

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2010 Request for Proposals (RFP)

LCCMR ID: 130-E1

Project Title:

NEMO: Non-Point Education for Municipal Officials

LCCMR 2010 Funding Priority:

E. Natural Resource Conservation Planning and Implementation

Total Project Budget: \$ 203,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 3 years, 2010 - 2013

Other Non-State Funds: \$ \$0

Summary:

NEMO's goal is to protect and improve water and natural resources by providing local government officials with the information and skills to make environmentally sound land development and re-development decisions.

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Sponsoring Organization: UM Extension

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Location:

Region: NE, Central, Metro

County Name: Carver, Cass, Crow Wing, Hennepin, Lake of the Woods, Ramsey, Stearns

City / Township: _____

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Knowledge Base | <input type="checkbox"/> | Broad App. | <input type="checkbox"/> | Innovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Leverage | <input type="checkbox"/> | Outcomes | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urgency | <input type="checkbox"/> | TOTAL |

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: NEMO: Non-Point Education for Municipal Officials

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Stormwater runoff from developed and developing landscapes has extensive negative effects on Minnesota's land and water resources. When land is not managed carefully, runoff from rain and snowmelt washes sediment, nutrients and bacteria into surface water. Increased runoff rates and volumes also result in flooding, bank erosion, and higher stream temperatures. Unmanaged stormwater can have devastating consequences on the quality of lakes, streams and rivers we enjoy. After assessing only a small percentage of the State's lakes and streams, about 40% are impaired by pollutants from runoff. Improvements to Minnesota's surface water begin with making better land use decisions. The NEMO program provides stormwater related education and training for local appointed and elected leaders of Minnesota communities.

The overall goal of NEMO is to protect and improve the quality of Minnesota's water and natural resources by providing local government officials with the information and skills they require to make environmentally sound land development and re-development decisions. This will be accomplished by providing education and training to city councils, planning commissions, environmental commissions, watershed boards, county commissioners, and other community leaders and elected or appointed officials. The education and training will build their aptitude, knowledge, and understanding of water and natural resources in their community; issues, challenges, and responsibilities for water resource management; and tools, practices, and policies available for their consideration. The project team is requesting funds to expand its geographic reach across Minnesota by providing the following project results:

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Result 1: Develop and implement new NEMO programs and educational materials to meet the emerging needs of the communities of Minnesota. | Budget: \$66,582 |
| The project team will develop new programs addressing the emerging needs of Minnesota communities such as impaired waters, total maximum daily loads (TMDL), and municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) permits and develop new teaching tools and resources such as land and water based workshops and interactive tools using technology. | |
| Deliverable <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop and implement localized needs assessments leading to concise and effective NEMO programs.2. Develop localized programs with core and customized learning objectives.3. Develop and implement formative evaluations ensuring educational strategies are achieved.4. Develop, implement, and evaluate NEMO land & water based outdoor workshops (min 2 per year).5. Develop and provide traditional NEMO presentations & resources.6. Participating communities will have clear natural resources goals and may adopt ordinances that take into account local geological, economic, and social conditions.7. The project team will explore new technology and resources to provide timely and cost effective delivery systems such as webinars, telecasting, and web-based resources to reach a cross Minnesota. | Completion Date July 2011 |

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Result 2: Provide training and mentor educators to develop and deliver NEMO programming in communities. | Budget: \$67,253 |
| UM Extension faculty in partnership with Northland NEMO will increase the number of and capacity of NEMO educators thus reaching more communities. | |
| Deliverable <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide 1-on-1 mentoring with other educators to develop and deliver NEMO programming. Minimum of six per year resulting in 18 newly trained NEMO educators. 2. Develop, implement, and evaluate a train the trainers program resulting in an increased number of effective NEMO educators that can lead basic NEMO programs. Two training sessions per year for a total of six. 3. Summative evaluations will be administered to measure the success of tools developed and the instructional design. | Completion Date June 2013 |
| Result 3: Expand the NEMO Program to other communities or urban centers in Minnesota (beyond the Twin Cities Metro and Duluth-Superior Regions). | |
| UM Extension faculty in partnership with Northland NEMO and newly trained NEMO educators will deliver NEMO programs in at least two other communities. | |
| Deliverable <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NEMO programs and/or NEMO work groups are established outside the core Metro region. Minimum of two work groups to be established. 2. Develop a NEMO work plan for selected communities, establish a local work group, and implement NEMO programming. 3. Develop a NEMO program plan for those communities; work with local partners to establish the plan and work group. | Completion Date June 2013 |

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

- Education Program Lead: John Bilotta, UM Extension
- Program Administrator: Renee Pardello, UM Extension
- Technical Advisor & Educator: Shane Missaghi, UM Extension
- This project will be led by the University of Minnesota Extension NEMO Program Team. Extension NEMO staff will complete the primary objectives with support to carry out the deliverables through the local Northland NEMO partners.
- Various Northland NEMO partners will be engaged in the project including Sea Grant, Pollution Control Agency, Board of Water and Soil Resources, League of MN cities, local watershed districts and municipalities.

