

## Activity 4 – Non-Structural Urban BMP

### **Program Summary**

Canopy cover, sweeping frequency, timing of sweeping, and sweeper type can reduce sediment and phosphorus discharges from urban areas. Increasing late spring, early summer, and fall sweepings in catchments with medium or high tree canopy cover reduces the greatest amount of phosphorus discharging from streets. The Lower St. Croix Partnership provides funds to implement increased sweeping in late spring, early summer, and fall in catchments with medium or high tree canopy and directly flowing to priority water resources. Participating communities will be responsible for implementing increased sweeping in late spring, early summer and fall in targeted areas identified in an enhanced sweeping plan.

To qualify for a grant, communities must have an approved enhanced sweeping plan completed by the Lower St. Croix Partnership.

### **Enhanced Street Sweeping Plan**

The LSCP will conduct an Enhanced Street Sweeping Evaluation at the request of communities interested in participating in the enhanced street sweeping grant program. To initiate the evaluation, a community must apply to have a street sweeping study completed with the intent to adopt changes to their street sweeping operations. Enhanced Street Sweeping Evaluations will be completed for a cost between \$3,000-\$5,000 each, depending on scale. During the evaluation, the community will be requested to provide information regarding the existing sweeping operations. The draft plan will be reviewed with community staff or the appointed representative for the community.

Sweeping plans will be developed utilizing GIS with the following steps: 1. identify direct drainage to priority catchments, 2. Identify current sweeping frequency in the direct drainage catchments, 3. Identify canopy cover density (low, medium, high) based on tree canopy assessment protocol, 4. Identify increased sweeping frequency in late spring, early summer and fall in medium and high-density canopy cover areas directly draining to priority water resources, 4. Produce color coded street maps that indicate sweeping frequencies in late spring, early summer, and fall; summarize recommended enhanced sweeping curb miles, and identify total cost estimate for implementing enhanced street sweeping.

\$40,000 has been identified for developing these plans in the LSC Watershed Partnership Watershed Based Implementation Funding work plan under Activity 8: Targeting Analyses

### **Process of Submitting Project Requests**

Once a LSC WP JPA partner self-scores their project, submit to the Steering Committee (SC). The SC will review projects and make recommendations to the Lower St. Croix Policy Committee (PC), which in turn makes a recommendation to the Fiscal Agent (Chisago SWCD). Final funding decisions are made by the Chisago SWCD.

The Districts will abide by the Grants Administration Manual and the Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Policy – FY20-21 guidelines and their local policies.

### **Processing Applications**

LSC WP JPA staff will use Appendix C to rank and select urban non-structural BMP projects to be recommended to the SC. Reference Section VII.B of the Lower St. Croix Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for targeting process.

## **Urban Priority Areas:**

- Rush Creek (Rush City)
- Goose Creek (Harris)
- Sunrise River (North Branch, Stacy, Wyoming)
- St. Croix River (Taylors Falls, Marine on the St. Croix, Stillwater, and MSCWMO cities including Afton, Bayport, Baytown Township, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach, Oak Park Heights, St. Mary's Point, Stillwater, and West Lakeland Township).

## **Program Requirements**

Cost share is available for implementing non-structural BMPs that have erosion control or water quality improvement benefits in accordance with the Board of Water and Soil Resource's (BWSR) Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Policy –FY20-21. Non-structural BMPs will be planned and implemented according to the Minnesota Stormwater Manual and will follow the most up to date Grants Administrative Manual.

Cost Share Contract: A contract between the LSC WP JPA partner and land occupier receiving state funds is required to provide a legal standing to ensure practices are installed and maintained according to approved standards and specifications. The LSC WP JPA will enter into one contract with each community for 3 years of the contract.

The local LSC WP JPA partner from the county the practice is implemented in will be responsible for the operation and maintenance (O&M) inspections.

## **Rates and General Requirements:**

The contracts will provide an annual incentive payment for the 3-years. The rate, set by the Lower St. Croix Partnership allows for up to 50 miles per community per year (not to exceed \$5,000 per year), with a program goal of sweeping 350 curb miles per year.

Tier 1 \$100/curb-mile/year (complete the MPCA credit calculator based on curb miles swept and provide the report)

Tier 2 \$125/curb-mile/year (complete the MPCA credit calculator based on the tracking of weights, dates, and provide the report)

To participate, communities will need to implement increased sweeping as prescribed by the adopted Enhanced Street Sweeping Plan. Participating communities will be required to enter into a 3-year contract. After the three year enhanced sweeping payment for an area is complete, that area is no longer eligible for payments. The community may apply for incentive payments to expand enhanced sweeping in other areas identified in an enhanced sweeping plan.

Annual payments will be made at the end of each year of the 3-year contract based on actual miles swept in the spring and fall within the enhanced street sweeping zones. Communities will complete 3 years of implementation. If a community fails to implement one of the years, they would be considered in contract non-compliance, and the SWCD who has a contract with them works to bring them into compliance. If they can not be brought into compliance, they are liable to the State (through the local government grantee) for up to 150% of the financial assistance received.

## **Project Selection Criteria**

Districts will follow their respective non-structural urban BMP policy for selecting projects of which are to be located in the urban priority locations and following the Grants Administration Manual and the Watershed-Based Implementation Funding Policy –FY20-21. Reference Section VII.B of the Lower St. Croix Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan for targeting process and Appendix C for scoring projects.