

COMFORT LAKE FOREST LAKE
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Lake Association Grant Program



Presented by Manager Jackie Anderson for Board Consideration

Photo: Comfort Lake shoreline by J. Anderson, 2020

Lake Association CLFLWD Grant Program

E. Lake Association Grant: The CLFLWD Lake Association Grant program offers grants for projects organized and sponsored by the non-profit lake associations within the District. The grant purpose is to encourage and assist with projects on the shoreline, in the littoral area, and/or in the community shoreland zone, that improve water quality, and/or decrease stormwater runoff, preserve or restore native plant and wildlife communities, improve aquatic plant and aquatic animal diversity, and generally any project that improves the quality and recreational value in and around the **ecosystem of** our lakes, river, streams and wetlands.

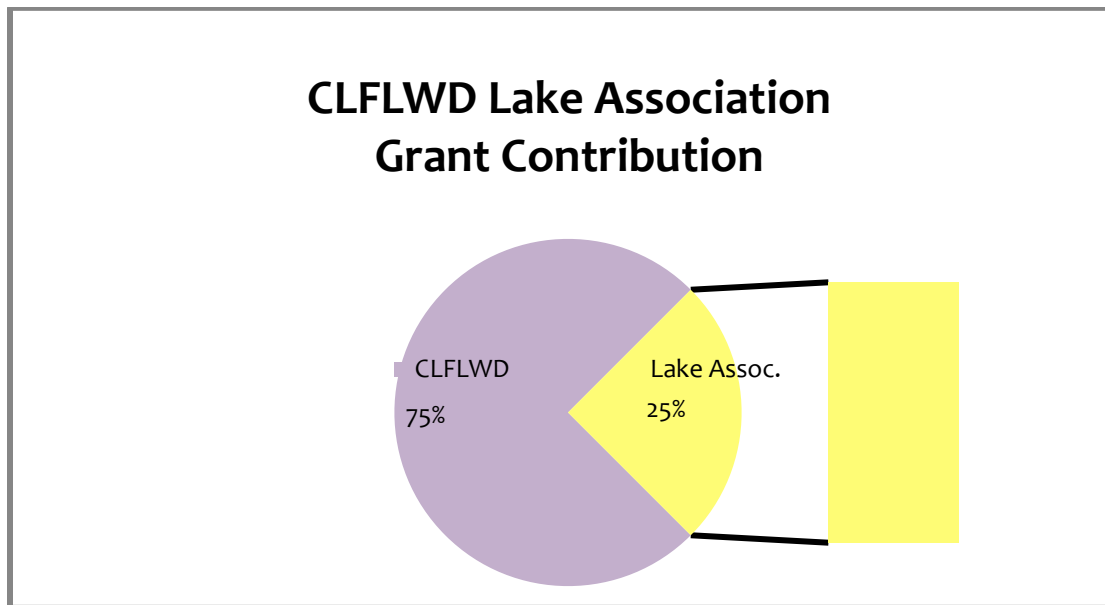
Potential projects might also include education programs or community efforts on shoreline and stream bank restoration/stabilization, rain gardens, or AIS treatments (not conducted by the District) **and actions/projects** that are approved and permitted by the MnDNR as required, or tree replacement and other slope or bank stabilization planting programs. Other activities may encompass education of homeowners and youth on good water steward habits.

This is not meant to be a comprehensive list, as we aim to encourage innovation and creativity in clean water activities, but priority will be given to projects resulting in improvements to receiving water resources, and those with opportunities for engaging and sustaining public education for shoreland owners and others within shoreland zones, **including education of local governments in the importance of good practices through ordinances and practices that enhance and improve natural habitats near water bodies.**

Applications will be accepted throughout the year and awarded throughout the year as funds allow. Grant assistance for lake association community projects covers up to 75% of project costs for a maximum annual grant amount of \$15,000, with one exception: As the biggest lake within the District and Washington County at 2,400 acres, and its unique three distinct basins, the Forest Lake's Grant Fund is set at a maximum annual grant amount of \$45,000, **and as there are two distinct Comfort Lakes, there are separate grants for Big and Little Comfort Lakes.**

The Lake Association Grant Program description and details are also included in the Application packet, available at the CLFLWD office, or on the CLFLWD website.

