

To: VLAWMO Board of Directors

From: Tyler Thompson, Phil Belfiori

Date: October 23, 2020

Re: V. B. 2. Consider VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy Update – Res. 08-2020

At the August 26th Board meeting, the Board voted to approve and assemble a Cost Share Program Policy subcommittee that comprised of the VLAWMO Policy & Personnel Committee, along with several TEC Commissioners. Staff developed several Policy update options for consideration, with Option 1 targeting VLAWMO's mission goals and the Board's June 2020 budget discussion. At their September 23rd meeting, the subcommittee provided great discussion and thoughts on the Policy update, as well as recommending "Option 1" for moving forward with approval, and implementation in 2021. At their October 9th, 2020 meeting, staff presented the subcommittee-recommended Option 1, and the TEC recommended approval of Option 1 to the Board, with a few minor comments and suggested changes.

Staff appreciates the time and attention the subcommittee, TEC, and Board have given the Cost Share Program Policy update. We also thank everyone for their comments and ideas that staff had not considered. A short PowerPoint will be presented to the Board at the October 28th meeting.

There are several key attachments staff has included in the Board packet. These include:

Attachment 1: Board PowerPoint presentation

Attachment 2: Current VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy table

Attachment 3: Recommended "Option 1" Cost Share Program Policy table

Attachment 4: DRAFT 2021 Rain Barrel Grant

Attachment 5: DRAFT 2021 (new) Soil Health Grant

Attachment 6: DRAFT 2021 Level 1 Grant Policy

Attachment 7: DRAFT 2021 Level 2 Grant Policy

Attachment 8: Example LL2-City-VLAWMO Contract

Attachment 9: Resolution 08-2020: Cost Share & Community Blue Policies Update

Staff greatly appreciates discussion and comments regarding the Cost Share Program Policy "Option 1", either before or at the 10/28 meeting. Staff is recommending approval and execution of Resolution 08-2020, approving the Cost Share Policy updates for 2021.

Consider approval of subcommittee and TEC-recommended "Option 1" for updating of the VLAWMO Cost Share Program, signing of VLAWMO Resolution 08-2020.

Proposed motion: A motion was made by _____ and seconded by _____ for the authorization and approval of the VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy, as presented, as Resolution 08-2020. Vote:

Though the crucial Cost Share Policy update documents are included in the 10/28/20 Board packet, a more comprehensive Policy document packet is available to view on VLAWMO's website. Please follow this link:

Documents on the weblink (and not within the Board packet) include: draft application scoring sheet, draft grant applications, maintenance application, WBL Street Recon brochure, landowner Statement of Intent

VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy Review **(Attachment 1)**

10/28/20 Board Meeting

October 28, 2020

Phil Belfiori, Administrator

Tyler Thompson, GIS Watershed Technician



VLAWMO

Vadnais Lake Area
Water Management Organization

Board Packet Attachment List

- **Attachment 1:** Board PowerPoint presentation
- **Attachment 2:** Current VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy table
- **Attachment 3:** Recommended “Option 1” Cost Share Program Policy table
- **Attachment 4:** DRAFT 2021 Rain Barrel Grant
- **Attachment 5:** DRAFT 2021 (new) Soil Health Grant
- **Attachment 6:** DRAFT 2021 Level 1 Grant Policy
- **Attachment 7:** DRAFT 2021 Level 2 Grant Policy
- **Attachment 8:** Example LL2-City-VLAWMO Contract
- **Attachment 9:** Resolution 08-2020: Cost Share & Community Blue Policies Update



OUTLINE

Background:

- Board, TEC Discussions and Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee /Actions to date
- Subcommittee & TEC Consensus Recommendation of “Option 1”
- Fiscal Analysis of Past Program Costs

Overview of recommended option of the Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee and TEC:

- **Option 1:** New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program
- **Option 1:** Takeaways of recommended Policy update
- **Option 1:** 2021 Program process outlook, if approved

Board Discussion & Next Steps

- **Discussion, comments, questions**
- **Requested Board Action:** consider & approve recommended VLAWMO Cost Share Program Policy update, as recommended, with Res. 08-2020



Background - Board, TEC and Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee & TEC Discussions/Actions

- June 2020 Board meeting - Several Board members identified the need to review the current VLAWMO cost share policy and related program budget.
- August TEC meeting - Staff updated the committee and the TEC nominated three cost share subcommittee members:
 - Tessier, Ferrell and Duxbury
- August 2020 Board meeting - Board authorized the creation of this subcommittee to include Policy & Personnel Committee and 3 TEC Commissioners
- September 23, 2020 - Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee Meeting held. Consensus Recommendation for **Option 1**
- October 9, 2020 - TEC recommended **Option 1** for to the Board for approval



Background

Proposed goals of this policy review process:

- Consider options for maximizing cost share program efficiency
- Find the most efficient use of program budget
- Focus on larger projects / “bigger bang-for-the-buck”
- Achieve water quality goals
- Continue strong community support and program momentum
- **Option 1 developed to cater to these goals**



Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee & TEC Consensus Recommendation

Option 1: New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program

Achieves the program elements discussed at June Board meeting:

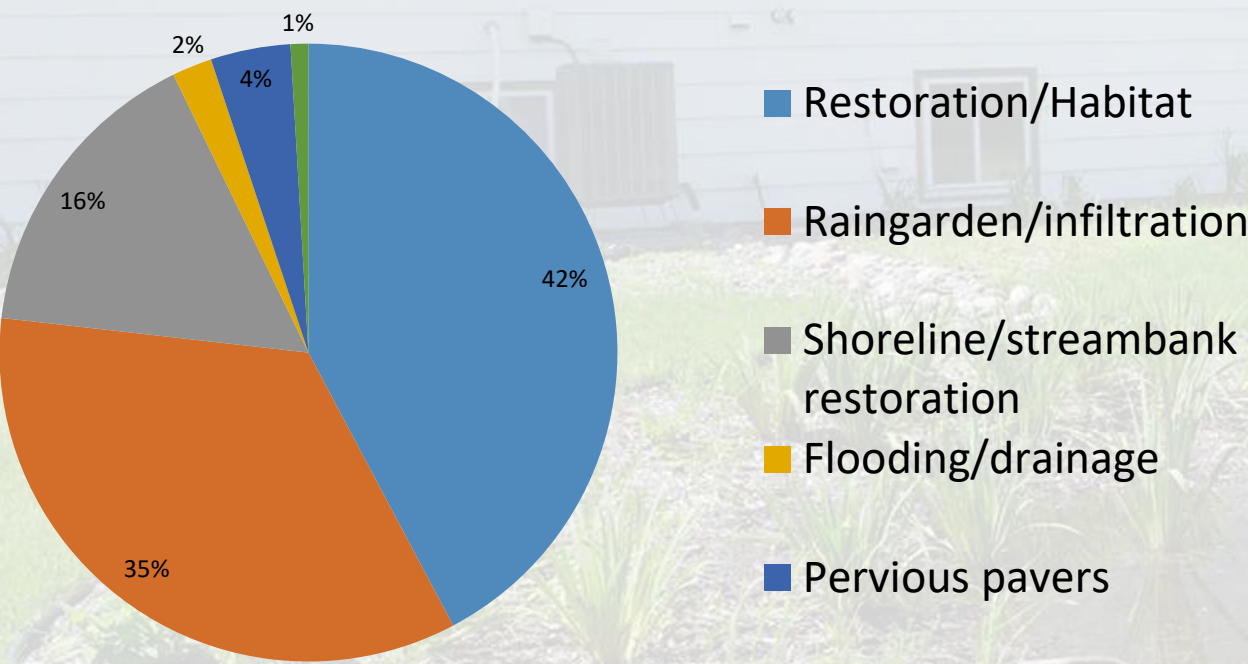
- Considers cost share program efficiencies and budget
- Focuses on larger “bang-for-the-buck” projects
- Focuses on water quality projects
- Less of an “outreach” focus and more of a “project” focus
- Builds on the strong program momentum
- Includes project screening and scoring



