

# Metro Greenways 2007 Community Conservation Assistance Grants

## Project Profile

Project Name: ***Natural Resource Inventory to guide plan and policy revisions***

Geographic Context: ***City of Maplewood***

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Website link: <http://www.ci.maplewood.mn.us/index.aspx?nid=381>

Grant Amount: \$10,000

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***Project Goal: Complete a city-wide natural resource inventory using the MLCCS and use the information to develop a greenways policy statement and identify a conservation-based zoning district.***

***Project Outcome: A natural resource inventory was completed using the MLCCS and it serves as the foundation for the City's plans and policies. A zoning district requiring conservation-based development was drafted and approved. Established the Maplewood Environmental Commission Greenway's Subcommittee and drafted a greenways policy statement (under review.)***

***Project Overview:*** Conducted the natural resource inventory using version 5.4 of the MLCCS. Cultural areas were inventoried at a level 3 and natural and semi natural areas were inventoried to a level 4/5. Natural Community Quality modifiers were collected for all natural areas using the DNR's Element Occurrence Ranking Guidelines. Existing MNRAM data was used to enhance the inventory of wetlands and field notes were collected for high quality areas.

The city council adopted a R1-R Rural Conservation Dwelling Zoning District in February 2009. It provides incentives for enhancing drainage ways, ecological communities, connections and vistas. A Greenways subcommittee was established and drafted a policy statement that has been reviewed by the Environmental Commission.

Future actions planned to build on this effort include:

- 1) adopting the Greenways Policy Statement
- 2) Update the natural areas (greenways) map
- 3) Identifying conservation and development management priorities to carry out in the Conservation Dwelling Zoning District