B. Timeline Requirements

Successfully achieving the goals will take three years. Year one will focus on developing educational tools, resources, and the instructional design. Year two and three will focus on training a cohort of educators to expand the NEMO reach into other communities.

C. Long-Term Strategy

NEMO is a component of the stormwater education program at the University of Minnesota. Additionally, it is a collaborative of various partners. The long term financial model is three pronged: UM Extension + Grants + local support by watershed districts. The project will produce more NEMO educators across Minnesota and will lead to local governments adopting practices and policies that will protect and improve Minnesota's water resources extending impacts far beyond the three year period.

Project Budget

NEMO: Non-point Education for Municipal Officials

IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET: Three years

| BUDGET ITEM | AMOUNT |
|---|-------------------|
| Personnel: | \$ - |
| John Bilotta: Education Program Lead: Development, implementation, & evaluation of education materials & programs. 50% position for 3 years (67.7 % salary and 32.3 % fringe) | \$ 131,079 |
| Contracts: | \$ - |
| Evaluation consultant TBD for three years | \$ 7,500 |
| Technology Enhanced tools consultant TBD for three years | \$ 30,000 |
| Equipment/Tools/Supplies: | \$ - |
| NEMO Land & water field based workshops supplies and materials (program venues, boat fees, etc.) | \$ 17,921 |
| Design/printing of training curriculum, participant notebooks, materials, and resources for three years. | \$ 7,500 |
| Travel: | \$ - |
| Mileage to various sites across Minnesota (YR1: 10 sites x 300 miles x \$.55; YR2: 11 sites x 300 miles x \$.55; YR3: 10 sites x 300 miles x \$.55). | \$ 5,100 |
| Airfare, hotel, and per diem for a NEMO National Conference in YR1 and in YR2 | \$ 1,500 |
| Food for 10 overnights per year for three years (\$30 x 10 overnights x 3 years) | \$ 900 |
| Lodging for 10 overnights per year for three years (\$50 x 10 overnights x 3 years) | \$ 1,500 |
| TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR | \$ 203,000 |

V. OTHER FUNDS

| SOURCE OF FUNDS | AMOUNT | Status |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Funding History: Met Council 2007: \$47,550; PCA 2007: \$40,000 Start-up funds. | \$ 87,550 | spent |

Project Manager Qualifications:

John Bilotta is a University of Minnesota Extension Educator in Water Resource Management & Policy.

He has been an Extension Educator in Water Resource Management & Policy for 10+ years and has served as a Northland NEMO Coordinator since 2007. Prior to his current service as a Metro Region Extension Educator, John led local Extension programming in five other counties. John has been working with water management in Minnesota for over 19 years. He has extensive expertise and experience in providing water resource education and training to all audiences with specific emphasis with appointed & elected officials and other adult community leaders and their organizations. He has also provided training to water resource professionals and built collaborative efforts with many state and local agencies and organizations. His successes include providing effective education programs for cities, counties, watershed districts, and other organizations across the metro and the State. John has an extensive background in program design, implementation, and evaluation. He has developed various tools, products, and methodologies to assist in effective education and training programs many of which have been adopted by various local, state, region, and national audiences.

John will be responsible for the implementation of all three results with assistance from the other team project members for specific deliverables. Northland NEMO partners will work with John and the project team to develop and more importantly, implement specific deliverables. Small work teams will be developed to ensure efficient completion of tasks. John's leadership and specific work focus will combine with the contributions from the project partners to create a successful strategy to ensure completion of all three results and the various deliverables.

Organization Description: University of Minnesota Extension takes the latest research from the University labs into people's lives - where they live, work and play. We address issues that are important to Minnesota; such as, safe water, healthy food, renewable energy, indoor air quality, sustainable land use practices, and the list goes on. We listen to and collaborate with individuals, organizations and communities in order to discover, develop and deliver research-based education and information that is relevant, practical and useful. Extension combines University scholarship and research with local expertise and engages people; organizations and communities across Minnesota to build capacity create opportunities and solve problems. Extension is in all parts of the state, including urban, suburban and rural areas. Extension is a partnership between the University and state, federal, and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public.

