

# Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer in Community Forests

## Final Application

Please refer to the Request for Applications (RFA) when completing this application.



<b>Organization</b>	
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	
<b>Grant amount requested</b>	
<b>Cash Match</b>	
<b>In-Kind Match</b>	
<b>Total match; minimum 25% of grant (combine cash &amp; in-kind match)</b>	

**Complete and submit the Final Application form and additional attachments to [ucf.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:ucf.dnr@state.mn.us) by November 15, 2019.**

Application Checklist:

- Review Request for Applications
- Budget form Attachment A
- Tree species selection and stock type, if applicable
- Tree Maintenance Plan Template, if applicable
- Letters of support from project partners, if applicable

**Project Overview -NOT SCORED** *This can be copied from your pre-applications or amended if needed-* (1,860 character maximum including spaces) *Provide a summary of the project, why additional funds are needed, and expected outcomes. This should include a description of the project location (City wide project, specific park, etc.).*

**Project Timeline** (1,745 character maximum including spaces) *Please describe the approximate project schedule showing intermediate steps and major milestones.*

**Project Budget Explanation** (1,775 character maximum including spaces) *Provide any additional remarks to clarify your budget request. Provide an explanation if you have a partner contributing funds or how you are funding portions of your project that are not eligible with these grant dollars.*

**Project Need Identification** (1,270 character maximum including spaces) *Provide an explanation as to why this funding is needed and what project work will not happen without these grant funds.*

**Project Impacts on Priority Populations** (1,100 character maximum including spaces) *This grant opportunity aligns with state initiatives to reduce disparities in health and environmental quality for diverse populations. Please describe how will this project potentially reduce disparities. For example, does the project target or include lower income areas?*

**Communication** (1,485 character maximum including spaces) *Please describe what methods you will use to conduct outreach to citizens about EAB or this grant project.*

**Key Personnel** (1,385 character maximum including spaces) *Please describe what duties internal staff will conduct, what work will get contracted out, or what partnerships you will leverage to complete tasks. This should include a description of key personnel and their past experience with similar tasks as well as education or certifications. If you expect to contract work out, please describe requirements you will have for contractors.*

**Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer in Community Forests**  
Final Application Budget



<b>Organization Name</b>	City of Duluth
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	Clark Christenson

Duluth will retain a qualified contractor for tree removal and planting. Cost will be dispersed as a lump sum. Estimates are based on 2019 costs from the City of Duluth and are subject to change.

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Hourly Rate/ Cost per Item</u>	<u>Number Hours or Items</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>	<u>Cash Match</u>	<u>In Kind Match</u>
1. Contractor costs (ex. labor, services, supplies, and equipment)	Removal of large trees	\$ 559.00	180	\$ 92,400.00		\$ 8,220.00
2. Trees		74	180		\$ 13,320.00	
3. Planting supplies (ex. water bags, grow tubes, bark protection, compost, etc.)		22.85	180		\$ 4,113.00	
4. Site preparation						
5. Equipment (up to \$5,000 in total that are necessary to complete the project )						
6. Software purchases (such as ArcGIS) or technology						
7. Gravel-bed construction materials (ex. pea gravel, barriers, and bare root trees)						
8. Hired Staff or Consultant time						
				\$ 92,400.00	\$ 17,433.00	\$ 8,220.00



**3. Mulching Trees**

Maintain 2 – 4 inches of bark mulch. Describe how trees will be mulched.

**4. Staking and Tying Trees**

Explain if staking is necessary due to mowing, vandalism, or wind conditions, and describe plans for inspection and removal.

**5. Checking Tree Health**

The grantee will check trees every 6 – 12 months to identify and address problems. Describe inspection process and follow-up.

**6. Tree Protection**

Young trees in busy urban areas may be easily damaged by human activity, animals, and equipment. Describe how planted trees will be protected.

**7. Pruning**

Newly planted trees should need little pruning, if they were properly cared for in the nursery. In the first year after planting, remove only dead or broken branches. In later years, weakly attached limbs can be removed, and corrective pruning can be done if needed. Describe how pruning will be done.

**8. Tree Warranty**

Tree planting should include a warranty from the nursery for replacement (due to poor condition or mortality). The grantee should be prepared to fully replace all trees that are in poor condition or die prior to inspection at the end of the project grant agreement, unless loss was due to natural disaster beyond the control of the project manager. Describe your warranty or how trees will be replaced.



**Gary Anderson**  
City Councilor, First District

Room 318  
411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802



218-391-7404



ganderson@duluthmn.gov

November 7, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to ask for your support for the City of Duluth's application to the Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant opportunity. I represent Duluth's 1th District, which includes Lakeside, one of the target areas.

