**MLA Project Manager: David Remucal, PhD**

2001 PhD – Environmental, Population and Organismic Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

1993 BA – Biology, Carleton College, Northfield, MN

Dr. Remucal is the Curator of Endangered Plants at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum where he has developed and managed the Plant Conservation Program since its inception in 2013. He will provide overall project direction. As manager of the Plant Conservation Program, he has demonstrated the ability to manage and develop budgets, direct volunteers and staff, work with stakeholders, coordinate with remote and local partners, communicate program information and results to a variety of audiences, and expand the scope and influence of the MLA Conservation Program.

**MLA Organization Description**

Organization History

In 1908, the University bought 78 acres of farmland west of Minneapolis in Chanhassen and formally established the Fruit Breeding Farm to develop fruits, vegetables, and later, landscape trees and shrubs that would thrive in Minnesota. The Arboretum was founded in 1958 on a site near the Fruit Breeding Farm. In 1976, the Fruit Breeding Farm was renamed the Horticultural Research Center to reflect the diversity of horticultural research, and in 1985 it merged with the Arboretum. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is one of the few institutions worldwide that identifies and develops cold-hardy fruit and landscape plants.

Programs, Strengths and Accomplishments

The Arboretum is a vital element of the cultural, educational, and economic fiber of the Twin Cities and larger community serving a broad audience with more than 450,000 visitors and 23,850 member households. Today, the Arboretum consists of 1,137 acres of unique public gardens, natural spaces and research areas with 32 display and specialty gardens, 48 generic plant collections, 5,000 species of plants, and 8 native and restored environments. It is a resource for horticultural and environmental information, a center for research and public education, and a place to inspire and offer models for visitors with quality plants in well-designed and maintained displays, collections, model landscapes and conservation areas.