



Community Forestry in Minnesota: Overview and Update on the State Program

September 21st, 2017 Presentation to the MnSTAC Members

by DNR Forestry Staff

St Louis Park Recreation Center - 3700 Monterey Drive

Our Goal : Sustained community programs managing diverse & healthy urban tree canopies



DNR Organizational Overview for Community Forestry

- Director – Forrest Boe Assistant Director – Craig Schmid
- 3 Section Managers – Strategic Planning and Outreach (Jon Nelson)
 - 3 Unit Supervisors – Cooperative Forest Management Supervisor (Gary Michael)
Legislative Affairs and Outreach Supervisor (Amy Kay Kerber)
 - 4 Program Coordinators w/in the CFM Unit – Urban and Community Forestry (Ken Holman)
 - U&CF Senior Planner – Valerie McClannahan
 - U&CF Outreach Specialist – Jennifer Teegarden
 - 18 CFM Field Foresters

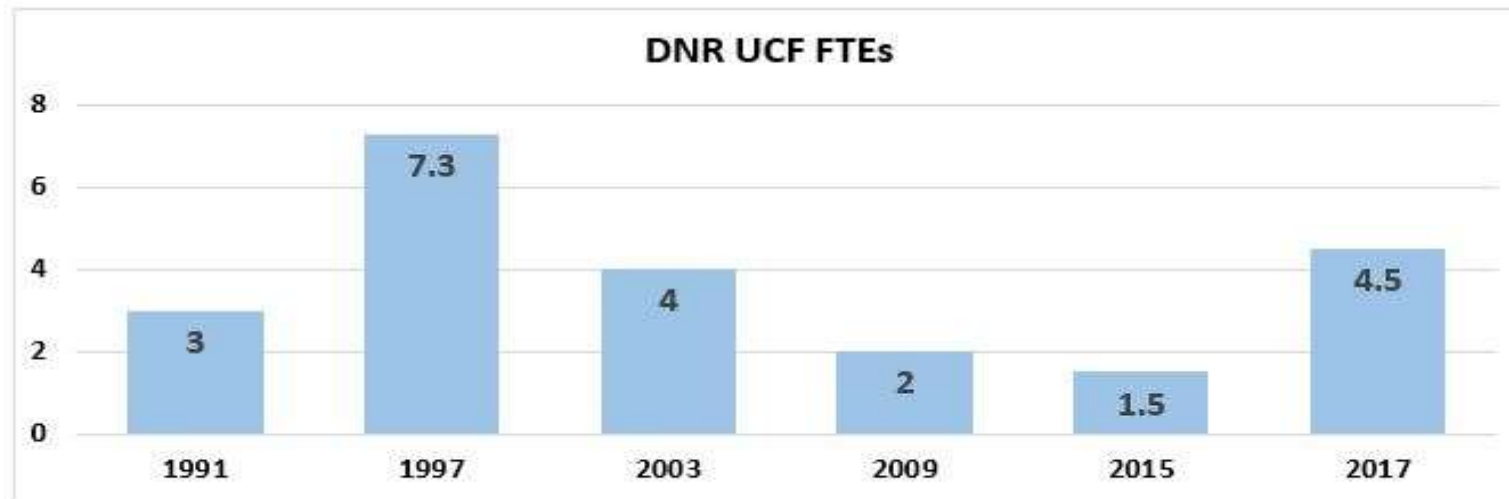
Introducing **Amy Kay Kerber** DNR Forestry Legislative Affairs & Outreach Supervisor



