

**CPL Applications**  
(Total to date: 129)

## Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Application

**CPL1000012**

### Spreadsheet

#### Name and Contact

Project Identifier:	CPL1000012	Street Address 1:	365 Marie Ave. W.
Project Name:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve Prairie Enhancement/Prescribed Burn	Street Address 2:	
Organization Name:	Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center	City:	W. St. Paul
Organization Website:	www.dodgenaturecenter.org	State:	MN
Organization Contact Person:	Julie Allen	Zip Code:	55118
Contact Email:	jallen@dodgenaturecenter.org		
Contact Phone:	651.789.5215		

#### Location

Primary County:	Dakota
Nearest City:	West St. Paul
Township:	
Project Site Name:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve
Project Site Land Ownership:	Private
Other Land Ownership:	

#### Project Information

Primary Activity:	Enhancement
Primary Habitat Type:	Prairie
Total Project Acres:	20
Total Project Sites:	1
Total Grant Amount Requested:	\$6225
Total Match Amount:	\$3025
Total Project Cost:	\$9250
Project Completion Date:	05/2012 (MM/YYYY)

Project Summary and Outcomes: This project will complete two prescribed burns and seeding on the Rachel C. Lilly Preserve at Dodge Nature Center. The proposed burns will inhibit the growth of non-native species on 20 acres of prairie, while enhancing the growth of the native plants on both parcels. In addition, the introduction of native seed on these sites will increase the diversity of native prairie grasses and forbs, therefore increasing wildlife diversity. The site is used not only to provide habitat to a variety of animals, but also to teach a students about prairies, restoration, and Minnesota's native ecosystems.

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#### Attachments

- [Project Site Information Form](#)
- [Project Budget and Match Description](#)
- [Partner Commitment Letter](#)
- Financial Documentation
- [Conservation Easement](#)
- [Supplementary Attachment #1](#)
- [Supplementary Attachment #2](#)

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# Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program

## Project Site Information

### Contact information

Project name:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve Prairie Enhancement/Prescribed Burn
Organization:	Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Julie Allen

### Project information

Project site:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve				
Project site land manager	Legal :	T28N	R23W	S25	QS1/2
or easement holder:	Dakota County				
Private land owner	County:	Dakota			
(if applicable):	Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center				

Activity (may choose more than one): ☒ Enhancement ☒ Restoration ☐ Acquisition  
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☒ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat  
Activity quantity:  ☒ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

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Project Site #2, if needed.

Project site:					
Project site land manager	Legal :	T	R	S	Q
or easement holder:					
Private land owner	County:				
(if applicable):					

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition  
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat  
Activity quantity:  ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

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Project Site #3, if needed. Use Additional Project Sites form if needed.

Project site:					
Project site land manager	Legal :	T	R	S	Q
or easement holder:					
Private land owner	County:				
(if applicable):					

Activity (may choose more than one): ☐ Enhancement ☐ Restoration ☐ Acquisition  
Predominant Habitat (choose one): ☐ Forest ☐ Prairie ☐ Wetland ☐ Fish, Game and Wildlife Habitat  
Activity quantity:  ☐ Acres ☐ Miles ☐ Feet ☐ Structures ☐ Wetlands

**Project timeline:**

Time frame	Goal	Time frame	Goal
Fall 2010	Prescribed burn of 12 western acres		
Fall 2010	Clear brush near Hwy. 110		
Fall 2010	Seed collection/dispersal on western burn site		
Spring 2011	Continue brush removal around western site		
Fall 2011	Prescribed burn of eastern 8 acres		
Fall 2011	Brush removal around eastern site		
Fall 2011	Seed collection/dispersal on eastern burn site		
Spring 2012	Remaining brush removal		

**Project description and benefits (box will expand as typed into, not to be longer than 2 pages):**

Dodge Nature Center is seeking funding to perform two prescribed prairie burns and prairie seeding on the Rachel C. Lilly Preserve. Restoration and management of the Lilly Preserve has been taking place since the design of a management plan in 1996. Following that plan Dodge received a number of grants to support our restoration efforts on this site, including a grant from LCCMR in 2003. This funding supported large scale removal of buckthorn and honeysuckle, prescribed burns in both the prairie and oak savanna, restoration of the northeast prairie (burn site two of this proposal), and seeding and planting of nearly all ecosystems on the Preserve (prairie, savanna, floodplain forest and woodland). Invasive species removal and prescribed burns have continued on the site since the completion of the grant.