As a City Councilor, I am aware that the cost to mitigate EAB in Duluth is significantly impacting other important city services. Lakeside is modest family neighborhood at the base of Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory. As the intermediary landscape between the steep hillside of Hawk Ridge and Lake Superior, it is especially important to replace missing trees to slow and control water entering Amity Creek, an impaired designated trout stream, and Lake Superior.

Lakeside is home to many young families with small children and the large, infected ash need to be removed for public safety. Further, we know that research has demonstrated the positive impact that trees and green spaces have the quality of life. Lakeside is one of the hardest hit neighborhoods and some streets have lost most of their trees. Residents are grieving the loss of their boulevard canopy and we need to complete this work and get the trees replaced and growing as soon as possible. These funds will go a long way towards that goal.

Thank you for advocating for funds to do this important work and this opportunity to submit a full proposal.

Sincerely,

Gary Anderson  
City Councilor, First District


[www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov)

The City of Duluth Is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**Renee Van Nett**  
City Councilor, Fourth District

Room 318  
411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

 218-730-5354

 rvannett@duluthmn.gov

November 6, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to support the City of Duluth's application to the Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant opportunity. I represent Duluth's 4<sup>th</sup> District, which includes Lincoln Park, one of the target areas.

As a City Councilor I am familiar with the cost to mitigate EAB and how that cost impacts other important city services. The Lincoln Park neighborhood has struggled financially for decades and is home to many of Duluth's most at-risk youth and families. The housing stock is old and residents are cost burdened because of high heating costs and maintenance on older homes. The neighborhood is seeing a renaissance and it is important to that recovery that visitors and residents, as well as potential residents and business, experience the welcoming feeling that green spaces and trees provide. Research has demonstrated the positive impact that trees and green spaces have on perceptions of life quality as well as property value.

While Lincoln Park is not happy to lose the large ash trees that we have, public safety is our primary concern. There are many young families with small children and the large infected ash that can't be saved need to be removed. Lincoln Park is especially hard hit by EAB as it had far fewer trees than other Duluth neighborhoods. It is especially important, therefore, to remove the dangerous trees and get them replaced.

Thank you for this opportunity and your strongest consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Renee K. Van Nett  
City Councilor, Fourth District

[www.duluthmn.gov](http://www.duluthmn.gov)

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**COMMUNITY  
ACTION Duluth**

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(218) 726-1665 • COMMUNITYACTIONDULUTH.ORG

November 6, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

**Re: *Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant***

Dear Sir/Madam:

Community Action Duluth (CA Duluth) has a long history of providing comprehensive services to people with low incomes with a goal of achieving economic security. Our office is located in Lincoln Park which was severely impacted during the economic downturns of the 80's and 90's. We not only recognize the importance of providing quality green space and programming to residents, but have actively engaged in the development of job opportunities through environmental services and urban agriculture. CA Duluth developed a multifaceted natural resources and restoration program (Duluth Stream Corps) that provides employment, skills development, land owner stewardship, and stream corridor restoration. The program has provided employment for a diverse crew, some of whom have used the experience to catapult themselves into professional positions with area non-profit conservation organizations, consulting firms, and government agencies.

You will not be surprised, then to learn that CA Duluth strongly supports efforts to reforest the streets of Lincoln Park and improve the economic and environmental sustainability of Duluth's lowest-income neighborhood. We have successfully partnered with The City of Duluth on many green initiatives as we improve the lives of Lincoln Park residents.

We thank you in advance for your support of this important application and project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Longenecker  
Executive Director

Brandon Van Tassel  
Director of Natural Resources



November 4, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir/Madam:

We are excited to support the City of Duluth for the **Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant** project.

Ecolibrium3's mission is to "lead and inspire change in our community toward an equitable and sustainable future." Our experience includes leading the flood recovery efforts in northeastern Minnesota and northwestern Wisconsin after the June 2012 floods, developing nationally recognized community-based environmental programs, serving as the convener in Lincoln Park neighborhood focused on the social determinants of health, and being the City of Duluth's community engagement partner for the restoration of Lincoln Park's urban forest.

Miller Creek is a priority watershed emptying into the St. Louis River/Lake Superior. We worked with the Urban Land Institute in 2015 to identify resilience strategies for the river and the low-income Lincoln Park neighborhood. At that time, increasing the water retention of land surrounding Miller Creek became a priority. Unfortunately, instead of increasing storage capacity, EAB threatens to significantly impact the landscape because 70% of the target area is ash.

Mitigating EAB through this project will provide an important start to maintaining quality green space for residents. The environmental impact and its alignment with Great Lakes and St. Louis River AOC delisting strategies makes this a strong application. The enhanced environmental justice components of completing this work in a vulnerable and disadvantaged neighborhood makes it even more important.

