



SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN WATERSHEDS TRUST, INC.
Sweet Water

STEERING COUNCIL

NANCY FRANK
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee
Chair

TOM GRISA, P.E.
City of Brookfield
Vice Chair

DAVID LEE, P.E.
We Energies
Secretary/Treasurer

PRESTON COLE
City of Milwaukee

SHARON GAYAN
WI Department of Natural Resources
(non-voting advisor)

SUSAN GREENFIELD
Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network

MICHAEL G. HAHN, P.E., P.H.
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional
Planning Commission

ANDY HOLSCHBACH
Ozaukee County

J. SCOTT MATHIE
Metropolitan Builders Association

PETER McAVOY
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center

NEIL PALMER
Village of Elm Grove

KEVIN SHAFER, P.E.
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District

DAN STOFFEL
Washington County

STAFF

JEFF MARTINKA
Executive Director
Sweet Water
600 East Greenfield Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53204-2944
(414) 382-1766 office
(414) 477-1156 cell
martinka@swwtwater.org
www.swwtwater.org

**Sweet Water's 2011 Mini-grant Program
Request for Proposals**

Sweet Water, the Southeast Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc., announces its 2011 Mini-Grant Program. The program will provide grants of \$1,000 - \$4,000 to established non-profit organizations, community and civic groups for projects or activities which advance the objectives of Sweet Water – to achieve healthy and sustainable water resources. This year we are targeting only projects located in either the Kinnickinnic or Menomonee River watersheds. With this 2011 focus, we hope to advance work in watersheds with adopted Watershed Restoration Plans and Sweet Water Implementation Plan priorities (for watershed boundary maps and the Implementation Plan information, visit www.swwtwater.org). Given the limited dollars available, private businesses and units of government are not eligible for 2011 Mini-Grant funding.

The goal of the Sweet Water Mini-Grant Program is to support local, grassroots efforts that employ green infrastructure practices and water quality-related activities that will improve water quality, enhance conservation, restore habitat or educate people about these issues and associated stewardship actions.

Sweet Water is seeking projects that complement the mission of our collaborative, addressing one or more of the following goals:

- To achieve water resource goals and objectives – such as clean water, conservation, and habitat restoration – through innovative and sustainable practices.
- To improve water quality to support a healthy regional economy and improve the quality of life.
- To test and implement innovative approaches and practices that will achieve improvements in water resources in a cost-effective way.
- To build partnerships and enhance collaborative decision-making to the benefit of the area's waterways.

Mini-Grants may be used for a single project or for an on-going program, but preference will be given to projects with the potential to make a direct impact on water quality and to offer a long-lasting impact to the community. Mini-Grant award winners will be announced in December.

Examples of projects that may be submitted to this RFP include, but are not limited to, the following (successful applicants will likely combine several of these elements in a single project):

- Rain barrel, rain garden, and native landscaping installations
- Grey water recycling system installations
- Riparian buffer or shoreline restoration efforts
- Planting of stormwater trees to reduce stormwater runoff
- Replacement of asphalt, concrete and conventional lawns with trees, plantings and gardens
- Educating the public about storm water pollution prevention options
- Engaging in activities which protect the rivers and lakes from pollution and habitat destruction
- Create a citizen education program about residential water quality and conservation measures

Sweet Water Mini-grant Program 2011 Timeline

- Promote Sweet Water's mini-grant opportunity to community groups: July-September 2011
- Conduct grant selection panelist training/orientation program: August 2011
- Mini-grant project submission deadline for 2011: September 15, 2011
- Grant review, ranking and selection period: October-November 2011
- Announce mini-grant winners at Sweet Water's Annual Appreciation Event: December 2011
- Invite mini-grant winners to Sweet Water's Clean Rivers-Clean Lake Conference: April 2012
- 2011 Mini-grant final reports due: September 15, 2012
- Mini-grant project submission deadline for 2012: September 15, 2012 (rest of new cycle continues as above)

As part of their award agreement, the Awardees commit to providing Sweet Water with:

1. a brief (1-2 page) written project report within one (1) year of the receipt of a Sweet Water Mini-Grant, or in advance of the Awardee's subsequent mini-grant request, whichever date is earlier,
2. photos of the project (both in process or as completed are encouraged),
3. examples of promotional materials used or publicity gained from the project, and
4. project updates and photos when requested by Sweet Water

Awardees also agree to inform Sweet Water of any press or media related to the project. In addition, awardees agree to acknowledge Sweet Water's support in press or media stories. Please note failure to provide grant reports will require a return of mini-grant award funds and precludes the possibility of future Sweet Water support.

**Sweet Water: the Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust
2011 Mini-Grant Program Application Form**

Applications must be received by September 15, 2011. NO LATE APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED.

Project Title _____

Contact person _____

Name of Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Code _____

Telephone- Office / Home _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Address _____

1. Please indicate which goal the project promotes (more than one may be selected):

Improve water quality/reduce storm water

Improve aquatic or shoreline habitat

Conserve water use

Provide environmental education and / or outreach concerning water resources, water quality, or related issues

Build partnerships for more effective water use, better water quality, and/or conservation

2. Please describe the project in 3 pages or less, being sure to answer the following questions:

- How does the project address water quality issues or habitat restoration in the Kinnickinnic or Menomonee Watersheds?
- What will be the lasting impacts of the project on the watershed and/or community?
- How will the project be promoted in your community?
- What is the timeline for the project?
- Identify your project partners and their roles in the project.

3. Dollar amount requested from Sweet Water _____

4. Provide a budget for the entire project including matching funds and valuation of in-kind time, if applicable. If other funding will be used, list the funding sources and note if those funds are secured. If they are not, describe the likelihood of securing those funds.

Emailed applications are preferred to kmorgan@1kfriends.org with *Minigrant Application* in the subject line. If that is not possible, send the completed applications to:

Sweet Water, 600 E. Greenfield Ave., Milwaukee WI 53204

With questions, please call Jeff Martinka at (414) 382-1766 or via martinka@swwtwater.org.