UCF Staffing and Grants: 1974-2017

1974-1982 MDA Shade Tree Program: 18 FTEs and \$107 Million in Grants

1986-1997 MDA: 4 FTEs and No Grant Funds



MnReLeaf \$7 MILLION

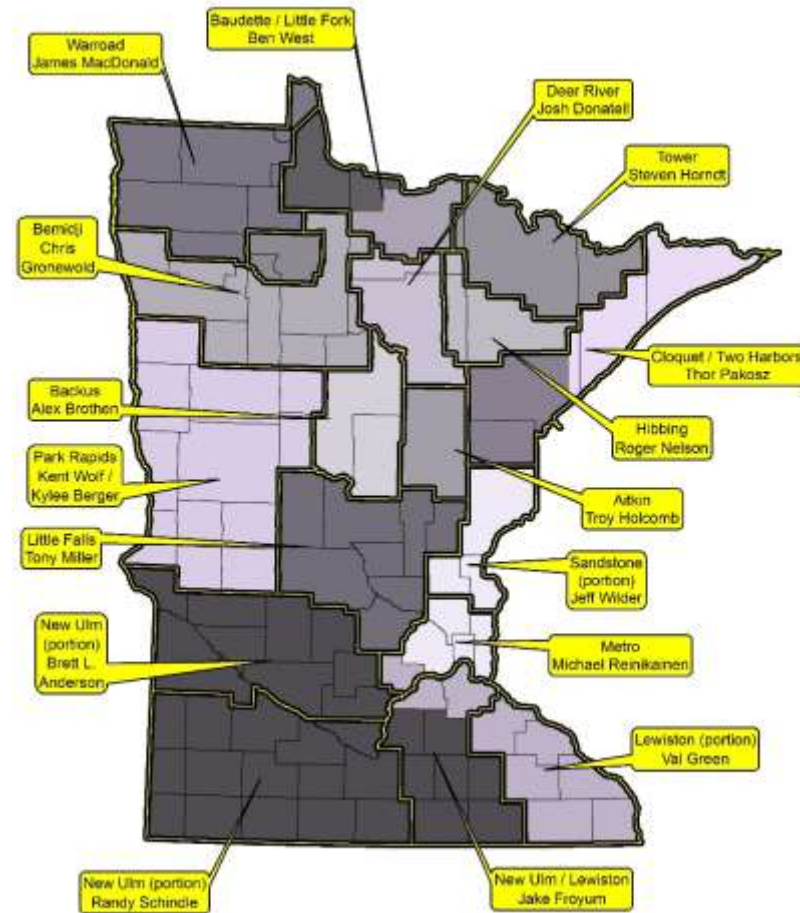
Bonding \$3.5 MLN

Improving Community Forests via Citizen Engagement →

\$800 K

DNR UCF Staffing 2017

- Ken Holman – Statewide Program Coordinator
- Valerie McClannahan - Senior Planner, LCCMR Grant funded, CEP projects
- Jennifer Teegarden, Outreach
- 18 CFM Field Foresters, Community Assistance



DNR U&CF Assistance Priorities for Area CFM Staff

- **Meet with community U&CF program managers**
- **Complete “Needs Assessments” for new & developing community programs**
- **Assist communities with grant applications & becoming and remaining a Tree City USAs**
- **Conduct compliance checks for DNR grants**
- **Refer residents to local U&CF managers, consultants & qualified vendors**

USFS Local Program Standards

U.S. Forest Service Standards for a “Managed Local Program”:

- **Professional Staff**
- **Tree Board**
- **Current Ordinance**
- **Inventory-based Management Plan**

DNR's Assistance Builds Community Capacity Through Various Programs

- **Tree Inspector Certification – over 700 statewide**



DNR's Assistance Builds Community Capacity Through Various Programs

Tree City USA Recognition

- 102 cities in 2017
- 3 new communities
- 100% recertification rate
- 14 growth award recipients



DNR's Assistance Builds Community Capacity Through Various Programs

- **Community Engagement and Preparedness (CEP)**
 - Recruit and train volunteers to do tree surveys
 - Provide community leaders with report on survey results
 - Establish a gravel bed for enhancing a variety of bareroot stock



“Community Engagement & Preparedness” (CEP) is key to local program success and longevity

2013

Rapid Response Community Inventory Manual



Prepared by the University of Minnesota
Department of Forest Resources
www.mnrfresources.com



MN Department of Natural
Resources provided US Forest
Service funds for printing this
material



Gravel bed systems **ENHANCE** fine roots & new tree survival, making forest diversity affordable & citizen engagement lightweight ...



CEP assistance means citizens can invest their time for the greater good, and gain lifelong skills.