With 1 billion MN trees at risk, it is important to prioritize investments in areas that can show environmental, economic, and social benefit. We strongly believe that this project meets all of those categories and recommend funding. Ecolibrium3 is committed to the success of this project and I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Jodi Slick, CEO



November 12, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Re: ***Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant***

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Lincoln Park Business Group serves the unique Lincoln Park neighborhood in Duluth. Our mission is to lead and promote the revitalization of Lincoln Park through business, economic and community development. In order to ensure this, as a group, we support a variety of activities and initiatives that support business and economic health via healthy and welcoming communities. We understand what draws and sustains viable businesses and economic activities to a community; a vibrant business community, affordable and solid housing, and safe, clean and healthy environments.

Our group works with neighborhood groups, non-profit organizations, and small business to build these amenities throughout Lincoln Park and fuel the continued community resurgence we know is possible. We support affordable housing developments and efforts to upgrade existing housing, we address safety by working to make public areas safe and walkable, participate in public planning meetings and support resident efforts and sponsor activities that build community identity such as the Lincoln Park Walleye Open, a community event that celebrates the river and draws participants from around the city and state.

Lincoln Park can continue to grow as the "in neighborhood" to live, work and play with your help. A healthy and beautiful tree canopy on our streets is important to families and businesses, and will ensure that the progress we have made to revitalize Lincoln Park will continue. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

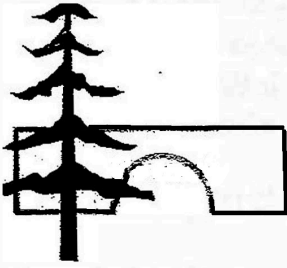
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julia Mattson".

Julia Mattson,  
Executive Director,  
Lincoln Park Business Group

Lincoln Park Business Group  
2002 West Superior Street, Suite 5  
Duluth, MN 55806  
218-727-6573 [www.lpbg.org](http://www.lpbg.org) [julia@lpbg.org](mailto:julia@lpbg.org)

Lakeside-Lester Park, Where the Northshore begins



November 6, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Re: ***Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant***

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Lakeside Marketplace is ten great places to spend a day. We have everything residents need: our mission is *Neighborhood business, small operations, big hearts*. We work to sustain and revitalize our neighborhood through business, economic and community development via a variety of activities and initiatives that promote healthy and welcoming communities.

Our group works with neighborhood groups, non-profit organizations, and small business to build amenities throughout Lakeside. We work for our neighborhood by making public areas safe and walkable, participating in public planning meetings, supporting resident efforts, and sponsoring activities that build community identity such as the Lester River Rendezvous, Trick or Treat Lakeside, the Kiddie Parade, and events that highlight local artists and authors.

A vibrant business community and safe, clean and healthy environments is what draws and sustains viable businesses and economic activities. A healthy and beautiful tree canopy on our streets is important to families and businesses. Lakeside was one of two neighborhoods hardest hit by EAB: many streets lost most or all of their boulevard trees. We appreciate DNR efforts to mitigate the significant impacts EAB has had on our neighborhood and ask that you give this application your strongest support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seth Marshall".

Pres. Lakeside-Lester Park Community Assoc.



**W.J. McCABE (DULUTH) CHAPTER  
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA**

P. O. Box 3063. • DULUTH, MN 55803

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September, 23, 2019

November 6, 2019

Community Forestry Program  
DNR Management Resources  
4500 Lafayette Blvd  
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir/Madam,

The W. J. McCabe (Duluth) Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America has been closely involved in the management and improvement of Duluth's green spaces for many years. Our chapter members have been directly involved in many meetings with the City of Duluth to help guide green space initiatives including Master Plans for park development as well as the Duluth Area Natural Area Initiative. We volunteer our assistance with on-the ground management of the park's natural resource values. We host annual outdoor and educational events to promote outdoor stewardship.

The League is a "big picture" organization, working to protect whole watersheds, including the air and water quality, the fish and wildlife habitat, and to provide the opportunity for nature centered outdoor activities, especially for youth. EAB is a threat, and these funds present an opportunity, to restore and enhance the ecosystem and landscape within the City of Duluth.

Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Grant funds will do much to provide replacement cover for the neighborhoods losing their trees. Both Lincoln Park and Lakeside stand between the steep slopes surrounding Duluth and Lake Superior and the St. Louis River Estuary. Because the city has so much impervious surface, it is especially important to the health of the streams that run through these neighborhoods as well as the lake as estuary to reforest as soon as possible. We urge you to support these efforts and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Rich Staffon*

RICH STAFFON

President - W. J. McCabe Chapter, IWLA

[rcstaffon@msn.com](mailto:rcstaffon@msn.com) 218-879-3186