

## Important Steward News!



### First, the good news...

We have some great news for you as we head into the long Labor Day weekend. The funding we had hoped to get, to supplement the cost share funds from MCWD, has BEEN APPROVED. A Hennepin County Green Partners grant will provide an additional \$800 for each of your installation projects, and up to \$400 for materials and supplies for your education and outreach projects.

But wait, do not rush out and spend those funds yet! We need to learn more about how the funds will be distributed and accounted for. The distribution processes haven't been determined, so any money you spend now cannot be reimbursed. Hang on just a bit longer. I will be meeting with folks from Hennepin County on Sept. 10 to learn more about the administrative requirements of the grant, and will pass that information along to you as soon as possible. But at least, now we are certain we have the funds to offer you for your projects.

### Then, the other good news...

Mark your calendars and join us on Sept. 24, from 6-9 pm at the new offices of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed district to meet our new Green Corps member. Come with a wish list of help you need on your project, ideas you want to try, and any other work you'd like assistance with. We'll use your wish lists to help us outline a work plan for our Green Corps member's first few weeks with us on the Master Water Stewards project.

### Timing your projects:

I don't have to tell you that the recent heat wave has been wreaking havoc on plans to install gardens. You just can't plant in this weather; new plants won't make it. I think we all know, as well, that fall is just around the corner. Isn't Minnesota great?

We checked in with Metro Blooms, and they do not recommend installing raingardens, or planting native perennials, after October 15 at the very latest. If you plant later than that, the new transplants don't have enough time to set roots before the cold weather comes. (It does seem bizarre to be talking about cold weather right now.)

So, the window for putting your projects in the ground is getting smaller and smaller. Please let us know what your installation plans are, and when you have scheduled work dates. We want to make sure your projects are installed successfully this year, and that your outreach campaigns are completed on time.

If you haven't turned in your cost share application to MCWD yet, Deirdre says to tell you "Call me now!"  
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