In the spring of 2009 Dodge Nature Center contracted a burn of just over 15 acres of the northwest prairie. Conservation Partners Legacy funding would allow us to complete the burn of the northwest prairie (approximately 12 acres), as well as a prescribed burn of the northeast prairie (additional 8 acres). Prior to the burns, native prairie seed will be collected and purchased to enhance both prairie parcels. Following each burn, Dodge will work with Dakota County Soil and Water to rent the no-till seed drill and plant native seed in each site. In areas where the drill will not reach volunteers will disperse seed prior to frost. The introduction of native seed into these sites will increase plant diversity in our prairies and in turn increase animal diversity as well.

Removal of brush from adjacent sites will begin in the summer of 2010 and continue well beyond the completion of the proposed project. During the fall of 2010 we will contract the first of two prairie burns at the "western prairie" (located on the eastern half of Dodge's northwest prairie). Seed will be collected by volunteers and ordered by Dodge's restoration specialist to be drilled into the site following the burn. The second phase of the proposed burn will take place on the northeast prairie at the Lilly Preserve in the fall of 2011. Prior to this burn, seed will again be collected and ordered, and brush will be removed from adjacent areas. The prescribed burn will inhibit the growth of invasive plants on the site as well as to enhance the diversity of prairie plants in the area. This burn will creep into the oak savanna toward the stream to deter buckthorn and other unwanted shrubs from encroaching on the prairie.

Following the burn, seed will be distributed throughout the site. It is unclear if we will be able to use the drill on this site until the burn has been completed. If possible, seed will again be drilled into the site and if not, volunteers will be recruited to disperse seed by hand as the ground begins to frost and seed can be covered by snowfall. Spring of 2012 will allow for any additional brush removal that needs to take place as well as any burns that may have been delayed due to weather conditions beyond our control. Dodge will continue management efforts well after the completion of this project, this will get us on board to develop a regular three year burn rotation of these two prairie sites.

The project described above is part of the large scale management plan that Dodge has completed for the Lilly Preserve. This plan focuses on a number of important environmental and land management issues. As an environmental education facility providing an outdoor classroom to over 40,000 visitors each year it is Dodge's goal to maintain the highest level of plant and animal diversity possible. The Rachel C. Lilly Preserve is located along the green corridor connecting a large scale green space throughout the Twin Cities. This natural and native habitat provides homes and nesting sites to thousands of different birds, mammals, insects, reptiles and amphibians. It is beneficial, to Dodge and surrounding green spaces, for us to continue our management efforts and provide the best possible habitat for our wildlife.

**Please provide the answers to the following questions. Boxes will expand as typed into.**

**1. For lands acquired in fee title that will be turned over to a public agency for long-term management:**

- a. Provide a description of the work necessary to bring the land up to agency standards and an estimate of the associated cost.

NA

- b. What short- and long-term work is required to manage the land you acquire?

NA

**2. For enhancement/ restoration projects on public lands:**

- a. Who is/will be the long-term manager for the project site?

Julie Allen, Restoration Specialist

- b. What short- and long-term maintenance work is required to sustain the habitat work you will do?

Short-term work will include continuous brush removal on and around the site. Due to the proximity of this site to the highway there are portions of the prairie that are not manageable by burns. Controlling the amount of brush in this area will limit the encroachment of brush in the burn sites and maintain an open view of the prairie from the highway. We will continue to collect native prairie seed throughout the proposed burn sites to distribute and drill into the sites following the burn. In the long-term Dodge will manage the prairie parcels based on a three year burn rotation. The site adjacent to the western prairie (far west half not included in the grant proposal), was burned in the spring of 2009. We would like to manage these three site in a three year rotation to limit the impact on wildlife during prescribed burns.

- c. Who will complete this maintenance work, and how will it be funded?

Dodge Nature Center employs a half-time restoration specialist and a volunteer coordinator that will work to maintain the success of the proposed grant sites. Dodge is fortunate to have over 300 restoration volunteers that will work with staff to remove encroaching brush and harvest native seed in order to continue prairie enhancement and restoration efforts. Dodge also has set aside a limited amount of funding specific to land management of the Rachel C. Lilly Preserve that will be used to purchase herbicide to treat stumps and invasive plant removal, and to purchase and maintain equipment used in the removal of unwanted species.

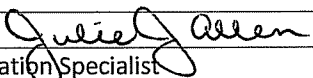
- d. Will the CPL funds supplant any existing funds?

Dodge has limited funds for priority restoration projects, and prescribed burns are completed when funds are available. Additional funding, such as the CPL grant, allows us to complete larger-scale projects we would otherwise not be able to accomplish.