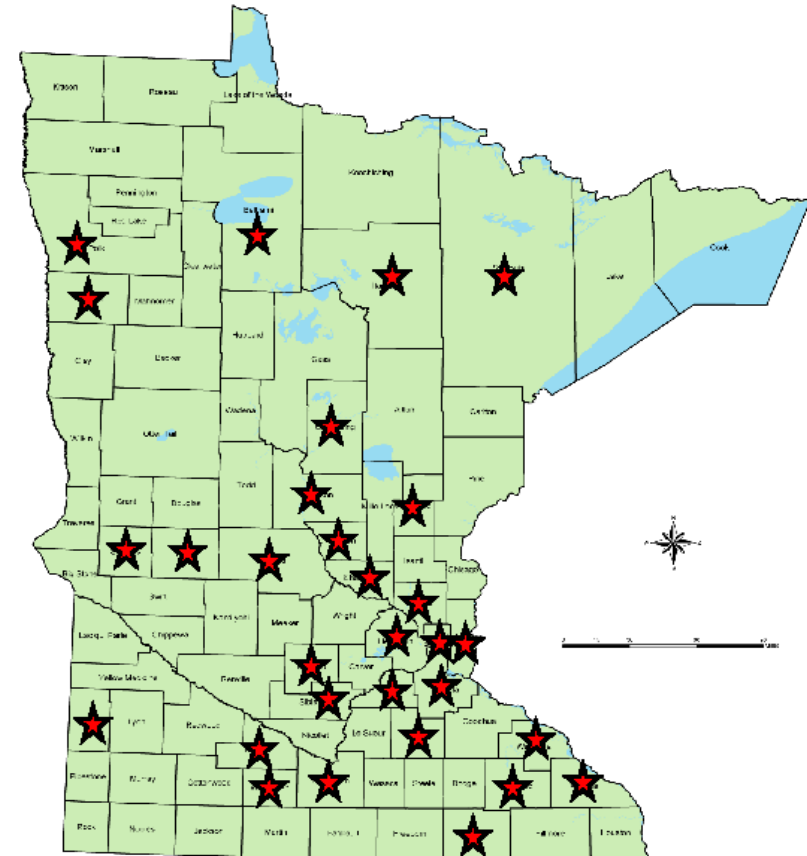
CEP-assisted communities and counties serve as regional models

UofM and DNR, working with
SWCDs to pilot county-wide
programs in:

- Sherburne SWCD – 7 cities
- Wabasha SWCD – 4 cities
- McLeod County - 5 cities
- Hennepin County - 12 cities

Currently 52 CEP cities statewide

Community Engagement and Preparedness (CEP) Communities
By County
2009-2017



U of M Deliverables on DNR Pass-thru Grant Represents 6.25 FTEs of UofM Staff

- Community Engagement & Preparedness Program
- Assist SWCDs in county-wide programs
- State-wide Volunteer Programs:
 - Tree Care Advocates
 - Citizen Pruners
 - Tree Stewards, etc.
- Tree Inspector Program – Workshops & *NEW quarterly “TreeIQ” e-newsletter*
- Assist with First Detectors Program
- MnSTAC support:
 - Web master, manage email lists
 - Monthly educational Forums
- MnSTAC-MSA Nursery Field Day
- Shade Tree Short Course
- MN GreenCorps Training (for MPCA)
- Workshops for DNR Field Staff
- Needs assessments & evaluations for all of the above programs