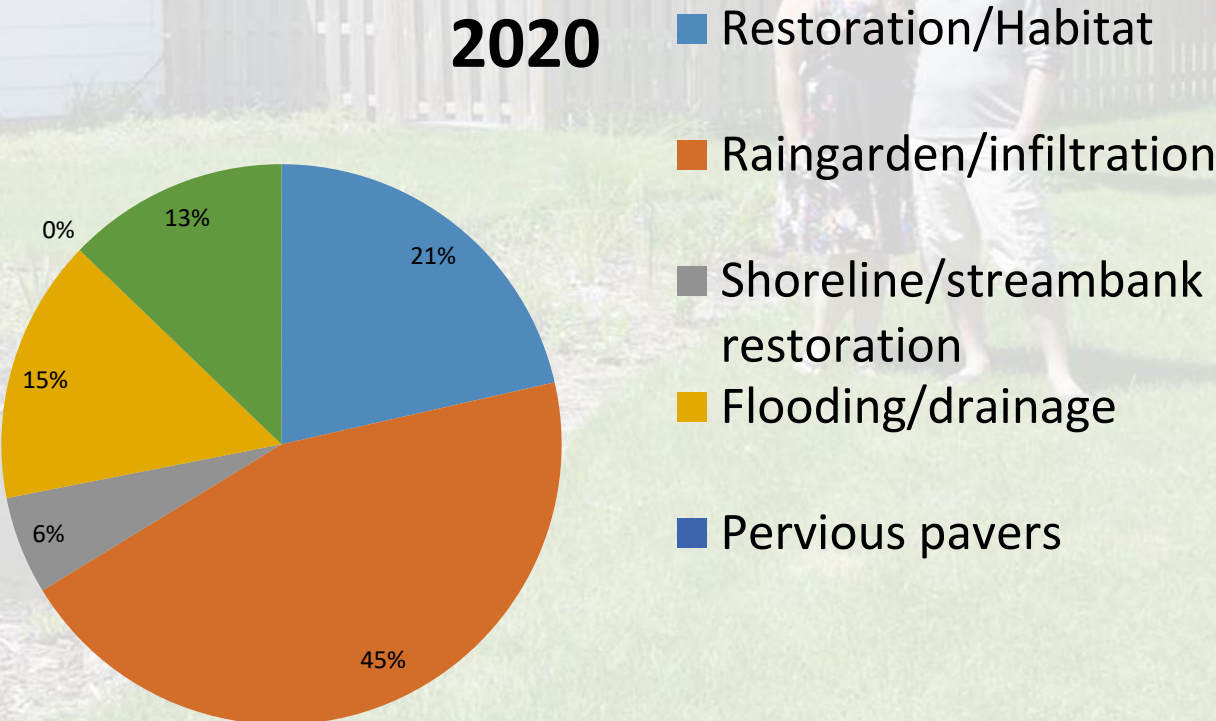
Staff and Cost Share Policy Review Subcommittee & TEC Consensus Recommendation

Light Blue will be moved to new Soil Health Grant

LL1 Funding Per Project Type: 2016-2020



LL2 Funding Per Project Type: 2016-2020



Option 1: New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program

- 4 tiers based upon project type, size, and water quality benefit
 - Tier 1: Rain Barrel Grant (updated)
 - Tier 2: Soil Health Grant (New)
 - Tier 3: LL1 (updated)
 - Tier 4: LL2 (updated)
- **Tier 1- Rain Barrel Grants** (allocate funding from the Community Blue Grant Program)
 - Total program budget in 2021 : \$500
 - 50% grant match of rain barrel purchase- cap of \$100 per rain barrel (maximum of 2 rain barrels per year)



Option 1: New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program (continued)

Tier 2- Soil Health Grant (SHG) (*new* VLAWMO grant program)

- Draws funding from VLAWMO's Community Blue Grant program (transfer \$4,500);
- Type of eligible projects: native plantings, restorations, buffers, MPCA-compliant permeable pavers and downspout raingardens;
- Capped at \$750 per project (\$1,000 if in Priority Zones);
- requires at least a 25% match;
- “education incentives” required
- Requires every-other-year waiting period on grant applications
- Waiting period may be waived if completed 3 of 4 education incentives



Option 1: New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program (continued)

Tier 3: Landscape Level 1 (LL1)

- LL1 funding approved for 2021 : \$16,000
- Scoring chart (new)- Determines eligible projects with a minimum score total
- Eligible projects:
 - Shoreline restorations below 100-yr flood elevation,
 - curb cut raingardens and stormwater infiltration projects
 - PCA-compliant permeable pavers w/ 1500 SF impervious area
 - degraded wetland restoration
- 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$5,000. (75% cost share, up to \$7,500 for “highly beneficial” projects such as a curb-cut raingardens.



Option 1: New 4-Tiered Cost Share Program (continued)

Tier 4: Landscape Level 2 (LL2)

- LL2 funds approved for 2021: \$28,000
- “Reserves” budget for coordinating with municipalities on stormwater improvement projects (mostly street reconstruction) and working with landowners within project areas
 - See Attachment 8- Logistics will be a bit different in different Cities.
- Eligible projects must show nutrient load or runoff reduction
- VLAWMO covers 100% design costs (average /est. \$1,500/raingarden)
 - Possibility that project may not be constructed after design.
- Landowner O&M Agreement & obligation for 10 years
- Not first come first serve, cost share agreements will be brought forward as a group if possible.
- Grant funding of \$5,000 > per grant, with no upper limit (per budget)
- 75% VLAWMO project match (or remaining budget) *and up to 90% of the project if more than 75% of the contributing drainage to the project comes from offsite*

Key Takeaways of Cost Share Policy Update: Option 1

- Creation of new Soil Health “Mini” Grant, utilizing Community Blue Grant funding. \$4,500 in 2021 budget, up to \$1,000 of funding per project
- LL1 & LL2 grants no longer accept projects solely native and habitat restorations, MUST have water quality improvement
- Project scoring chart implementation
- LL1 funding increased up to \$7,500 for stormwater projects
- LL2 funding now “reservable” to work with municipalities
- LL2 hands-on project development with municipalities and landowners



Anticipated LL2 City Project Process Outlook – 2021

- Outreach to street project residents for CC raingardens (fall/winter)
- After working with municipalities, determine LL2 funding split per city street reconstruction project (April)
- Resident Letters of Intent for projects due, VLAWMO Board decision on project list (June)
- Final design and project construction quotes. Will know final grant funding amounts (August)
- *Note : Revisions to the LL 2 policy and related documents may be necessary as staff works through the first year of partnership with the different Cities /City staff and residents.*



Board Discussion & Next Steps

- Board Comments and Questions regarding Subcommittee and TEC-recommended Option 1
- **Requested Board Action** : Consider and approve the 2020 Cost Share Policy Update (Option 1), as recommended per Subcommittee & TEC consensus, as Resolution 08-2020.

