

ST. CROIX MINIMAL IMPACT DESIGN STANDARDS PILOT PROJECT

Pilot Community Application

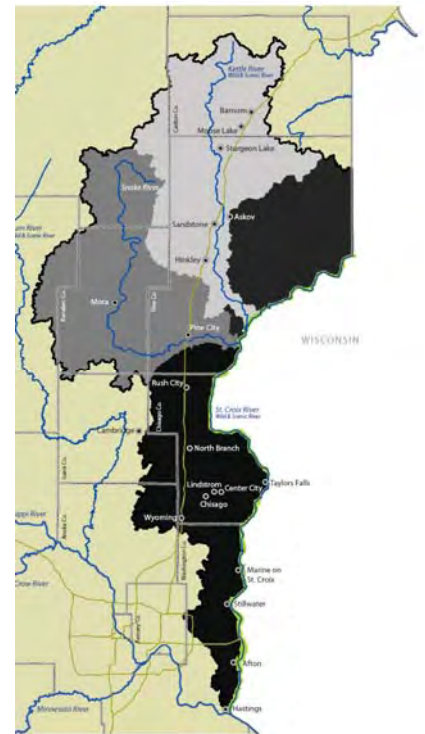
Technical Assistance Available to Integrate Innovative Stormwater Management into Local Ordinances and Activities

The St. Croix MIDS Pilot Community Project was established to help St. Croix Basin communities meet state water quality regulatory requirements and provide a real testing ground for the application of the new MIDS performance goals, credits and calculators, and the community assistance package.

The Pilot Community Project involves regional and focused community assistance in the form of education, training, review and consultation services, and tools and resources such as model ordinances; all with the intent to apply the MIDS package. Education and training includes NEMO – Nonpoint source Education for Municipal Officials programming and Stormwater U – technical training for staff and consultants.

Up to three pilot communities will receive free education, training, and consulting services to update plans, ordinances and codes to protect their local water resources and ultimately the St. Croix River.

The MIDS Pilot Community Project is funded by a Federal 319 Grant managed through the Washington Conservation District with input from a Steering Committee.



Seeking Pilot Communities – Summer 2011 !

The MIDS 319 St. Croix Pilot Project is now soliciting proposals from cities, towns, and counties interested in and committed to integrating low impact development (LID) into their regulations and development standards. Proposals from cities, towns, and counties located within the Minnesota side of the St. Croix Basin are eligible.

Pilot communities will receive multiple benefits and services by participating including:

- NEMO and Stormwater U education and training programs,
- Review of existing local regulations and development standards,
- Model or revised regulations, ordinances, and other recommendations for local government managers and elected officials to consider for adoption,
- Free assistance to review and update local ordinances and codes, and
- Streamlined compliance with state stormwater regulations.

Assistance is expected to be provided in 2011 and 2012.

Local government match is not required; however local governments must demonstrate in their proposals a commitment and proposed timeline to integrate LID into their regulations. Pilot communities selected will be expected to designate one key staff to be the liaison with the pilot project consulting team, form a

local team of staff from key departments (planning, public works, engineering, and fire and safety, etc), attend approximately two meetings with the consulting team, direct and provide the consulting team to current regulations, and review and comment on draft materials provided by the consulting team and coordinate local input as needed. Pilot communities selected will be required to provide annual reports for the next two years (end of 2011 and 2012) describing their progress in adopting into code recommendations provided and in using LID techniques in projects.

Submitting your intent for consideration as a pilot community

Proposals should be **no more than 3 pages in length** (not including support letters) and include:

1. Local government contact information, including staff designated as local liaison.
2. Description of interest in LID and commitment to revising and adopting regulations to allow for, encourage or require LID.
3. Description of the water resources that would be protected or restored if LID were integrated into local regulations.
4. Description of regulations and standards that are anticipated to need review and revision.
5. Summary of any existing LID regulations and practices used in the jurisdiction.
6. Statement that demonstrates staff capacity to work with the consulting team, review draft products, present recommendations to officials for consideration, and implement recommendations once adopted. This should include an estimated timeline for adoption once recommendations are provided.
7. Letters of support from the director of the public works, planning departments, city administrator, and others as appropriate and supportive.
8. Letters of support from the major, board chair, or other elected officials that demonstrate intent to adopt and implement recommendations provided by this project are encouraged, and strengthen proposals.
9. Letters of support from development organizations or associations and community groups are also encouraged.

Proposals should be submitted to Jay Riggs at the Washington Conservation District by August 15th. Proposals are encouraged to be sent electronically as Word or PDF documents. If you have questions about this request, please contact Jay Riggs (651-275-1136 extension 20 or by email at jay.riggs@mnwcd.org).

Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) will provide:

- A clear stormwater management performance goal to meet state requirements.
- New and efficient methods and credits to standardize the use of stormwater management techniques.
- A model ordinance package to streamline compliance with State regulations.

For more information about the MIDS Project: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/stormwater/stormwater-minimal-impact-design-standards-mids.html>