



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 1

December 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval to apply for a DTE Energy Tree Planting Grant, for a maximum grant award of \$3,000 (City's grant share is \$3,000 to be funded from the Tree Fund).

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED	\$3,000 with \$3,000 reimbursed by grant
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ 200,000
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	N/A
LINE ITEM NUMBER	209-000.00-939.260 (Tree Fund account)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

DTE Energy, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, recently announced that applications are available for their tree planting grant program. The purpose of this program is to increase the number of properly planted trees in municipalities. Tree planting projects such as park, right-of-way, and nature study areas on public lands are eligible for tree planting grants of up to \$3,000.00. This grant requires an equal match on the part of the City of Novi.

Since the City of Novi is actively engaged in a spring and fall tree planting program, we will be spending the required amount of "match monies" to qualify for this grant. These funds will be utilized to help defray the cost of replanting public park trees that have been removed by the Forestry Division due to disease, insect damage, and storm damage at Lakeshore Park as part of our annual Arbor Day celebration. This grant will provide funds for approximately twenty four (24) additional trees which will be planted within public park property. These trees will be included as a part of the 2009 tree planting program.

In 2006, the department was successful in receiving this grant. Staff will prepare and submit the grant application.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to apply for a DTE Energy Tree Planting Grant, for a maximum grant award of \$3,000 (City's grant share is \$3,000 to be funded from the Tree Fund).

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Landry				
Mayor Pro Tem Capello				
Council Member Crawford				
Council Member Gatt				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Margolis				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Staudt				

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 17, 2008

Contacts: Kevin Sayers 517-241-4632 or Mary Dettloff
517-335-3014

DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grant Applications Now Available

The Department of Natural Resources and the DTE Energy Foundation today announced that applications are available for this year's tree planting grant program. This grant program is funded by the DTE Energy Foundation, and administered by the DNR's Urban and Community Forestry Program.

The purpose of this program is to increase the number and variety of properly planted and maintained trees in Michigan communities. Trees improve the environment and quality of life. Planting trees also helps to reduce carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming. Through photosynthesis, trees convert carbon dioxide and water, using sunlight, into glucose (sugar) and oxygen.

The DTE Energy Foundation is funding this program as part of its voluntary participation in the U.S. Department of Energy's Global Climate Challenge Program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has commended the DTE Energy Foundation and the DNR for the creative partnership and leadership of their tree planting efforts.

This program also reflects the DTE Energy Foundation's ongoing commitment to assisting communities with the replacement of ash trees lost due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

Eligible applicants include local units of government, non-profit organizations, tribes, and schools, who: 1) are located within the service territory of the DTE Energy Foundation's utility subsidiaries: Detroit Edison Electric and MichCon and 2) have not received a grant during the 2008 DTE grant cycle. Eligible projects include tree planting activities on public lands such as parks, right-of-ways, nature study areas, and school grounds plantings.

Matching grants of up to \$3,000 each are awarded on a competitive basis. All grants require a dollar-for-dollar match, which can be made up of cash contributions or in-kind services, but may not include federal or state funds.

Grant applications must be received by Dec. 26, 2008, at the address below. Projects must be completed by Dec. 31, 2009.

For more information, and a grant application, visit the DNR's Urban and Community Forestry website at <http://www.mi.gov/dnrucf>, or contact Kevin Sayers, DNR Urban Forestry coordinator, at 517-241-4632, sayersk@michigan.gov, or DNR, Forest, Mineral & Fire Management, P.O. Box 30452 Lansing, MI 48909.

The DNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural resources for current and future generations.

Kevin Sayers - State Coordinator
Urban & Community Forestry Program
MDNR, Forest, Mineral and Fire Mgmt.
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