Next steps:

- Board consideration of approval Resolution 08-2020
- LL1 & SHG applications go live on January 1, 2021
- LL2 – Fall /Winter 2020 - Begin working with partners on landowner communication and 2021 projects



CURRENT VLAWMO COST SHARE PROGRAM STRUCTURE

GRANT PROGRAM	TARGET APPLICANT	TYPE OF PROJECTS	REQUIRED CRITERIA	VLAWMO COST SHARING %	MAXIMUM \$
Rain Barrel Grant (disbursed from LL1)	Residents, commercial, municipal, non-profit, institutional	Rain barrels	Must be installed in-line with gutter system or handle stormwater drainage	50%	\$125 (1) \$250 (2) (max. of 2 per year)
Landscape Level 1	Residents, commercial, municipal, non-profit, institutional	Native restorations, "downspout" raingardens, native buffers, turf replacement, permeable pavers, shoreline restorations, erosion & drainage projects		Up to 75%	\$2,000
		Native & pollinator habitat plantings	Project located in THPZ, incentivizing small pocket pollinator plantings	90%	\$750
		Raingarden or infiltration basin	Project located in TVRZ, must reduce 40% or more of on-site annual runoff volume	Up to 75%	\$4,000
Landscape Level 2	Municipal, commercial, non-profit, institutional	Shoreline restorations, large-scale native restorations, degraded wetland improvements, streambank restorations, retrofit stormwater BMPs, drainage issues, curb cut raingardens/infiltration, pollutant reduction	Below 100-yr flood elevation with actively-eroding banks; erosion stabilization not caused by landowner; restoration of NWI or VLAWMO-identified wetlands	Up to 75%	\$5,000 - \$20,000

PROPOSED VLAWMO 4-TIERED COST SHARE PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Attachment 3

(Option 1)

10/28/20

GRANT PROGRAM	TARGET APPLICANT	TYPE OF PROJECTS	REQUIRED CRITERIA	COST SHARING %	MAXIMUM \$
Rain Barrel Grant	Residents, commercial, municipal, non-profit, institutional	Rain barrels	Must be installed in-line with gutter system or handle stormwater drainage	50%	\$100 (1) \$200 (2) (max. of 2 per year)
Soil Health Grant	Residents, non-profit, institutional	Native restorations, "downspout" raingardens, native buffers, turf replacement		75%	\$750
		Native restorations, "downspout" raingardens, native buffers, turf replacement	Project located in TVRZ or THPZ	75%	\$1,000
Landscape Level 1	Residents, commercial, municipal, non-profit, institutional	PCA-compliant permeable pavers, rain gardens/infiltration with hard surface drainage	Reduction in hard surface drainage to storm sewer system (curb & gutter)	50%	\$5,000
		Shoreline restorations, restoration of degraded wetlands, agricultural practices, erosion restoration	Actively-eroding banks or shoreline; erosion stabilization not caused by landowner; restoration of NWI or VLAWMO-identified wetlands	50%	\$5,000
		Curb cut raingarden or infiltration	Must implement a curb cut and show reduction in storm sewer runoff	Up to 75%	\$7,500
Landscape Level 2	Municipal, commercial, non-profit, institutional, landowners within municipal project areas	Large-scale water quality retrofits, improvement best management practices, reconstruction projects, pollutant reduction	Projects must have large reduction of pollutants, nutrients, or stormwater volume downstream to targeted waterbodies or subwatersheds	25-75%, up to 90%	\$5,000+

10/28/20



RAIN BARREL COST SHARE GRANT APPLICATION

Send completed application to: Tyler Thompson, GIS Watershed Technician;
800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127
Scanned, completed applications and proof of purchase may also be emailed to tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org

For any questions, please contact Tyler Thompson at (651) 204-6071 or tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org

Through this program, residents or landowners may purchase and receive cost share reimbursement up to two (2) rain barrels per grant year. VLAWMO will reimburse up to 50% of the cost, up to \$100 for each rain barrel. The total reimbursement cannot be more than \$200. Copies of receipts of payment for the rainbarrels must be submitted to receive reimbursement. Rainbarrel purchased must be clearly stated on the receipt as proof of purchase. Proof of purchase may not be more than 2 years past the day the application is received or post-marked. Reimbursement will come on a first come, first serve basis until the annual funds are exhausted.

Staff reserves complete discretion upon materials that qualify as a “rain barrel”, qualifying cost share percentages, and reimbursement amounts. VLAWMO staff reserves the right to inspect rain barrel grant award projects for up to 5 years after grant approval. Rain barrels that receive VLAWMO funding must stay within VLAWMO’s boundary. With their signature, the grantee agrees and certifies that the reimbursement-approved rain barrel will be implemented as a rain water capture device or cistern in its intended purpose, within VLAWMO boundaries. VLAWMO staff reserves the right to refuse future grant funding applications, for all grant programs, if these criteria are not met.

APPLICANT LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name:
Address of property where rain barrel(s) will be implemented:
City, State, Zip:
Phone:
EMAIL:
SIGNATURE & DATE:

Amount of Request (50% total purchase price): \$	Number of rain barrels purchased:
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*Please include proof of purchase, scanned or original, upon submittal



SOIL HEALTH GRANT APPLICATION

What is VLAWMO's Soil Health Grant?

The Soil Health Grant is a reimbursement grant program to inspire, assist, and enable residents to install small-scale watershed best management practices that improve water quality and native habitat within VLAWMO. Applicants may apply for up to \$750 in Soil Health Grant funding, with a 25% applicant project match (example: total applicable project cost is \$1,000, where \$750 would be available for grant funding, and the applicant is responsible for paying \$250 of the project cost). If a project is in either a Targeted Habitat or Volume Reduction Zone, the applicant may apply for up to \$1,000 in grant funding.

Eligible Projects include:

- Native plantings & pollinator gardens
- Pollinator-friendly yards or turf replacement
- Downspout or yard raingardens
- Native planting buffer strips
- Erosion control or stabilization with native species

Ineligible Projects include:

- Purely landscaping or decorative projects
- Rock or block decorative retaining walls
- Surface water chemical treatment of nuisance vegetation

Soil Health Grant Process

Soil Health Grant funding is available to residents for projects within the VLAWMO watershed boundary, and the grant program is first-come, first-serve, with limited program funding available for 2021. If you are interested in applying for a grant, please contact Tyler Thompson to schedule a site visit on your property to discuss your proposed project and to ask and answer questions regarding the Soil Health Grant process. Applications must be submitted by the 4th Friday of the month for review of eligibility, and applications will be considered for funding at VLAWMO's monthly Technical Commission meetings on the 2nd Friday of each month on the Commission's Consent Agenda.

1. Please contact Tyler Thompson to schedule a site visit of your property to discuss your project *before* submitting a grant application
2. After discussing with VLAWMO staff, please move forward with completing your grant application, along with the required attachments
3. Staff will confirm receipt of your submitted application and will begin the review process, or will inform the applicant if more information or detail is needed
4. Staff will inform the applicant if their application has passed application scoring criteria and will be heard for approval at the next VLAWMO Technical Commission meeting on the 2nd Friday of the month

Funding Agreement

Each project selected and approved for funding must enter into an agreement with VLAWMO defining the obligations of the applicant and VLAWMO. This includes, but is not limited to, such items as terms of the agreement, use of funds, cost overruns, and cancellation. The agreement also allows VLAWMO access to the project area for evaluation and promotion of the project. Applicant is responsible for securing any and all permits for the work. This agreement must be signed by both parties prior to commencement of work on the project; funding will only cover work done after the agreement has been signed, and work that was included for funding in the VLAWMO-approved grant application. **Questions regarding the grant program and completed applications can be sent to:**