*The Board may adjust terms of funding at any time as the Board determines is necessary. Limits on grant funds and amounts will be designated annually by the CLFLWD Board.



CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program

Lake Associations Are Important



THANK YOU!

The CLFLWD is fortunate to have our four major lakes represented by strong, active Lake Associations. While the District has focused on achieving Phosphorous reduction in our lakes, the lake associations have been working hard on educating their members and taking an active role on good stewardship, aquatic invasive species programs (other than curly-leaf pondweed), improved fishing habit and species, proper shoreline management, understanding every shoreline owner's role in protecting our

waterbodies, and many other topics. We appreciate your good works and the many volunteer hours that go into these efforts. We are pleased to offer this assistance program in continuing your good work on keeping our waters fully swimmable, fully fishable, and sustainably healthy*.

***State goals formulated by the Clean Water Council for implementing the Clean Water Fund under the 2008 Legacy Amendment.**

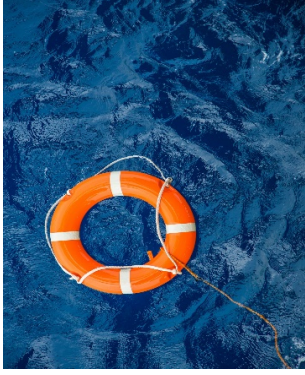
Appendix D: CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program

Cover Memo – Background submitted by Jackie Anderson, Manager 5/26/22

Draft materials for CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program as envisioned by Manager Jackie Anderson and first presented to the Board in April 2021. Submitted to the Board on 5.2.6.22 for final approval and implementation.

Several other discussions were held throughout last year, with the Board expressing interest in the program, and authorizing Manager Anderson to work with Administrator Kinney to develop an operations framework for ease of application and wide latitude for the four major lake associations to self-determine the projects and programs best suited for their lakes and shoreland zones to achieve maximum restoration and sustainability of clean water, natural shorelines, BMPs (best management practices), and education for those using the lake, or living on or near waterbodies, rivers, streams and wetlands.

By using the appeal of the non-restrictive language of the MPCA grant and loan programs language, we hope to encourage creative and broad approaches to accomplish our near shore objectives for clean water,, outreach and education, and understanding of the value of protecting the entire wetland, lake, river and stream ecosystems. We hope to build an army of water stewards and citizen led best practices to assist the District in reaching our long term goal of sustainability for all our surface and ground water resources.



CLFLWD LAKE ASSOCIATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District (CLFLWD) IS PLEASED TO OFFER GRANTS for projects or programs initiated and run by our four major lake association non-profit organizations.

These projects/programs must have a purpose that improves water quality, by a variety of means including, but not limited to; decreasing stormwater runoff, preserving native plant and wildlife communities in the ecosystems nearest our lakes, rivers and wetlands. These areas are often zoned as Shoreland Zones and have the most restrictive rules and ordinances to protect these sensitive areas. Potential projects include shoreline and streambank restoration/stabilization, pervious hard scape areas, raingardens, tree and shrub plantings, and other erosion control projects. Highest priority is given to collaborative projects resulting in measurable reductions in stormwater runoff and nutrient loadings to receiving water bodies and wetlands, as well as outreach programs with opportunities for public education on good water quality stewardship including residential, commercial, and government target audiences.

First, the potential applicant should prepare a plan outline for the project or program they have in mind. Next step is to schedule a pre-proposal meeting with CLFLWD staff at 651.209.9753.

At the initial visit either on-site at the proposal meeting, the CLFLWD representative(s) will meet with the Lake Association representative to discuss the planned project/program and options for ensuring a successful outcome, including what help may be needed from our technical staff and contracted partners.

The next step is filling out an application for the cost share Lake Association Grant, including the workplan, and stated goal(s) to be achieved. The application is then submitted to the CLFLWD offices at 220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025. Applications can be downloaded from the District's website, clflwd.org, or can be requested by calling the CLFLWD offices at 651.209.9753!

Your application will be reviewed for completeness and then forwarded to the CLFLWD Board of Managers for approval at their next meeting. It would be a good idea to send a representative to the meeting when your project will be reviewed to make a brief presentation on your project/program objectives and goals.

