | <i>August 2020, 2021, 2022</i>   |
| <i>5. MDA will host EAB monitoring and management workshops</i>  | <i>Winter 2021 – Spring 2023</i> |

**Activity 2 Title:** *Community canopy assessment: mapping and tracking change, diversity, economic, & environmental impacts*

**ENRTF BUDGET:**  
**\$611,293**



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)  
2020 Main Proposal Template**

**Description:** Working in partnership with the UMN, this project will provide canopy assessments, statistically sampled tree surveys, and an analysis of community tree benefits for 350-400 communities statewide. Building off the methods developed in the ENRTF FY14 funded project, *Update Statewide Land Cover Use Map*, the UMN will produce high resolution maps showing the extent, structure, and types of community forests for the years of 2010, 2015, and 2020. These maps will provide vital tree canopy information to communities throughout the state who don't otherwise have these resources. MNDNR Resource Assessment will perform statistically sampled tree surveys to aid in the production of the maps produced by the UMN, providing basic information communities need to make ash management decisions. Canopy data will be analyzed through the U.S. Forest Service iTree software to quantify the environmental and economic benefits of the community's forest, such as gallons of stormwater mitigated and energy savings. A user-friendly web mapping tool will be developed and several webinars and in-person workshops throughout the state will be offered to deliver and discuss results, data interpretation, and assist communities in developing tailored management plans and/or ordinances to protect and increase canopy.

| <b>Outcome</b>  | <b>Completion Date</b>          |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <i>1. Maps will be developed and assessed to look at changes in forest canopy</i>   | <i>Summer 2020; Spring 2021</i> |
| <i>2. Statistically sampled tree surveys in approximately 350-400 communities</i>   | <i>Fall 2020</i>                |
| <i>3. Development of web mapping and data dissemination tool</i>  | <i>Winter 2021</i>              |
| <i>4. Quantify value of environmental and economic benefits of community forests statewide and grant projects: energy conservation, air quality, CO<sub>2</sub> and stormwater mitigation</i> | <i>May 2021-2023</i>            |
| <i>5. Outreach and workshops about the web tool, environmental benefits, and vulnerability to invasive species such as emerald ash borer</i>  | <i>Spring 2021-Summer 2021</i>  |

**III. PROJECT PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS:**

| Name  | Title                                  | Affiliation                                  | Role  |
|---|--|--|---|
| Gary Michael, Jennifer Corcoran, & Unclassified Staff | Supervisor, Consultant, & Unclassified | MNDNR Forestry                               | Provide grant administration, staff supervision, , compliance checks, reporting, communications, and web tool development       |
| Mark Abrahamson                                       | Division Director                      | MDA  | Provide technical assistance to communities to identify management needs and provide monitoring and management workshops        |
| Gary Johnson, Brian Aukema, Joe Knight                | Extension & Associate Professors       | UMN Forestry, Entomology, Remote Sensing Lab | Train volunteers in EAB and ash management, conduct community forestry activities, data collection, mapping and canopy analysis |
| Karen Zumach  | Director of Forestry                   | Tree Trust                                   | Event planning, coordination, and citizen engagement in community tree planting   |
| Nick Cox  | Program Manager                        | Conservation Corps of MN & Iowa              | On-the-ground community assistance for tree planting and maintenance  |

**IV. LONG-TERM IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING:**

It is estimated there are 2.65 million ash trees in populated areas of the state, making EAB potentially one of the most destructive forest pests ever to reach Minnesota. Slowing the spread of EAB and educating communities using the latest technology and most current information about their community forests will provide tremendous long-term economic and environmental benefits to the state and its citizens. The methods used in this project are repeatable and the web mapping tool is intended to remain a resource available to communities in perpetuity to help address EAB now and future invasive exotic pests.

Attachment A: Project Budget Spreadsheet  
 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
 M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet



Legal Citation:

Project Manager: Valerie McClannahan

Project Title: Protect Community Forests by Managing Ash for EAB

Organization: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Project Budget: \$5,929,174