Tyler Thompson, VLAWMO GIS Watershed Technician

(651) 204-6071

Email: tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization

800 County Rd E East

Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Grant Program Details

- Eligible materials are those which stay on the property such as plants, erosion control blanket, mulch, and drainage infrastructure. Ineligible materials would include work gloves, shovels, tools and equipment used to implement the project but may be used again for future projects (rented equipment IS an eligible expense).
- Eligible labor costs must be those expenses associated with a qualified landscaper/contractor and are subject to approval by VLAWMO staff. Ineligible labor would include the use of friends or a volunteer group helping to implement the project. VLAWMO reserves the right to adjust costs submitted for reimbursement, based upon final receipts and invoices.
- For all projects, at least 50% of the plants used must be native to this ecoregion. Hybrids of native plants are not counted as native. You must provide a list of plants that will be used to allow for review and comment by VLAWMO staff. Native restoration projects must be 100% native species.
- Projects completed or in progress are not eligible for funding. A grant application must be approved for funding and grant agreement must be signed by the applicant and VLAWMO prior to the commencement of work to be eligible for VLAWMO grant funds. However, the landowner may begin project site preparation before grant approval, but will not be reimbursed for any associated expenses.
- A site visit by VLAWMO staff is required once the project is complete before a reimbursement check is released to the Grantee.
- Grantee must complete project and submit reimbursement request within one (1) year from date of grant approval.
- **Grantee must agree to maintain the project area for a minimum of 5 years.** Common maintenance includes weeding, watering, removal of invasive species, replacement of plants, repair of inlets/outlets, and other duties. The site may be inspected by VLAWMO staff on an annual basis to ensure compliance. VLAWMO staff may provide technical assistance and resources for project maintenance.
- Property owners may receive one grant every 2 years, unless opting into education incentives (below). If wanting to apply over the course of multiple years to complete projects in phases, your current project must be complete prior to the approval of a subsequent grant.

Applicant Landowner Information

Name:
Address of property where project will be implemented:
City, State, Zip:
Phone:
Email address:

Grant Specifics

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST
OF YOUR PROJECT:

\$

AMOUNT OF GRANT REQUESTED:
(\$750 MAXIMUM) \$
(\$1,000 Maximum if within Targeted
Priority Zone)

WHEN DO YOU PLAN TO COMPLETE YOUR PROJECT?

PROJECT TYPE:

Raingarden

☐

Native
Restoration/Pollinator
Planting

☐

Turf Replacement

☐

Other

If other, please describe
proposed project:

Project Background

Describe your property: Does your property connect to a lake, stream, ditch, or wetland in VLAWMO? What is the purpose of your project?

Describe how your project will support the goals of the Soil Health Grant Program (see guidance page for more Information). Does your proposed project directly reduce, capture, or treat stormwater?

Please briefly describe anticipated maintenance activities of your project:

Project Specifications

In order to determine the water quality benefit of your project (amount of stormwater and pollutants captured), specific information is required for VLAWMO staff to perform the calculations. If you are working with a professional landscaper, they should be able to provide you with this information.

TOTAL PROPERTY AREA
(Acres): _____

TOTAL PROJECT
SIZE (SQ.FT.): _____

IMPERVIOUS AREA
DRAINING TO PROJECT
(SQ.FT.): _____

PERVIOUS AREA
DRAINING TO
PROJECT (SQ.FT.): _____

IF YOUR PROJECT INCLUDES INFILTRATION, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

SOIL INFILTRATION
RATE (INCHES/HR): _____

DEPTH OF RAINGARDEN BASIN
(INCHES): _____

Additional Required Attachments

To complete your application, please include:

- Detailed drawing or plan of the proposed project, drafted by either the landowner or a contractor.
- Detailed project budget estimate with clear cost and material breakouts that equate to your total project cost estimate.

****This information, along with the application, may be scanned and emailed to VLAWMO GIS Watershed Technician, Tyler Thompson (tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org)****

Opting in to the education incentives would allow reapplying for Soil Health Grant funds the consecutive year after being awarded grant funding. Incentives entail committing to three of the following four options for 2 years:

1. Documenting seasonal photos, organizing them, and sending them to VLAWMO via jump drive or email, to show the progress and growth of the project.
2. Provide a neighborhood spotlight article featuring a photo of participants posing in front of the project, as well as a mini-interview 1-2 years after the project was installed to speak to their experience in install, maintenance, any problems, and enjoyment for others to learn from.
3. Participate as a host site for VLAWMO's annual neighborhood BMP tour working in conjunction with VLAWMO Master Water Stewards.
4. Help coordinate VLAWMO's annual native plant swap with Master Water Stewards. This entails saving seeds, dividing and potting mature plants for sharing with other residents or public raingardens, or taking plants from the plant swap for the home project as needed.

VLAWMO Soil Health Grant Operations & Maintenance Requirements:

Projects must be maintained for a minimum of 5 years, and applicants must be willing to participate in VLAWMO's Education & Outreach and project sharing efforts. The applicant is responsible for Project maintenance items referenced in the Soil Health Grant Guidance document for a 5 year period, after Project completion. VLAWMO is not responsible for completing maintenance activities, but will assist with staff guidance. A project may be visited and inspected by VLAWMO staff during the 5 year maintenance period. Please inform VLAWMO if you move within the 5 years of project implementation so we may provide the new owners with information and guidance on Project.

Are you willing to commit to the following Soil Health Grant requirements:

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| • Maintain the project for at least 5 years after its implementation? | YES | NO |
| • Participate in VLAWMO's outreach and project sharing efforts? | YES | NO |
| • Do you understand that your Project may be visited and inspected by a VLAWMO representative during the 5 year Project maintenance period? | YES | NO |

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

DRAFT

VLAWMO LANDSCAPE LEVEL 1 COST GRANT GUIDANCE

Program Purpose

The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization's (VLAWMO) mission is to protect, preserve, and improve natural surface and groundwater within the Watershed. VLAWMO's Cost Share Program aims to assist in sharing costs to complete water quality improvement projects.

VLAWMO's Landscape Level 1 (LL1) Cost Share Program is targeted towards assisting landowners within the Watershed to implement water quality projects. Applicable projects *must* show measurable water quality improvements to be considered for VLAWMO grant funding.

Applicable Landscape Level 1 grant projects aim to accomplish the following:

- Stormwater runoff volume or nutrient loading reduction (volume control and/or total phosphorus)
- Restoration of actively-eroding shoreline
- Streambank restoration of actively-eroding banks for sediment release reduction
- Water quality improvement or increase in watershed storage capacity
- Protection and preservation of groundwater quality and/or quantity

This is a REIMBURSEMENT grant program. If your project is approved for grant funding, your grant award will be dispersed once a project is **fully completed and is inspected by VLAWMO staff and deemed complete to approved project design**. Available funds will vary each year. Grants are available to those who are property owners within the VLAWMO legal boundary. This is a first-come, first-serve grant program. For most projects, VLAWMO may offer to fund up to 50% of the cost of approved materials and contracted labor at a maximum of \$5,000, though projects that are highly beneficial towards stormwater nutrient and volume reduction (example: raingardens with hard surface drainage, larger shoreline restorations with active erosion, or high volume reduction in Targeted Volume Reduction Zones) may receive up to 75% VLAWMO cost sharing, up to \$7,500. Applications will be evaluated and considered at VLAWMO's monthly Technical Commission (TEC) meetings (second Friday of each month). VLAWMO may elect to offer a full grant or may offer a partial grant, based on the evaluation process, project scoring chart, and program funding availability. Items that are taken into consideration include: connectivity to a water body, impervious surface runoff capture, estimated pollutant and volume reduction, wildlife habitat improvement, and others.

