



## What is the Stewardship Grant program?

The MSCWMO Stewardship Grant program provides eligible applicants with small grants (up to \$500) to implement projects that improve water quality and restore habitat in the watershed. Grantees must install the project and submit a cover letter, photos, and invoices to receive the grant reimbursement.

## Stewardship Grant Project Details

These grants are awarded on a first come - first serve basis to eligible and complete applications. Applying does not guarantee stewardship grant approval. If a grant is awarded, a cover letter describing the project including the requested amount of reimbursement, copies of (paid) receipts, and photos of the completed project must be submitted with the final request for dollars.

This is a reimbursement grant. The amount of the grant cannot exceed the cost of the actual project. Applicant labor or time is not eligible for payment. Projects must be completed within one year of the date of the approval letter. Receipts dated before the grant is awarded will not be accepted or reimbursed. **DO NOT START WORK BEFORE RECEIVING A GRANT AWARD.**

Landowners are limited to one application per project per year. Applicants cannot receive funding for the same project in consecutive years unless approved by the MSCWMO board.

## What is the process to apply for funds?

1. Identify a project.
2. Complete and submit a grant application to the MSCWMO up to \$500 per year for an eligible project. Submit application to:  
**(by mail) MSCWMO Att: Stewardship Grants, 455 Hayward Ave N, Oakdale, MN, 55128**  
**OR to [bstolpestad@mnwcd.org](mailto:bstolpestad@mnwcd.org) if submitting electronically.**
3. Receive approval and grant agreement from the MSCWMO.
4. Make eligible purchases under the project in accordance with the grant agreement.
5. Complete all work by the project deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup>.
6. Submit a cover letter describing the project including the requested amount of reimbursement, copies of (paid) receipts, and photos of the completed project.

## Who is eligible?

All landowners in the WMO are eligible. This includes residents, churches, schools, communities, and businesses.

## What Projects are eligible?

- Minnesota Native Plants (*excludes hybrids & cultivars*).
- Small buffer strips
- Turf alternatives
- Waterspout gardens
- Rain barrels

## What Projects are not eligible?

- Landscaping or purely decorative activities
- Non-native plants including hybrids and cultivars
- Riprap
- Retaining walls
- Applicant labor or time



## MSCWMO Member Communities

Afton • Bayport • Baytown • Lakeland • Lakeland Shores • Lake St. Croix Beach • Oak Park Heights  
St. Mary's Point • Stillwater • West Lakeland

## MSCWMO Stewardship Grant Application Form

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Project Location (if different than above)		
Lake or Stream (if applicable)	Previous Grant Recipient? What Year?	
Home Phone	Work or Cell Phone	
Email Address	Other Contact Info	
Project Size (square feet)	Amount Requested (up to \$500):	
<p><i>Please provide a brief narrative of the proposed project and a list of items to be purchased with grant funds:</i></p>          		

### Additional Requirements:

Projects must be maintained for a minimum of 5 years, and applicants must be willing to participate in MSCWMO outreach and project sharing efforts. The applicant is responsible for maintenance during the 5-year period. The MSCWMO does not complete the maintenance activities. A project may be visited and inspected by MSCWMO staff during the 5-year maintenance period. Please inform MSCWMO if you move within the 5 years of project implementation so we may provide the new owners with an informational packet on the benefits of “planting for clean water”.

### Are you willing to commit to the following requirements?

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| • Maintain the project for at least 5 years after its implementation?   | YES | NO |
| • Participate in MSCWMO outreach and project sharing efforts?   | YES | NO |
| • Do you understand that your site may be visited and inspected by an MSCWMO employee during the 5 years after a grant is received? | YES | NO |

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please contact Brett Stolpestad ([bstolpestad@mnwcd.org](mailto:bstolpestad@mnwcd.org) or 651-393-4395) with questions.**

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