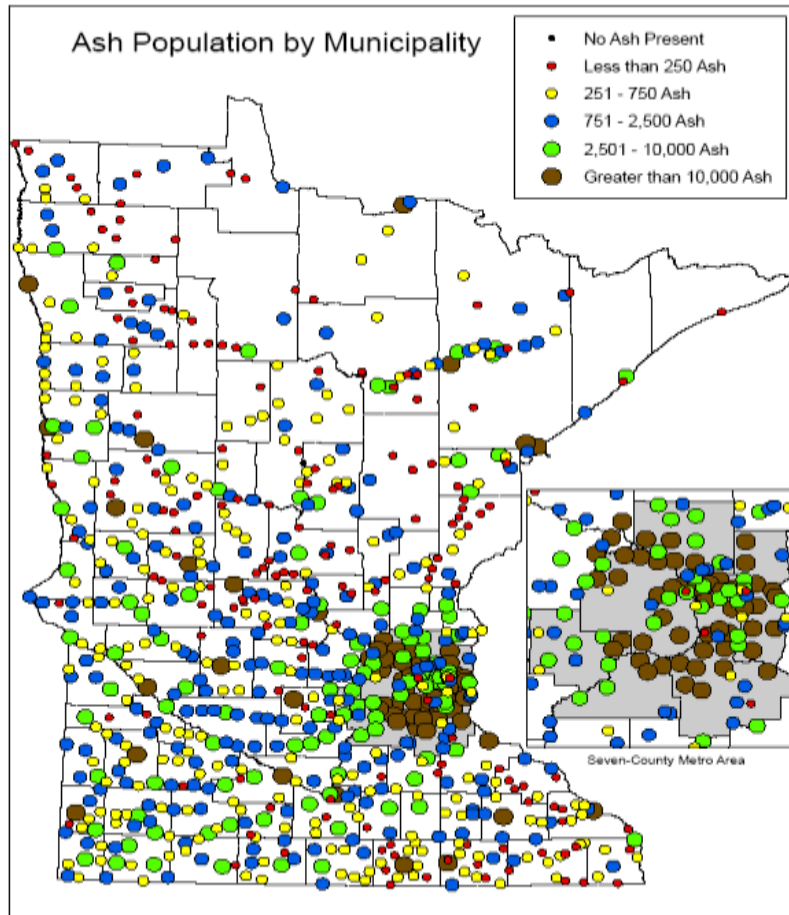
2017 Arbor Month Campaign

- Second year of the “Get Your Daily Dose of Trees for a Healthy You and Me” campaign with focus on an action
- 31-Days of Trees challenge had over 900 entries
- Facebook campaign resulted in:
 - 577,000 impressions
 - 177,000 reach
 - 14,898 video views
 - 5,023 clicks

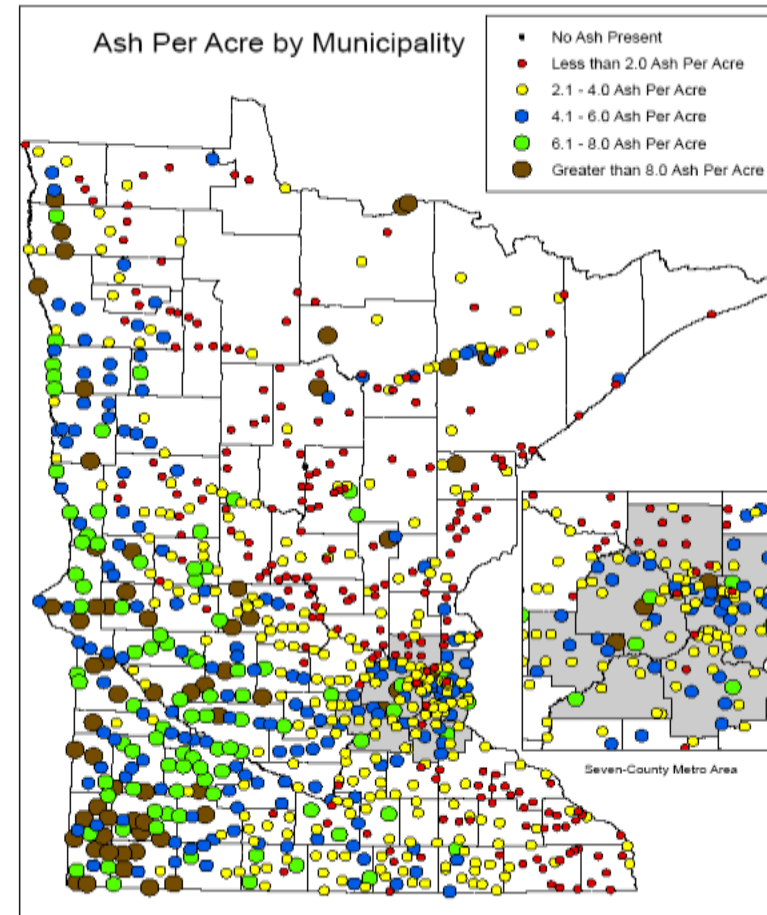


DNR's 2010 Rapid Assessment of 700 community forests found towns with 40-50%, even 70%, ash cover