Project Eligibility

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Raingardens or volume reduction and runoff treatment projects (infiltration basins and trenches, cisterns, green roofs)
- Stormwater filtration, retention, and reuse
- Shoreline and streambank restorations of actively-eroding banks, or obvious sedimentation to downstream waterbody
- Flooding prevention projects with measurable water quality benefits, meeting WCA rules
- Erosion control projects with measurable water quality benefits
- Gully erosion repair and stabilization projects that directly affect or threaten water quality
- Qualifying permeable paver or pavement projects, meeting MPCA design and size guidelines

Examples of *ineligible* projects include:

- Landscaping or decorative projects
- Rock or block decorative retaining walls
- Surface water chemical treatment projects (*not* including alum or spent lime)
- Vegetation restoration with no stormwater treatment
- Erosion control or stabilization with no demonstrated water quality benefit

Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be scored on the following:

- Are the activities and goals of the project clearly stated and support one or more of the Landscape Grant Program purposes?
- Does the proposed project directly benefit a VLAWMO waterbody or
- Will the project have a direct effect on water resources (lakes, streams, wetlands)? What water resources border or are downstream of the proposed project?
- Has the applicant provided enough detail to determine measurable results (see the project specifications section on the application)? What are the estimated pollutant reductions?
- Has a reasonable budget, work plan, and time line been submitted?
- How much runoff and pollutants (nutrients, sediment, volume of water) will this project capture?
- Other benefits, such as wildlife habitat improvement are considered as well.

Grant Program Details

- Eligible materials are those which stay on the property such as plants, erosion control blanket, mulch, and drainage infrastructure. Ineligible materials would include work gloves, shovels, tools and equipment used to implement the project but may be used again for future projects (rented equipment IS an eligible expense).
- Eligible labor costs must be those expenses associated with a qualified landscaper/contractor and are subject to approval by VLAWMO staff. Ineligible labor would include the use of friends or a volunteer group helping to implement the project. VLAWMO reserves the right to adjust costs submitted for grant reimbursement, based upon final receipts and invoices total cost. Final project design costs (after application approval) are considered eligible towards grant reimbursement total.
- Permeable paver projects applying for funding must meet MPCA installation guidelines, treat at least 1,500 sq. ft. of hard surface runoff, and agree to additional maintenance clause in the project grant Agreement.
- For all projects, at least 50% of the plants used must be native to this ecoregion. Hybrids of native plants are not counted as native. You must provide a list of plants that will be used to allow for review and comment by VLAWMO staff.
- Submitted applications are subject to VLAWMO's project scoring chart to determine funding eligibility.
- **Projects completed or in progress of installation are not eligible for funding.** A grant application must be approved for funding and grant agreement must be signed by the applicant and VLAWMO prior to the commencement of work to be eligible for VLAWMO grant funds. However, the landowner may begin project site preparation before grant approval, but may not be reimbursed for any associated expenses.

- Projects that are installed to meet the requirements of a permit from any organization do not qualify for grants. However, projects that go above and beyond minimum standards will be considered for funding (example: a reconstruction permit requires 200 sq. ft. of infiltration area, though the project is expanded to 300 sq. ft. That extra 100 sq. ft. may qualify for Landscape Level 1 grant funding.)
- Dependent upon the application and project, VLAWMO may pay and cover design costs through the Ramsey County Soil & Water Conservation Division, or the applicant may count design costs from another contractor, up to \$1,500, towards eligible grant costs.
- At least 2 bids for construction or implementation must be submitted with the application.
- A site visit by VLAWMO staff is required once the project is complete to ensure work has been completed, as agreed in the Grant Agreement, before a reimbursement check may be released to the Grantee.
- Grantee must complete project and submit reimbursement request within one (1) year from date of grant approval.
- Costs towards future maintenance elements (work after construction is inspected as complete to approved plans) are not eligible towards grant funding or the grant project total cost.
- **Grantee must agree to maintain the project area for a minimum of 5 years.** Common maintenance includes removal of sediment, weeding, watering, removal of invasive species, replacement of plants, repair of inlets/outlets, and other duties to ensure that the project is providing the intended water quality benefit. The site may be inspected by VLAWMO staff on an annual basis to ensure compliance. VLAWMO staff may provide technical assistance and resources for project maintenance.
- Property owners may receive one Landscape Level 1 grant, every 2 years. If wanting to apply over the course of multiple years to complete projects in phases, your current project must be complete and properly maintained prior to the approval of a subsequent grant.
- Please note that any submitted information (applications, designs, specifications, cost estimates, bid tabulations, permits, studies, reports, and proof of expenditures) becomes part of the public record.
- VLAWMO reserves the right to withdraw or withhold funding for any project not completed in accordance with these guidelines.
- VLAWMO reserves the right to reject any project design or submitted bid, for any reason.
- The VLAWMO Board of Directors may shift grant funding amounts between Landscape Level 1 and Landscape Level 2 program budgets.

Selection Process & Deadlines

The VLAWMO Technical Commission (TEC) will consider Landscape Level 1 grant applications at their monthly meetings, held on the 2nd Friday of each month, until annual grant funds are expended. **Completed applications must be received by the 4th Friday of the month to be reviewed and considered for funding before the next monthly Technical Commission meeting date** to allow for ample review time for application recommendation. This is a competitive grant program and proposals that are incomplete will not be considered for funding.

1. Please contact Tyler Thompson to schedule a site visit of your property to discuss your project *before* submitting a grant application

2. After consulting with VLAWMO staff, please move forward with completing your grant application, along with the required project drawings or plans and project budget breakout attachments.
3. Dependent upon the complexity of some projects, VLAWMO may require final design by a qualified professional and/or Engineer. VLAWMO reserves the right for final project design review and approval by consulting Engineer and staff to ensure design standards, specifications, and pollution reduction values.
4. Staff will confirm receipt of your submitted application and will begin the review process, or will inform the applicant if more information or detail is needed.
5. Staff will inform the applicant if their application has passed application scoring criteria and will be heard for approval at the next VLAWMO Technical Commission meeting on the 2nd Friday of the month.

Grant Funding Agreement

Each project selected and approved for funding must enter into an agreement with VLAWMO defining the obligations of the applicant and VLAWMO. This includes, but is not limited to, such items as terms of the agreement, use of funds, cost overruns, and cancellation. The agreement also allows VLAWMO access to the project area for evaluation and promotion of the project. Applicant is responsible for securing any and all required permits. Permitting, surveying, or easement costs may be considered towards total project cost and grant reimbursement award amount. This agreement must be signed by both parties prior to commencement of work on the project; funding will only cover work done after the agreement has been signed, and work that was included for funding in the VLAWMO-approved grant application.

Please do not hesitate to contact Tyler Thompson with any questions regarding VLAWMO's Landscape Level 1 grant program:

Tyler Thompson, VLAWMO GIS Watershed Technician
(651) 204-6071
Email: tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
800 County Rd E East
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

VLAWMO LANDSCAPE LEVEL 2 GRANT GUIDANCE

Updated October 2020

Program Purpose

The Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization's (VLAWMO) mission is to protect, preserve, and improve natural surface and groundwater within the Watershed. VLAWMO's Cost Share Program aims to assist in sharing costs to complete water quality improvement projects.

The goal of the VLAWMO's Landscape Level 2 (LL2) Cost Share Program is to be an effective tool to coordinate with partnering communities and municipalities to support and implement water quality best management practices and improvement projects within the Watershed. Applicable projects *must* show measurable water quality improvements to be considered for VLAWMO grant funding.

Applicable Landscape Level 2 grant projects aim to accomplish the following:

- Stormwater nutrient or volume loading reduction
- Water quality improvement or increase in watershed storage capacity
- Shoreline and streambank restoration of actively-eroding banks
- Protection and preservation of groundwater quality and quantity
- Reducing input strains on surface waters or the storm sewer system, or flooding mitigation
- Address Goals and Policies identified in Chapter 2 of the 2017-2026 VLAWMO Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.
- High visibility or educational value and/or local citizen support, including neighborhood involvement.
- Priority given to projects within targeted areas listed in VLAWMO's Watershed Management Plan, in Sustainable Lake Management Plans or other feasibility reports. These plans and Reports are available on the VLAWMO website.