Project Length and Completion Date: 3 years; June 30, 2023

Today's Date: April 15, 2019

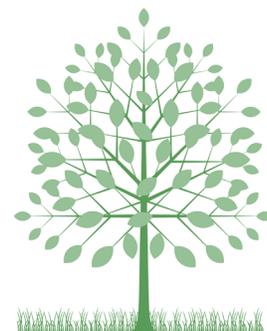
| ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET  |  | Budget       | Amount Spent | Balance      |
|--|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>BUDGET ITEM</b>   |  |              |              |              |
| <b>Personnel (Wages and Benefits)</b>  |  | \$ 400,000   | \$ -         | \$ 400,000   |
| Department of Natural Resources Project Administrator of Unclassified staff in Forestry Division for grant administration, contract management, education, and outreach campaign, \$300,000 (67% salary, 33% fringe) 1 FTE for 3 years.  |  |              |              |              |
| Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Forest Management Foresters statewide for completing grant compliance checks, \$100,000 (67% salary, 33% fringe) 0.33 FTE for 3 years.   |  |              |              |              |
| <b>Professional/Technical/Service Contracts</b>  |  | \$ 5,492,000 | \$ -         | \$ 5,492,000 |
| Grants to municipalities or other entities (Request for Proposals, \$4.4 million) for management of EAB infestations.  |  |              |              |              |
| Department of Natural Resources, Resource Assessment (Single Source, \$275,000) would be contracted to conduct field work for statistically sampled tree surveys and create user friendly format for public data accessibility.  |  |              |              |              |
| Department of Natural Resources, Resource Assessment (Single Source, \$275,000) would be contracted to conduct field work for statistically sampled tree surveys and create user friendly format for public data accessibility.  |  |              |              |              |
| Minnesota Department of Agriculture Scientist (Single Source, \$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. |  |              |              |              |
| University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources (Single Source, \$242,000) mapping and canopy analysis.  |  |              |              |              |
| The University of Minnesota, Department of Forest Resources (Single Source, \$140,000) – Community forestry outreach, and citizen engagement and training.   |  |              |              |              |
| The University of Minnesota, Department of Entomology (Single Source, \$160,000) – Data collection and analysis.   |  |              |              |              |
| Tree Trust (Single Source, \$65,000) – Community engagement tree planting education and volunteer events.  |  |              |              |              |
| Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa (Single Source, \$45,000) –Operationalizing work plan activities.   |  |              |              |              |
| <b>Equipment/Tools/Supplies</b>  |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000</b>   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Fee Title Acquisition</b>   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Easement Acquisition</b>  |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Professional Services for Acquisition</b>   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Printing</b>  |  |              |              |              |
| Printing costs for emerald ash borer education and outreach.   |  | \$ 5,000     | \$ -         | \$ 5,000     |
| <b>Travel expenses in Minnesota</b>  |  |              |              |              |
| DNR Travel for education and outreach: Vehicle and lodging for 25 work days.   |  | \$ 3,000     | \$ -         | \$ 3,000     |
| <b>Other</b>   |  |              |              |              |
| *Direct and Necessary expenses: HR Support (~\$6,115), Safety Support (~\$1,107), Financial Support (~\$4,881), Communication Support (~\$1,388), IT Support (~\$14,545), and Planning Support (~\$1,138) necessary to accomplish funded programs/projects.  |  | \$ 29,174    | \$ -         | \$ 29,174    |
| <b>COLUMN TOTAL</b>  |  | \$ 5,929,174 | \$ -         | \$ 5,929,174 |
| <b>SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT</b>  |  |              |              |              |
|  | Status (secured or pending)                | Budget       | Spent        | Balance      |
| Non-State:   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| State:   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| In kind:   |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |
| <b>Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS</b>  |  |              |              |              |
|  | Amount legally obligated but not yet spent | Budget       | Spent        | Balance      |
|  |  | \$ -         | \$ -         | \$ -         |

# Protecting Community Forests by Managing Ash for EAB



There are approximately 2.65 million ash in our communities. If left unmanaged, infested ash become extremely brittle and a serious hazard in the landscape. 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, provide needed tree resource assessments to make basic management decisions, and increase tree diversity to minimize future threats.



## Stress

Emerald ash borer is spreading at an exponential rate in Minnesota.

Communities don't have the resources to manage it fast enough, reducing canopy cover and environmental services.

## Needs

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

## Benefits

- Slow the spread
- Increased capacity to make informed practical decision
- 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

**Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator**

*Minnesota Department of Forest Resources, St. Paul, MN*

*11/2018-Present*

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.

**Senior Planner – Urban and Community Forestry Program and Grant Manager** *03/2016-11/2018*

*Minnesota Department of Forest Resources, St. Paul, MN*

Assist the Statewide Urban and Community Forestry programs within the Division of Forestry in project and grant management.

**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.