As required by 2009 MN Session Law, Chapter 172 subd. 10 (8), "any agency or entity receiving an appropriation must, for any project funded in whole or in part with funds from the appropriation, give consideration to and **make timely written contact with the Minnesota Conservation Corps** for consideration of possible use of their services to contract for restoration and enhancement services". Contact MCC at [cplg@conservationcorps.org](mailto:cplg@conservationcorps.org), or email a copy of this form to the same address. For more information on costs, crew capabilities, etc., visit MCC's website at <http://www.conservationcorps.org/useacrew.html>.

**Signature:**

☒ I certify that I have read the Conservation Partners Legacy Grants Program **Request for Proposal, Program Manual** and other program documents, and have discussed this project with the appropriate public land manager, or private landowner and easement holder. I am authorized to apply for and manage these grant and match funds, and the project work by the organization or agency listed below. I have made timely written notification to MCC regarding my restoration or enhancement project.

Signature: 	Organization/ Agency: Dodge Nature Center
Title: Restoration Specialist	Date: 10/27/09

**Please save this document to your computer or electronic storage device and attach this document as specified on the online submittal form when ready to apply. Contact CPL Grant Staff with any questions.**

## CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

### REVIEWER INFORMATION

Land manager/ easement holder name:	Al Singer, Dakota County		
Title:	Land Conservation Manager	Date of meeting:	October 27, 2009
Phone:	952-891-7001	Proposal ID #:	
Email:	al.singer@co.dakota.mn.us	(assigned by agency, optional )	

### PROJECT INFORMATION:

Project Name:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve Prairie Enhancement/Prescribed Burn	Organization:	Dodge Nature Center
Contact Person:	Julie Allen		
Email:	jallen@dodgenaturecenter.org	Daytime Phone:	651-789-5215

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- ☒ I have read the application and discussed this proposed project with the above listed Organization Contact Person.
- ☐ For work on easements, the private landowner has been contacted and has given support and approval for this project.

### I have performed a Natural Heritage Database review and found:

- ☒ this project to have no features within one mile.
- ☐ this project to have features within one mile, but project is not likely to adversely affect those features. I have recommended the following minimization strategy:

- ☐ this project is likely to adversely affect Natural Heritage features. I feel that this project is important and should be forwarded to DNR Ecological Resources staff for further review.

- ☐ I do not have access to the Natural Features database and will forward this completed form to DNR within 3 business days to [CPL Staff](mailto:CPLStaff@LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us) at [LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:LSCPLGrants.DNR@dnr.state.mn.us) for review.

I have discussed what role my office will be expected to have in this project and find that the project, as described will require:

- ☒ minimal or no involvement from my office for completion.
- ☐ a commitment of involvement by staff that is reasonable and can be accomplished with current staffing levels and workload.

- ☐ an amount of staff involvement that cannot be committed during the project time period with current staffing levels. Unless additional staffing can be committed from other offices, Divisions or appropriate partners, I feel this project cannot be completed within the project timeline to our desired standards.

## CPL Project Application Review and Approval Form

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☒ I have discussed permits and applications that the applicant may be responsible for using the Working on DNR Lands and Working on Public Lands, or Working on Private Lands documents.

### Upon final review of this project:

☒ I find this project to be consistent with sound conservation science. This work will benefit area fish, game and wildlife by restoring, enhancing or protecting forests, wetlands, prairies and habitat and is consistent with the management or stewardship plan for this land. (APPROVAL)

☐ I find that this project does not follow the management or stewardship plan for this land and does not fit within the long range goals for this land at this time on the local level. (DECLINE)

☐ I find that this project should be sent up to a higher level within the agency for further review and decision. I have forwarded the Project Planning Form and this Review and Approval Form for further review to:

Name:		Phone:	
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☒ By checking this box and typing my name below I certify that I have met with the above applicant and discussed the proposed project and have provided feedback to the applicant.

Name:	Al Singer
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Comments: **The County is pleased to support this important restoration project. The Nature Center was one of the earliest entities to have initiated prairie restoration on another site in the mid 1960's when Nebraska provided the only viable seed source. This restoration project implements portions of a comprehensive natural resources management plan completed by Great River Greening in 2008 as a requirement of the easement.**

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Name:		Phone:	
Title:		Email:	



Additional  
necessary):

Comments( including approval or denial, reasoning):

review (if

# Conservation Partners Legacy Grant

## Project Budget and Match Worksheet, Application Requirement

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Project name:	Rachel C. Lilly Preserve Prairie Enhancement/Prescribed Burn
Organization:	Thomas Irvine Dodge Nature Center
Organization contact person (Project Manager):	Julie Allen

Please complete all sections and be as detailed as possible for all descriptions under the Details sections. Limit entries in large tables to numbers only, **round to the nearest dollar**. Do not edit table categories, only enter values or text into the table. The tables will adjust to accommodate additional text in each box. If all categories are not needed, please leave those fields blank.