Landscape Level 2 Grant Program & Policy Updates

For 2021, the VLAWMO Landscape Level 2 Grant Program Cost Share Policy has been updated and transitioned to no longer include a first-come/ first-serve approach (like LL1), but rather has been transformed into a "reserve" grant program to coordinate with municipal and public VLAWMO community partners and work with landowners located within municipal project areas. These updates have been made to provide flexibility to work with applicants to implement partnership- based watershed improvement projects that achieve a high level of water quality protection. These updates also provide for a responsible use of public funds by focusing on coordination with ongoing municipal projects, and will implement a 1-year demonstration of Program policy change in 2021.

In most cases, the Landscape Level 2 Grant may provide funding for up to 75% of the total cost of a project, with the remaining match amount to be paid by the applicant, depending upon remaining available VLAWMO grant funds and municipal partner projects. In some cases, up to 90% of the project may be covered by VLAWMO LL2 funding if more than 75% of the contributing drainage to the project comes from offsite. Grant funding amounts are also dependent upon remaining grant funds for the year, and VLAWMO may fund grant projects at a lesser cost share percentage, depending upon available

funds. VLAWMO may elect to fund a portion, or all of project site design and engineering to foster program goals and implement eligible projects. Depending upon the individual Project, applicants may receive a portion of the approved grant funding after grant approval and signing of the Project grant Operations & Maintenance Agreement.

Project Eligibility

Examples of eligible projects include the following:

- Raingardens or stormwater infiltration basin implementation, with priority given to targeted subwatersheds
- Redirect water runoff or reuse projects
- Reconstruction projects that improve stormwater volume reduction and runoff treatment
- Shoreline or streambank restoration of actively-eroding banks with obvious sedimentation to lake, stream or wetland
- Gully erosion repair and stabilization projects that directly affect or threaten water quality
- Pervious pavement and pavers conforming to MPCA guidelines and reducing storm sewer input

Example of non-eligible projects includes the following:

- Landscaping or restoration projects with little or no demonstrated water quality benefit
- Aeration systems for ponds installed mainly for aesthetics with limited water quality benefits
- Surface water chemical treatment (*not* including alum or spent lime)
- Restoration work or erosion control which the applicant has been required to complete.

Grant Application Process

Aspiring applicants of the Landscape Level 2 grant program are strongly encouraged to contact Tyler Thompson before grant application submission. Due to limited fund amounts, approved applications may only receive a portion of funds requested. VLAWMO also reserves the right to work with community partners on organizing and fostering possible grant projects for funding and implementation. Landscape Level 2 grant applications will be scored and reviewed by VLAWMO staff, and if applicable, a VLAWMO consulting engineer, to be considered for funding. If the application meets scoring criteria, they may proceed for a VLAWMO Technical Commission recommendation for funding approval by the VLAWMO Board of Directors.

Approved Landscape Level 2 grants will proceed by signing of a grant Operations & Maintenance Agreement by both the grantee and VLAWMO that constitutes an executed grant agreement. Dependent upon the grant project, VLAWMO may disburse *up to* 85% of their grant allotment upon grant agreement execution, VLAWMO's approval of a project work plan, and a signed grantee contract for construction with the project contractor, designer, or engineer. Each project is different and therefore the payment plan will be arranged once the specifics and schedules are known, and may adapt accordingly. The final 15% of the grant payment will be approved upon a VLAWMO representative has conducted a site visit to certify the project has been completed according to the approved grant agreement, design standards, specifications, and pollution reduction values, and all receipts and invoices have been submitted, reviewed and approved by VLAWMO staff. Please note that VLAWMO generates and approves bill and check payments monthly, so there may be a delay. Grantees must complete their grant-approved project and submit a grant reimbursement request within one and a half (1.5) years from date of grant approval.

Grants are available for projects located within the boundaries of VLAWMO. Applicants may be landowners within or associated with a municipal project, municipalities, government agencies, and public entities within VLAWMO. Program grant funds may be received by private landowners if the project is in association with a public project, or identified by a municipality or public agency. Applicants may receive ONE grant per year per property. Therefore, you may not receive a Landscape Level 1 AND a Landscape Level 2 Grant in the same year.

2021 VLAWMO Landscape Level 2 (LL2) Grant Program – updated October 2020

Grant Conditions & Requirements

- Total project cost must be **at least \$5,000**, and the total grant award for qualifying projects may be \$5,000 or greater
- Projects already completed or in progress (construction) are not eligible for grant funding. Grant applications **must** be submitted before installation begins for costs to be eligible for grant funding.
- Materials eligible for reimbursement are those which stay on the property such as infrastructure materials, plants, erosion control blanket, mulch and top soil. The rental of necessary equipment is also eligible. Eligible labor costs must be contracted and are subject to approval by VLAWMO staff. Ineligible materials would include work gloves, shovels, tools and equipment used to implement the project but may be used again for future projects.
- Permeable paver projects applying for funding must meet MPCA installation guidelines, treat at least 1,500 sq. ft. of hard surface runoff, and agree to additional maintenance clause in the project grant Agreement.
- Submitted applications are subject to VLAWMO's project scoring chart and /or ranking criteria to determine funding eligibility.
- At least 2 bids for construction or implementation must be submitted with the application.
- Dependent upon the application and project, VLAWMO may pay and cover design costs through the Ramsey County Soil & Water Conservation Division, or the applicant may count design costs from another contractor, up to \$1,500, towards eligible grant costs.
- Design, technical, and installation labor of crucial infrastructure must be performed by an experienced professional or Engineer, dependent upon the complexity of the project, and at the discretion of VLAWMO. Final plans are subject to professional review and approval by consulting VLAWMO Engineer to ensure design standards, specifications, and pollution reduction values.
- Landscape Level 2 funds may fund municipal projects that implement projects on private property, allowing payment to private property owners.
- Project design, easement, or surveying costs are considered eligible towards grant reimbursement.
- If a project includes erosion or stabilization, at least 50% of the plants must be native to this ecoregion. VLAWMO encourages all vegetation used for stabilization be native species.
- Submitted projects must be for items above and beyond VLAWMO's Development Standards & Rules.
- Costs towards future maintenance elements (work after construction is inspected as complete to approved plans) are not eligible towards grant funding or the grant project total cost.
- The Landscape Level 2 Cost Share Application must be approved and the Cost Share Agreement executed between both parties prior to commencement of work for applicable costs to be considered towards grant reimbursement (not including project plan design or engineering).
- Grantee is responsible for securing any and all permits, easements, or land permissions for the project. VLAWMO shall not be held liable and may terminate the executed grant agreement.

- Grantee must agree to maintain the project area for a minimum of 10 years. Maintenance often includes weeding, watering, removal of invasive species, replacement of plants, repair of inlets/outlets, repair or clearing of infrastructure, and other duties to ensure that the project is providing the intended water quality benefit. The site may be inspected by VLAWMO staff on an annual basis to ensure compliance.
- Please note that any submitted information (applications, designs, specifications, cost estimates, bid tabulations, permits, studies, reports, and proof of expenditures) becomes part of the public record.
- VLAWMO reserves the right to withdraw or withhold funding for any project not completed in accordance with these guidelines.
- VLAWMO reserves the right to reject any project design or submitted bid, for any reason.
- The VLAWMO Board of Directors may shift grant funding amounts between Landscape Level 1 and Landscape Level 2 program budgets.

Selection & Review Process

VLAWMO reserves the right to screen and hold submitted applications, dependent upon priority, available or projected budget, and ongoing municipal partner projects and applications that are in-process. Applications are reviewed and scored by staff and/or consulting VLAWMO Engineer, if necessary to determine project eligibility for funding. Funding recommendations are submitted to the VLAWMO Technical Commission (TEC) as timing allows. They will make recommendations regarding approval to the VLAWMO Board of Directors which meets bi-monthly (February, April, June, August, October, and December).