Minnesota communities
ash population = 2.65 million



Density of community ash
most **very high** in the west and
southwest



DNR 2010 Community Tree Survey for the County of Hennepin

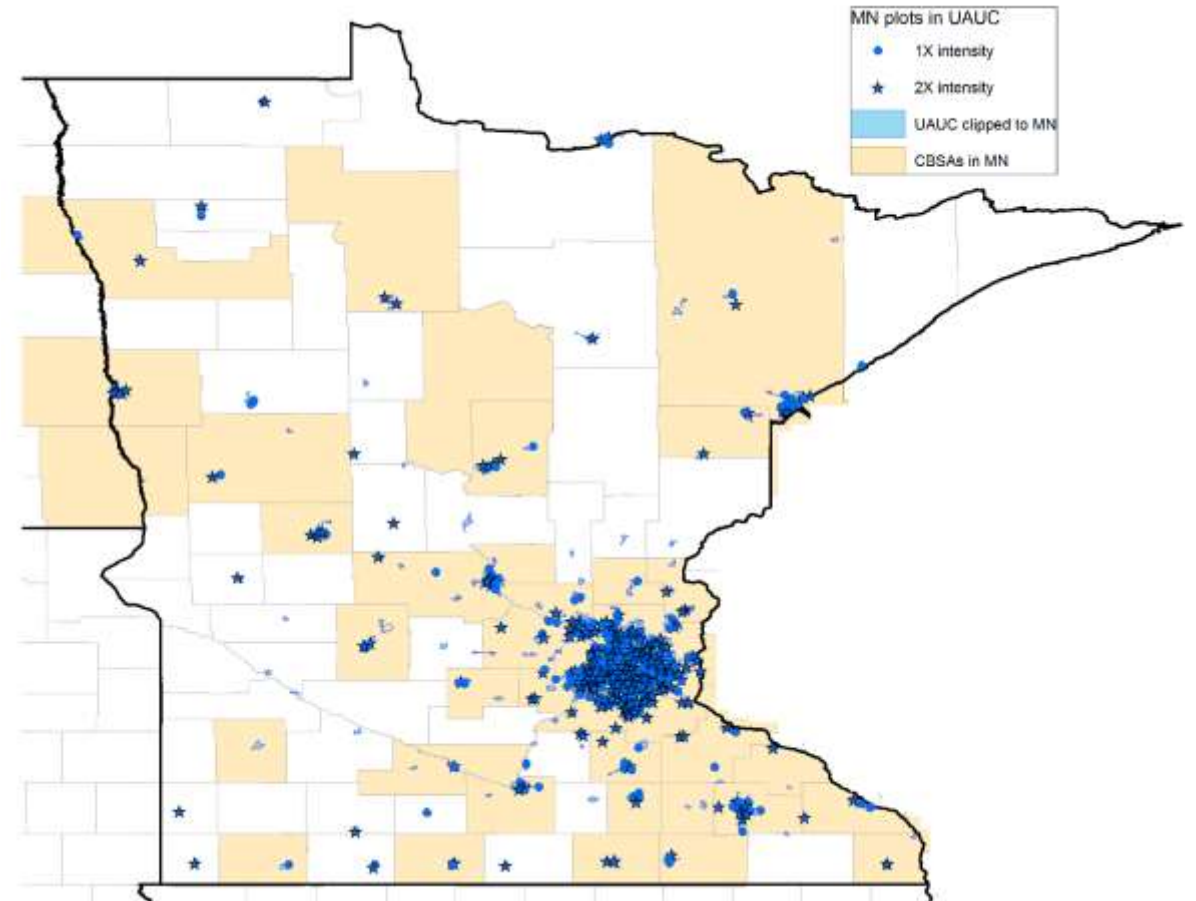
** Only maintained areas are surveyed. Maintained areas are periodically mowed or fall within an artificial surface, (e.g. parking lot).

Table 1. Diversity of tree genera, size class distribution, and healthy tree population and percents.

