



GREAT RIVER GREENING

RESTORING LAND, WATER AND WONDER

Partnership Proposal with Great River Greening

(See last page for more guidelines)

Project Name: Sweeney's Marina

Ownership: City of Shakopee

Location: 717 Bluff Ave, Shakopee MN 55379

Site Size: 8.66 Acres

Contact Information:

Name: PeggySue Imihy

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City: Shakopee MN, 55379

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Site/Project Description:

[Attach a plan or project description, describe the site to the best of your ability, or just call us! including the following:

- General ecological description of the property (native habitats present, rare species present, and overall ecological significance of the site as you know it).*
- Overview of what you're proposing to do.*
- Whether or not a management plan is in place.]*

The Sweeney' Marina site is 8.66 acres of developed residential land along the Minnesota River which is bisected by a Minnesota State Trail. This land has been home to a variety of uses over the last several hundred years, most notably a historic brickyard manufacturing operation. The site is an amalgamation of adjacent parcels on which modern and historic homes are placed, as well as much land which abuts the river. In 2020, the City of Shakopee, with help of consultants from the 106 Group and Confluence Design, did a Phase I and II archaeological and architectural study to determine the historical and cultural significance of the area. One of the homes which belonged to Herman Schroeder, the owner of the Schroeder Brick & Lime Manufacturing Company (one of Shakopee's largest businesses in the late 1800s), is eligible for placement on the National Registry of Historic Properties; however, the purchased land, itself, was not historic.

The City of Shakopee intends to return the area to outdoor recreation to reconnect our residents with the Minnesota River. In addition to restoring the historic home on the property, the city plans to demolish the modern houses and utilize the land for parks and open space in a manner consistent with the city's Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan (available upon request). The goals for this project would be to protect, preserve and enhance Shakopee's water resources, open space and other natural resources, strengthen beneficial connections between the natural world and built environment and lastly, cultivate a culture of environmental awareness, stewardship and respect.

Shakopee was once part Big Woods forest - part oak savanna, part prairie and part floodplain along the river. At this time, the city would seek partnership to support the restoration of the area, mainly restoring oak savanna and the floodplain to varying degrees depending on the location of park/trail (more manicured and maintained along the trail and "let-go-to-nature" closer to the river). This restoration work will be an effort to remove invasive materials, clear overgrow vegetation and re-introduce the native landscape of the riverfront.

At this time a natural resource management plan is not in place, however the city is interested in developing this plan as part of the partnership.

Matching Funds Available:

[Identify the source and amount of matching funds available (or potentially available) for the proposed work.]

The city has planned to spend \$600,000 in its Capital Improvement Plan for restoration of the historic house on the site as well as redevelopment of the property to allow for outdoor recreation. These funds could be used as a match for the proposed work.

Conservation Themes *[check all that interest you and are relevant to the project]*

☐	Pollinator habitat	☐	Unique wildlife habitat
☐	Climate resiliency	☐	Conservation haying or grazing
☒	Water Quality	☐	At-risk youth outreach
☒	Multiple phases of restoration	☒	Community engagement/volunteer events
☒	Shoreline restoration or instream habitat	☐	Other:
☐		☐	

Map of Project Area

[Attach a map outlining the project area.]

Guidelines

Some general guidelines to consider as you contact us:

- Projects must be fully implemented between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2027 (5 years), although there may be some opportunities for extension beyond this date.
- Restoration projects **MUST** be focused on ecological restoration of upland habitat (forests, prairies, savannas, woodlands, wetlands, riparian habitats), wetlands, shoreland or aquatic habitat, and must be on public land, in public waters, or on private lands with conservation easements.
- Projects that promote pollinator habitat improvement or water quality improvement are considered more competitive.
- Lands must have an approved natural resource management plan in place or must be developed during the course of this grant.
- Funded projects will use Great River Greening ecologists and crews (as appropriate) in the implementation of the projects; preferences will be given to projects where community engagement can be one facet of the implementation.
- Projects that have cash match are more competitive.

About Great River Greening

Annually, Great River Greening - working with its partners - restores at least 1,000 acres of habitat on public lands and engages 2,000 volunteers in the implementation of these restoration projects. We currently work throughout Minnesota, but have deep programmatic roots in the Twin Cities Metro, Anoka Sand Plain Ecoregion, Cannon River Watershed, and Minnesota River watershed. Our team of ecologists have broad experience and training, working on a range of sites, including county and city parks, wildlife management areas, and scientific and natural areas. Partners have included US Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Natural Resources, and hundreds of city and county landowners across Minnesota. For more information on our organization and staff, visit our web site:

www.greatrivergreening.org.