If the application is approved by the Board, the grantee will enter into an agreement with VLAWMO defining the obligations of each partner. This agreement includes, but is not limited to, responsibilities and terms for each party, Operations & Maintenance, use of funds, cost overruns, and cancellation. The agreement also allows VLAWMO access to the project area for evaluation and promotion of the project. The agreement must be signed by both parties prior to commencement of work on the project. Funding will only cover work done after the agreement is signed.

Applications may be submitted via email to Tyler Thompson at tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org or via US Mail to:

Tyler Thompson, GIS Watershed Technician
Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
800 East County Rd E
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127
651-204-6071

10/28/20

VLAWMO LANDSCAPE LEVEL 2 GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION AND CONTRACT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Contract Number V21-01	Individual / Group Group	Other Grant Award Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/>	Cancelled <input type="checkbox"/>
		Date:	Date:	

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant City of White Bear Lake	Phone 651-429-8587	Email ctaillon@whitebearlake.org	
Mailing Address 4701 Highway 61	City White Bear Lake	State MN	Zip 55110

CONSERVATION PRACTICES / PROJECT LOCATIONS

Physical Addresses (Curbcut recipient addresses) County				Municipality White Bear Lake		
Ramsey	Township 30	Range 22	Section 13	¼, ¼ NW, NW	Parcel IDs	
Nearest lake, stream or wetland that the proposed practice drains to Lambert Creek (Ditch 13)				Approximate distance to nearest waterbody		

PROJECT INFORMATION

<p>Project Description (Attach additional sheets if necessary)</p> <p>This project is in collaboration with VLAWMO, the City of White Bear Lake, and the Ramsey County Parks & Recreation Department - Soil and Water Conservation Division. The project is a collaboration between partners and coincides with street reconstruction by the City. The project installs X curb-cut raingardens on X different properties. The streets are being repaved, along with installation of curb & gutter and storm sewers. The city has installed the curb-cuts for each raingarden free of charge to the landowner, and the cost-share requested will go towards installing the raingarden pre-treatment structures, basins, and native plantings.</p> <p>These projects will intercept water from the streets before it enters the storm sewers and ultimately empties into Lambert Creek. Lambert Creek is identified in VLAWMO Watershed Mgmt Plan under the restore/protect classification. The gardens will capture a large amount of polluted runoff from these impervious surfaces, infiltrate the water and filter out the pollutants, as well as create great pollinator habitat in this neighborhood. They also serve as an example of how organizations can work together to get projects installed along with city projects, as well as to promote further projects with White Bear Lake. This is an excellent way to get additional storm water management practices in the ground from the beginning of these types of projects. These gardens are the second round of installing raingardens in collaboration with White Bear Lake's street reconstruction.</p> <p>Total catchment area treated by the project is XX,XXX square feet [~X.XXacres]. Once established, these raingardens will be an effective measure to filter runoff, reduce sediment movement, and reduce the rate and volume of stormwater that would otherwise runoff into Lambert Creek. It will also be a good precedent for future projects of this manner.</p>

CONTRACT INFORMATION

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request grant assistance from the Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) to help defray the cost of installing the following practice(s) listed in this contract within City Right of Way and with the consent of the landowners. This Grant Award Contract is for support of water resource protection and education efforts between the RCWD, a public body with powers set forth at Minnesota Statutes 103B and 103D, and City of White Bear Lake (City). It is understood that:

1. Best management practices must be planned and installed in accordance with the technical standards and specifications of the Ramsey County Parks & Recreation SWCD.
2. This contract, upon approval by the VLAWMO board, will remain in effect for 18 months unless canceled by mutual agreement XX/XX/21. This contract will be automatically terminated on that date unless this contract is amended by mutual consent to reschedule the work and funding.
3. Items of cost for which reimbursement is claimed on the Voucher and Practice Certification Summary Form are to be supported by Invoices/receipts for payments and will be verified by the VLAWMO board as practical and reasonable. The VLAWMO board has the authority to make adjustments to the costs submitted for reimbursement. Reimbursement will be made only upon execution of a VLAWMO-approved Operation and Maintenance Agreement with each individual landowner and the construction of the raingardens are completed according to the approved plan.
4. City will permit the VLAWMO at its cost and discretion, to place reasonable signage within City Right of Way at the project locations. City will not disturb the project area for the effective life, a minimum of 10 years, unless approved in writing to the WMO. Any disturbance for purposes of maintaining city infrastructure or utilities must restore the project area to the original condition.
5. City is responsible for complying with all permits and/or other legal requirements applicable to the work. In performing the work that is subject to this contract, City will ensure that no person is excluded from full employment rights or participation in or benefits of any program, service, or activity on the grounds of race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, public assistance status, or national origin, and that no person protected by applicable federal or state laws, rules, or regulations against discrimination is subject to discrimination.
6. City agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the VLAWMO from any claims, costs, damages or liabilities that may arise from the construction of the practices located on the Properties.

APPLICANT SIGNATURES

The City's signature indicates their agreement to:

1. Grant the VLAWMO and its representative(s) access to the parcel where the conservation practice will be located and authority to perform monitoring and/or sampling of the practice.
2. Obtain all permits and approvals required in conjunction with the installation and establishment of the practice prior to starting construction of the practice.

Landowner / Legal Representative 		Date	
Mailing Address 4701 Hwy 61	City White Bear Lake	State MN	Zip 55110

CONSERVATION PRACTICE

Eligible recognized practice(s) Curb-Cut Raingardens	Other practice(s)	Total Cost Estimate \$XX,XXX.XX
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TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND COST ESTIMATE

I have reviewed the site where the above listed conservation practice(s) are to be installed and find that they are needed and that the estimated quantities and costs are practical and reasonable.

Conservation District Technical Representative	Date
--	------

AMOUNT AUTHORIZED FOR GRANT (ENCUMBRANCE)

Grant award is not to exceed \$XX,XXX.XX or 75 percent of the total eligible cost, whichever is less.

VLAWMO Board Representative

	Board Meeting Date
--	--------------------



VLA WMO Landscape Grant Project Screening Form

Project Contact Name:	Affected Water Body:
Applying Entity:	City:
Nearest Address:	Project Type(s):
Application Date:	Project Effective Life:
New or Existing/Retrofit Project: New Existing/Retrofit	Reviewer:

Projects are screened for potential grant eligibility based on the following criteria. (0 = Low, 5 = High)

1. Connectivity to Water Body

a. Is the project tributary to a PCA-listed impaired water (not mercury) or DNR-Protected Public Water Lake (PWP)?

(NO)	(YES, within Subwatershed)	(YES, Direct Connection)
0	1 2 3	4 5

b. If NO, is the project tributary to a lake, stream, ditch, or DNR-Protected Water Wetland (PWW)?

(NO)	(YES, within Subwatershed)	(YES, Direct Connection)
0	1 2 3	4 5

2. Contributing Watershed Characteristics: Surface type draining to the project.

0% Impervious	50% Impervious	100% Impervious
0 1	2 3	4 5

Comments: _____

3. Volume Reduction: Implements controls to reduce and/or minimize the rate and volume of water that drains off the property.

No Infiltration/Filtration	Filtration	Infiltration
0 1	2 3	4 5

Comments: _____

4. Erosion and Sediment Control: Implements controls that minimize erosion and/or sedimentation and pollutants to downstream waters.

No Erosion No Sediment Capture	Visible Erosion Sediment Capture
0 1 2 3	4 5

Comments: _____

5. Native Habitat Improvement: Creates or improves native vegetation or pollinator habitat through native vegetation or other re-vegetation efforts.