After you are approved for funding, you may begin work on your project/pr after all required permits (if there are any) are obtained by your association and CLFLWD staff is copied on the permit (if one is required). CLFLWD representatives will be available to assist throughout the project as determined in the planning phase of the project. If required by the project, a cost-share and maintenance agreement/easement must be completed before the project/program begins.

The grant program will assist up to 75% of the project or program cost, up to the maximum grant amount allowed per the schedule provided. Expenses incurred before the grant is approved are not eligible, unless determined to be essential to the start of the program/project.

Upon completion of the project/program, CLFLWD staff will conduct a final site inspection (if required), or review of program completion. The amount of funding previously approved by the CLFLWD Board, will be granted to the Association upon program/project completion has been approved by staff, and all receipts for the project/program have been received and the CLFLWD Board has received a completion and/or outcome report, and or presentation.



220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025

Phone 651.209.9753 Fax 651.209.9752 www.clflwd.org

CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program Application

Applicant Information

Organization		
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Email or webpage	Tax status (e.g., local government, 501(3)(c), etc.)	
Organization Contact	Project Manager	
Organization Contact Phone	Project Manager Phone	
Organization Contact Cell Phone	Project Manager Cell Phone	
Organization Contact Email	Project Manager Email	

Project/Program Information

Project Name		
Project Location Address or Description		
City	Township/Range/Section	Waterbody
Project Start Date	Project End Date	
Project/Program Type (e.g. innovative practice, restoration, buffer enhancement, education/outreach, other .)		
Total Cash Contributions From Partners	Total In-Kind Contributions From Partners	
Total Grant Funds From Other Sources	Estimated Overall ProjectProgram Cost	
Submission Date	Grant Funds Requested	



CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program Application

(continued)

Work Plan

Address each line item in the outline below in either a narrative or outline format. Items B and C may be brief in the initial application and developed further later in the project planning and development process.

A. Proposed Work Plan

- a. Describe the type of project/program proposed and the specific water resource issue or need addressed.
- b. Briefly describe the assistance needed for implementing the project/program (i.e. engineering/design assistance, financial assistance, project management, community outreach, etc.).
- c. Describe the anticipated water resource impacts and/or the alternate project that will occur if the funding is not available.
- d. Describe the overall context of the project/program, if it is meeting the goals of a local comprehensive or lake management plan, if it is a continuation or expansion of an existing project, etc.
- e. Provide a timetable for project/program implementation; including any deadlines or time-sensitive issues. This information may potentially be used to generate a payment schedule for grant funds and/or to assist in leveraging other funds.

B. Project/Program Operation and Maintenance (a maintenance agreement will be required for any capital project requiring one). The maintenance agreement will address the following:

- a. Required maintenance activities and timetables for the project/program as detailed in the required maintenance ~~agmt~~
- b. Landowner and other parties responsible for the maintenance activities
- c. Funding source(s) for short- and long-term maintenance

A copy of the District's required maintenance agreement can be obtained by contacting the District office.)

C. Project/Program Budget

- a. Provide a description of the budget for the project. This may be in table format. Include the following information:
 1. Budget category (i.e. design, materials, labor, oversight)
 11. Brief description of the category
 111. Funds requested for each category
 - 1v. Partner contributions for each category
 - v. Total budget for the project
 - v1. Total grant amount requested

D. Resolution, or copy of official minutes of the association committing the applicant organization to the project/program and the necessary project contributions.



220 North Lake Street, Forest Lake, MN 55025

Phone 651.209.9753 Fax 651.209.9752 www.clflwd.org

CLFLWD Lake Association Grant Program Application (continued)

Permit Information (project may not begin until all required permits are received)

Permit	Required	Date Submitted	Date Received	Permit#
CLFLWD	YES			
City/Township/County Grading	Y or N			
DNR Aquatic Plant	Y or N			
DNR Public Waters	Y or N			
Wetland Conservation Act	Y or N			
MPCA Feedlot	Y or N			
MPCA NPDES	Y or N			
Army Corps	Y or N			
Other	Y or N			

FOR CLFLWD USE ONLY

Cost Share Information

Date application received	Cost share amount approved (may not exceed 75% of total estimated Costs UP TO MAX OF 15,000 of total cost.)

CLFLWD Representative

Board meeting date

Amount Authorized for Payment

Total eligible expenses from receipts	Amount authorized for payment (may not exceed cost share amount approved)
CLFLWD Representative	Board meeting date