



## RFP, May 2010

### Program Purpose

If your community is challenged by how to grow and conserve its natural land and water resources at the same time, DNR's Community Conservation Assistance (CCA) grants can help you. CCA grants are available to assist local governments with obtaining baseline land cover data and the integration of land cover and natural resources information into local development and conservation plans, policies, and practices. DNR's CCA program is especially interested in innovative projects that seek to resolve challenges associated with the conservation of remaining natural habitats in rapidly changing communities. Information about previously funded projects is available on the [CCA Accomplishments](#) page.

### Eligible Applicants

Cities, counties, townships, and special purpose districts (watershed districts, watershed management organizations, and soil and water conservation districts) within the **12 county greater metro region** are eligible. Multi-jurisdictional applicants are welcome if one applicant is identified as the principal grantee for the entire proposed project.

### Eligible Projects

CCA grants are available for a wide range of local conservation-focused activities in developing communities, including:

- Inventories of remaining natural areas using Minnesota Land Cover Classification System in communities lacking land cover data
- Development of land use decision-making models that incorporate land cover and natural resources information in order to conserve vital natural resources
- Integration of land cover and natural resources data sets into local plans, policies, or best management practices in order to conserve vital natural resources
- Ordinance review and amendment or new natural resources ordinance development to conserve natural habitats and to guide development
- Creation of cooperative, inter-jurisdictional partnerships focused on conserving shared natural resources
- Workshops for local government staff and officials focused on conservation and development issues
- Innovative projects to identify and conserve natural habitats and guide development

## Ineligible Projects

- Land acquisition
- Restoration activities
- Land management plans and activities
- MLCCS land cover inventories within 7-county Metro

## Minimum Requirements

- The project areas must be partially or wholly within the [Metropolitan Conservation Corridors Area](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/nrplanning/community/metroconservationcorridors/map.pdf) (<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/nrplanning/community/metroconservationcorridors/map.pdf>)
- A minimum match of 25% local cash or in-kind services
- Expenditures must be paid before reimbursement can be made
- A signed resolution in support of the project and future use of its deliverables, if selected

## Grant Awards

Current Funding Available: \$75,000

Historic Grant Average: \$17,500 (\$5,000 to \$35,000 range)

Applications will be reviewed and ranked in mid-July 2010 by an interorganizational team using a defined [set of criteria](#). Selected projects will receive final approval from CCA Program staff and the Regional Director in July 2010. The DNR will promptly work with successful grant recipients to complete the grant agreement necessary for project start-up in August.

## Project Period

Projects cannot begin until all requested final documentation has been submitted and an agreement between the applicant and the state has been signed. Two project status reports and a final report will be required. Funded projects must begin promptly after an agreement has been signed and all work must be **completed no later than June 30, 2011**.

## To Apply

Electronic submissions of the [grant proposal](#) and [GIS shape file](#) showing the project area boundaries are due to [marybeth.block@state.mn.us](mailto:marybeth.block@state.mn.us) by June 25, 2010, 4:30 pm. Hard copies of the proposal and project map are accepted and must be stamped by the DNR as received by the same deadline above.

### For information on the application process contact:

Marybeth Block  
DNR Community Conservation Assistance  
1200 Warner Road  
St. Paul, MN 55106

### To discuss project eligibility contact:

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Community Assistance Manager  
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