No native revegetation	Full native re-vegetation
0 1 2 3	4 5

Comments: _____

6. Public Outreach: Helping public education with signage, spotlight article, demonstration or tour site.

Low Public Visibility	Moderate Public Visibility	High Public Visibility
0 1	2 3	4 5

Comments: _____

Total Score: _____
Minimum Eligibility = 20

Attachment 10

Cost Share Information

WHAT WILL THE COST SHARE PROVIDE?*

VLAWMO will reimburse 75% of the cost of materials and approved labor. VLAWMO provides all design costs, guidance and monitors the raingarden for 10 years following the installation.

WHAT WILL THE CITY PROVIDE?

As part of street renovation, the City will provide a curb cut for your raingarden at no cost to you.

For more information

contact Connie Taillon, City of White Bear Lake
Environmental Specialist at
(651) 429-8587

NOTE: If you are interested in learning more about installing a raingarden on your property as part of the 2020 street renovation project, please contact us by March 31, 2021.



* Cost share funding is renewed each January. Applications are accepted year-round until funding is depleted

Spring Workshops

with VLAWMO

Learn about landscaping alternatives that help people, pollinators, and water quality.

Raingardens 101

May 6, 2020 7 - 8:30 PM

Vadnais Heights City Hall

800 County Rd E East, Vadnais Heights

Native Plants: Close to Home

May 13, 2020 7 - 8:30 PM

Vadnais Heights City Hall

800 County Rd E East, Vadnais Heights

Workshops are free, books available for sale (cash only)
Visit the website or contact VLAWMO to register:
Website: vlawmo.org/events
Email: nick.voss@vlawmo.org
Phone: (651) 204-6070



Raingarden with native plants on Spruce Place, WBL



City of White Bear Lake

RAINGARDENS & Street Renovations

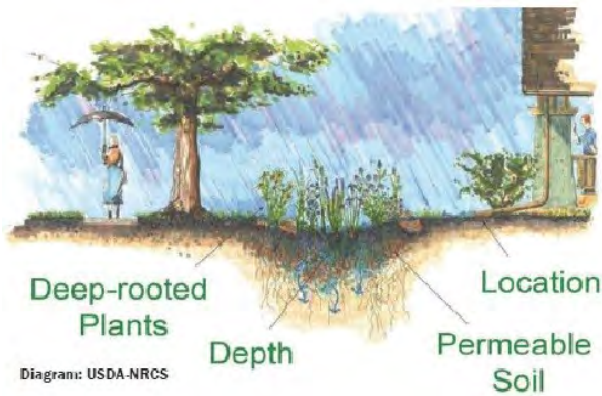


A partnership between the City
of White Bear Lake, residents,
& the Vadnais Lake Area Water
Management Organization

You are receiving this brochure

because your street is scheduled for a mill and overlay this summer. When a street is being renovated, it is also a convenient and cost-effective time to install a curb-cut raingarden—and your property might be a good fit!

Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) is your local watershed organization with the expertise and resources to turn this opportunity into a reality. Participation is voluntary and no previous experience is necessary!



What is a raingarden?

A raingarden is a garden with a small depression designed to catch rainwater runoff. It is planted with native species that can tolerate being flooded on occasion. Many of the plants are also excellent for attracting birds and pollinators.

Curb-cut raingardens collect water from the street, thereby reducing runoff and promoting water quality.



Raingarden on Richard Avenue, WBL

A pre-treatment area helps to capture debris before it gets into the raingarden.



New raingarden on 8th Street, WBL

Raingarden sites are selected based on soil type and street drainage. Homeowners play a vital role in water quality by making a commitment to maintain the raingarden and pre-treatment area.

How does it work?

Raingardens work by soaking water into the ground that would otherwise go directly into storm drains.



Raingarden on Van Dyke Street, WBL

Raingardens help our community by:

- Filtering pollutants that would otherwise mix into runoff and go straight into a lake or wetland
- Easing pressure on storm systems
- Replenishing groundwater
- Promoting a healthy, outdoor lifestyle



MAINTENANCE GRANT APPLICATION

Send completed application to: Tyler Thompson, GIS Watershed Technician, VLAWMO
800 County Road E East, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

For questions, contact Tyler at (651) 204-6071 or tyler.thompson@vlawmo.org

The objective of the Maintenance Grant Program is to help projects which have received funds from VLAWMO in the past to be more successful. This is a **one-time** per project grant which will match 50% of your costs, up to \$500 and can only go towards projects which have received Landscape Level 1 or Landscape Level 2 funds in the past. The grant can be used to remedy problems that have occurred such as replacement of plants that did not survive in your setting, repair of inlets and outlets, replacement of mulch that was washed out in a storm, or other items that are meant to help repair a problem that has occurred. Funding from this grant will go towards projects that have been actively maintained. All Cost Share projects are checked for maintenance by VLAWMO staff. Grants will be considered each year until the annual funds are exhausted. These applications will be considered each month by the VLAWMO Technical Commission (TEC) which meets on the 2nd Friday of each month. All applications must be received by Kristine Jenson at least one week prior to the next TEC meeting.

LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name:	
Address:	
City, State, Zip:	
Phone:	
EMAIL:	
Amount of Request: \$	Total Amount of Project: \$

Please answer the following:

1. Explain the issue or problem? Do you know what caused the problem? (Please include a picture of the problem to be addressed.)

2. How do you propose to fix the problem? (For instance, if a plant has failed to survive, what sort of replacement will you use and why did you choose that particular plant?)

3. What annual maintenance activities have you already been doing on this project?

4. Please include a budget with your application, explaining what you plan to spend and what items you will be purchasing.

Resolution 08-2020
Of the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO)
To clarify and update the use of VLAWMO Cost Share & Community Blue Program Funds

Resolution 08-2020 was moved by Director _____ and seconded by Director _____:

Whereas, The VLAWMO Board established a Cost-share program to contribute funding to eligible projects where an application has been approved by the VLAWMO Board or VLAWMO Technical Commission, and

Whereas the VLAWMO cost share program has been subsequently updated with past resolutions 08-2009, 02-2012, and 01-2014, to become the current Program, which currently includes the rain barrel, Landscape Level 1, and Landscape Level 2 grant programs, and

Whereas, Funds for the Cost Share Program are established and budgeted on an annual basis, with projects recommending \$5,000.00 or more in VLAWMO grant funds require approval from the VLAWMO Board of Directors, and grant funding in lesser amounts requiring approval from the VLAWMO Technical Commission, and

Whereas, at the June 2020 VLAWMO Board meeting, the Directors discussed the need to review the current VLAWMO cost share policy and related program budget, and

Whereas, at the August 2020 VLAWMO Board meeting, the Board authorized a Cost Share Program Policy Review & Update Subcommittee creation and agreed to schedule a subcommittee meeting in September 2020, and

Whereas, the Cost Share Program Policy Review Subcommittee met on Sept. 23, 2020 and reach unanimous consensus to pursue “option 1” which included proposed program changes to clarify and update the eligibility for the VLAWMO Landscape Cost Share Grant Program, Level 1 & Level 2, as well as the partial program and funding integration of VLAWMO Education and Outreach Community Blue Education Grant Program to create the Soil Health Grant, and

Whereas, at the October TEC meeting the Commissioners approved the Cost Share Program Policy Review Subcommittee Recommendation to the VLAWMO Board, and

Whereas, The Board intends to evaluate these Program changes after one year.

Therefore, be it resolved: The VLAWMO Board of Directors adopts the attached language and documents dated 10-28-2020 to update the VLAWMO Cost Share & Community Blue Grant Programs eligibilities and funding amounts as presented and with non-material changes to Program documents allowed, upon approval.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and there were __ yeas and __ nays as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<i>Dan Jones</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ed Prudhon</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Rob Rafferty</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Marty Long</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Patricia Youker</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Jim Lindner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

_____ Board Chair Date

_____ Attest Date