**BUDGET:** amounts being requested \*\*Note: FY refers to State Fiscal Year: July 1- June 30, with the year reflecting the year that June falls in. For example: if today were September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 it would be FY2010; December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010= FY2011; May 2012= FY2012

Budget Item	Fiscal Year 2010	Fiscal Year 2011	Fiscal Year 2012	Total
Personnel				
Contracts		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Grant Administration		\$50.00	\$75.00	\$125.00
Administration/ Environmental Compliance				
Fee Acquisition				
Easement Acquisition				
Easement Stewardship				
Equipment/Tools/Supplies		\$650.00	\$450.00	\$1,100.00
Travel				
Additional Budget items				
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$3,200.00</b>	<b>\$3,025.00</b>	<b>\$6,225.00</b>

**DETAILS:** detail the amounts listed in the above table.

**Personnel Details:**

Name	Title	Amount

**Contract Details:**

Contractor Name	Contracted Work	Amount
Natural Resource Restoration	Prescribed burn and clean up	\$5,000.00

**Grant Administration:**

Administrative Activity	Description/ Amount	Amount
Tracking progress of work	3	\$60.00
Monitoring funds spent	2	\$40.00
Summarize work completed through each phase	1.25	\$25.00

**Administration/ Environmental Compliance**

Activity	Description	Amount

**Fee Acquisition/ Easement Acquisition/ Easement Stewardship Details:**

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**Equipment/Tools/Supplies Details:**

Item	Use	Amount
Seed drill rental	Effectively plant native seeds	\$350.00
Native seeds	Enhance burn site with native seeds	\$750.00

**Travel Details:**

Miles	Purpose	Amount

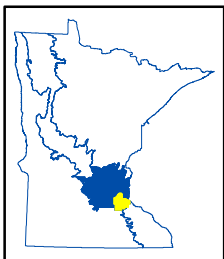
**Additional Budget Items Details:**

**MATCH:** Required 10% of total project funds, to be fulfilled by end of Fiscal Year 2012. Use provided rate sheet to determine unit rate and total value of in-kind services to be used as matching funds if applicable.

Source	Description	Units	Unit Rate	Total Value
Volunteer	Volunteers for brush removal and seed collection	100	20.25	\$2,025.00
Staff Time	Volunteer Director, coordinating volunteers	10	30	\$300.00
Staff Time	Restoration Specialist, coordinating project and managing volunteers	25	20	\$500.00
Staff Time	Project manager. Administering grant.	10	20	\$200.00
Staff Time	Development Director. Assistance administering grant.	10	26	\$260.00

Matching description/ comments: if needed





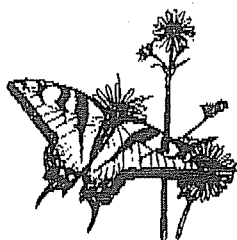
CPL100-012

Rachel C. Lilly Preserve Prairie Enhancement/Prescribed Burn

Dakota County, LSOHC Metropolitan Urbanizing Area Planning Section







# Natural Resources Restoration, Inc.

2013 Walnut Ave. N.W. • New Brighton, MN 55112  
(651) 636-3462 • Fax (651) 639-8097

October 28, 2009

Julie Allen  
Dodge Nature Center  
1795 Charlton St.  
West St. Paul, MN 55118-3800

Mrs. Julie Allen:

I can confirm that Natural Resources Restoration, Inc. would be able to do the two prescribed burns and other related work at Dodge Nature Center as you have described below for the price quoted. We are very familiar with the site and your goals for the Lilly Preserve.

Natural Resource Restoration will do two prescribed burns and clean-up of necessary brush. The first burn will be of the eastern half of the northwest prairie at Dodge's Lilly Preserve. The second prescribed burn will take place on the eight acre northeast prairie at the Lilly Preserve. This later burn will extend into the edge of the oak savanna (west side of the prairie approaching the stream) to hinder the growth of young buckthorn that has the potential of encroaching on the prairie.

If conditions allow the first burn will take place in the fall of 2010 and the second in the fall of 2011. The total cost for the two burns and clean-up/brush removal will total \$5,000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig R. Andresen".

Craig R. Andresen  
President