Genera	Dead trees are included in population numbers & all percents.						Only live trees are included in numbers & percents.		
	Population	Genera %	Size Classes --				Population	Genera %	Healthy
			Small	Medium	Large	Super			
Acer (Maple)	848,555	19.0%	20.4%	35.7%	25.2%	18.7%	846,094	19.0%	77.3%
Picea (Spruce)	764,588	17.1%	18.4%	58.3%	21.5%	1.7%	762,170	17.1%	97.5%
Fraxinus (Ash)	588,255	13.2%	12.0%	38.1%	38.3%	11.7%	587,858	13.2%	80.6%
Malus (Apple)	336,331	7.5%	50.7%	46.4%	2.7%	0.2%	335,269	7.5%	94.6%
Ulmus (Elm)	212,809	4.8%	31.3%	28.7%	17.0%	22.9%	210,358	4.8%	75.8%
Pinus (Pine)	205,380	4.6%	16.8%	52.8%	26.6%	3.8%	204,613	4.6%	95.6%
Tilia (Basswood)	182,613	4.1%	17.5%	39.6%	31.2%	11.8%	182,033	4.1%	90.2%
Quercus (Oak)	170,956	3.8%	18.6%	16.1%	33.6%	31.7%	169,491	3.8%	63.5%
Betula (Birch)	151,504	3.4%	27.6%	56.8%	15.0%	0.5%	151,192	3.4%	71.8%
Gleditsia (Honeylocust)	133,685	3.0%	15.7%	38.7%	38.5%	7.1%	132,985	3.0%	65.0%
Boxelder	94,934	2.1%	33.9%	39.4%	21.4%	5.3%	94,539	2.1%	88.9%
Celtis (Hackberry)	89,713	2.0%	26.7%	43.5%	22.6%	7.2%	89,713	2.0%	84.6%
Populus (Poplar)	72,039	1.6%	18.8%	26.9%	22.5%	31.7%	70,135	1.6%	76.3%
Japanese Lilac	47,101	1.1%	74.8%	25.1%	0.2%	0.0%	47,101	1.1%	91.4%
Prunus (Plum)	47,459	1.1%	54.5%	38.9%	6.0%	0.6%	46,652	1.1%	83.2%
Thuja (White Cedar)	39,685	0.9%	36.3%	57.3%	5.6%	0.8%	39,583	0.9%	98.1%
Morus (Mulberry)	36,694	0.8%	49.6%	39.7%	9.3%	1.4%	36,506	0.8%	92.3%
Juniperus (Red Cedar)	29,702	0.7%	9.8%	64.9%	23.8%	1.6%	29,702	0.7%	96.8%
Juglans (Black Walnut)	25,672	0.6%	19.2%	45.7%	28.3%	6.7%	25,672	0.6%	87.6%
Ginkgo	18,567	0.4%	38.7%	52.6%	8.6%	0.0%	18,567	0.4%	96.0%
Salix (Willow)	17,861	0.4%	41.7%	25.9%	12.1%	20.3%	17,549	0.4%	80.5%
Robinia (Black locust)	11,654	0.3%	28.4%	43.7%	21.8%	6.2%	11,654	0.3%	90.3%
Sorbus (Mountain Ash)	11,194	0.3%	56.1%	42.9%	1.1%	0.0%	11,194	0.3%	84.5%
Catalpa	8,731	0.2%	18.1%	29.1%	25.3%	27.5%	8,593	0.2%	78.9%
Ostrya (Ironwood)	8,366	0.2%	40.5%	55.6%	3.9%	0.0%	8,366	0.2%	92.1%
Abies (Fir)	5,795	0.1%	37.1%	51.8%	10.3%	0.8%	5,795	0.1%	95.6%
Aesculus (Buckeye)	4,323	0.1%	26.3%	53.3%	18.3%	2.2%	4,323	0.1%	96.2%

Urban FIA – continuous statewide urban forest monitoring

- Started plots in 2017
- Data available through My City's Trees:
<http://tfsfrd.tamu.edu/mycitystrees/app#/>
- Plots done on 5 year cycle, to be completed by 2023
- Covers both public and private land



Minnesota Forest Action Plan

Used when applying for competitive funds from the Forest Service.

- Current status:
 - Forest Service amending format, requiring additional information.
 - Amended portion of Forest Action Plan requires review from Division Management Team before being made official.
 - The most current available for use, “Minnesota Forest Action Plan Update National Priorities Section 2015 Addendum” can be found at <http://stateforesters.org/forest-action-plans/minnesota>

Update on Grant Projects

- Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (*Received and in-process*)
 - *Improving Community Forests through Citizen Engagement*. Total grant of \$400,000 to the cities of Ada, Arlington, Ely, Hutchinson, Mankato, Maple Grove, North St. Paul, Rochester, St. James, St. Paul, and Shakopee for trees, waterbags, necessary tools for maintenance and engaging citizens in community forest, develops Tree Steward program.
- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (*Received and in-process*)
 - *Engaging Citizens to Improve our Great Lakes Watershed through Strategic Community Forestry Efforts*. Total grant of \$95,000 to the cities of Grand Marais, Silver Bay, and Hermantown for trees, waterbags, necessary tools for maintenance and engaging citizens in community forest, develops Tree Steward program.

Update on Grant Projects

- Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (*Recently awarded*)
 - *Engaging Citizens in Community Forestry for Strategic Stormwater Management.* Grant of \$175,000 to city of Duluth for trees, waterbags, necessary tools for maintenance and engaging citizens in community forest, develops Tree Steward program.
- Landscape Scale Restoration (*Application submitted*)
 - *Engaging Cities and Citizens in Managing Ash for Stormwater Mitigation along the Mississippi River.* Would grant a total of \$185,000 to cities of Andover, Anoka, Coon Rapids, and Elk River.



QUESTIONS ??

Thank you for your support of
the **DNR Community Forestry Program**

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