# MDC Landowner Assistance Program and TRIM Grant







Angie Weber, Community Conservation Planner

### Landowner Assistance Program



 Purpose: To help landowners achieve their land use objectives in ways that enhance the conservation of natural resources.

#### **LAP Guidelines**

- Eligible Applicants
  - Any Missouri landowner
  - City and County units of government
  - NGOs
- Application Info.
  - Limited funds available
  - First come, first served
  - Fiscal year begins on July 01

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

#### LAP Guidelines

#### Funding

- Maximum of \$5,000 per landowner per year
- Limit varies by individual practice
- Flat rates vs. percentage rates
- In-Kind contributions: seed, machinery use, labor, etc.

#### Monitoring

- Randomly spot check 10% of completed projects, not to exceed 15 per year per region
- 1/2 from previous fiscal year and remainder from earlier years
- 10 25 year maintenance requirement
- Failure to comply: repayment and loss of eligibility for future participation



#### **LAP Practices**

- Invasive Plant Species Management
- Native Herbaceous Vegetation Establishment
- Native Tree & Shrub Establishment
- Woodland Improvement
- Stream Bank Restoration
- Stormwater Management
- Prescribed Fire Management
- Natural Resource Inventory & Plan Development



Photo: Erb Crossing Subdivision, Courtesy of John Grimm

#### **TRIM Grant**

#### **Tree Resource Improvement & Maintenance**





Purpose: To promote sustainable community forestry.

#### **TRIM Grant Guidelines**

- Eligible Applicants
  - All units of government
  - Public Schools
  - 501(c)(3) groups with permission
- Application Info.
  - Due June 1
  - Competitive application process
  - Reviewed by urban forester prior to submittal
- Criteria
  - Projects must be located on publicly owned property
  - Approved projects must be completed by following May

JUNE 2012								
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

#### **TRIM Grant Guidelines**

- Funding
  - Cost-share ranges from 60-75 percent
  - Maximum per project is \$10,000; minimum is \$1,000



#### **TRIM Grant Guidelines**

- Eligible Practices
  - Community tree inventories
  - Community tree management plan development
  - Initial costs of certification for in-house employees by the International Society of Arboriculture
  - Municipal tree ordinance development
  - Purchase and distribution of tree care education materials
  - Removal of hazardous trees
  - Training for city employees and volunteers
  - Tree planting projects as part of a comprehensive tree management program
  - Tree pruning









# Dougherty Ridge Subdivision









## **Erb Crossing Subdivision**











### **Program Overview**

- Project sites must be within defined geographic boundaries
- Grant requests cannot exceed \$10,000
- Projects must be completed within 2 years of signing grant agreement



### Program Goals







1. Provide support for habitat improvement



2. Encourage partnerships for land stewardship







3. Engage urban residents in community conservation through volunteer efforts

### The College School

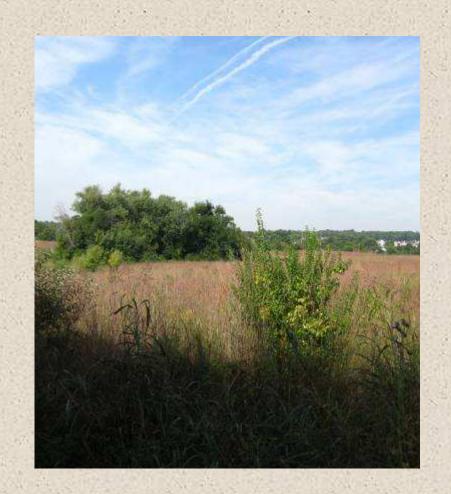
- Purchased property for restoration & education purposes
- Located in the LaBarque
  Creek watershed
- Restoring remnant glades, stream bank restoration, and controlling bush honeysuckle.





## St. Charles County Parks

- Native habitat restoration
- Converting crop field to prairie habitat
- Supported by Greenway Network
   & Master Naturalist volunteers



# Bethany-Peace Church

- Church organization in a highly urban part of St. Louis County
- Half-acre prairie reconstruction
- Project has strong volunteer and community support



### **Grant Recipients**

41 projects have been funded since 2007:

- 23 Non-profit organizations
- 5 Municipal parks departments
- 3 County parks departments
- 8 Public school districts















#### **Partner Contributions**

- 92 organizations partnered on 41 projects by contributing matching funds and in-kind resources
- MDC awarded \$389,894 in grants
- Partners contributed \$549,191 and 10,540
   volunteer hours to projects



### Land Restoration Accomplishments

rojects have improved:

126 acres of forest

24 acres of wetland

156 acres of prairie/

grassland

5600 feet of stream bank

4 acres of glade

1 cave



### Program Accomplishments

- MDC name recognition
- Conservation education opportunities
- Connects urban residents with conservation
- Partnerships to achieve common goals





