



CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERS, INC.

Planting Trees to Reduce Runoff - Central Lake Erie

Responses to Contractor Inquiries

December 6, 2021

1. **What is an “as-planted” drawing? Does every tree and live stake need to be surveyed? Or, can contractors just delineate/survey the area that was planted and provide a plant count and seeding area?**

An as-planted drawing illustrates as-planted conditions and should include plant counts, size, species, and general plant location overlaid on an aerial image of each site. General plant location should include an outline of the planting area in addition to approximate location for individual plants at each site. For live stakes and seeding an outline of the planting area is sufficient for location.

2. **When is the 75% survival counted – after one year or some other point prior to then?**

The warranty walkthrough to assess 75% survival should occur one year after CRWP signs off on final completion of work.

3. **Please confirm that the maintenance and warranty period is just 12 months following completion of planting except where project partners are performing the plant installation.**

The maintenance and warranty period is 12 months following CRWP signing final completion of work except where project partners are performing the plant installation. The City of Lyndhurst will be responsible for tree maintenance and replacement of dead or poor condition trees for the duration of the project period.

4. **The grant ends in September 2022 but the project requires one year of maintenance after planting, which is targeted for June 2022. Should the contract build all maintenance and warranty costs into the planting costs so that 100% payment is issued by September 2022 or will pay requests be accepted after September 2022?**

Plantings should be completed by June 2022. No pay requests will be accepted after September 30, 2022. All costs for completion of project deliverables should be built into the budget as included in the proposal.

5. **How can the contractor be expected to guarantee tree survival if project partners are responsible for some of the tree watering and maintenance after planting? Contractor has no control over whether the watering and maintenance is done correctly or enough.**

The project partners are contractually obligated through partner agreements with CRWP to perform maintenance as outlined in the “Three-Year Tree Maintenance Plan” (Exhibit B) in the RFP.

6. **What is a SWPPP? None of these projects should require a SWPPP because soil disturbance is not planned. Even the native seeding can be executed through herbicide application, mowing, and drilling seed with minimal soil disturbance. Can this requirement be waived or excluded from the scope/budget by the contractor without penalty if earth disturbance can be avoided?**

A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) describes all the construction site operator’s activities to prevent stormwater contamination, control sedimentation and erosion, and comply with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. The selected contractor will be responsible for determining what permitting will be required for each site including whether or not a SWPPP is required for each site. If a SWPPP is required for a site the selected contractor will coordinate with the local partner to ensure all requirements are met. The contractor will be responsible for providing all information and securing, on behalf of CRWP, all necessary local, state, and federal permits, certifications, and authorization for the project. Please see the table below summarizing the estimated planting area for each site and if the local project partners indicated a potential need for a SWPPP:

Table 1: Project Area and SWPPP Summary

Site	Estimated Project Area (Acres)	Partner Estimated Need for SWPPP
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	7	Yes
Sprague-Abbey site in the City of North Royalton	0.77	No
Mayfield Village site	3.25	Yes
3 public parcels in the City of Lyndhurst	0.61	Yes
Claribel Creek and Community Park in the City of Richmond Heights	1.8	Yes
City of Mentor’s Springbrook Park and Civic Center	6.097	Yes

7. **Schedule says site preparation should be done while site plans are being prepared. However, site prep cannot be done until site plans showing location and extent of work are approved. Also, most of the invasive species are not growing and cannot be treated with herbicides during the site preparation schedule.**

The preliminary project schedule is a suggested schedule. Bidders are encouraged to include a proposed schedule for completion of all project deliverables within the project period in their proposal. Completion of planting plans and site preparation do not need to occur simultaneously.

8. **Where the project partners are responsible for site preparation or invasive species management, the contractor will not have any control over schedule. When will invasive species treatments be done by the project partners for those sites where invasive species treatment is being done by the project partner as match?**

The selected contractor will have the opportunity to coordinate with the project partners on the timing of site preparation activities such as invasive species treatment.

9. **What does “invasive species removal” mean? Does it mean all such species including shrubs, trees, and herbaceous plants? Does it mean shrubs must be cut, the stump treated with herbicides, and cut material hauled off site? How much area at each site has to be treated? The invasive species removal is a very open scope item that makes it difficult for contractors to estimate.**

The selected contractor’s effort will vary for each site. The selected contractor should provide the maximum level of invasive species treatment and removal depending on each site’s condition staying within the maximum allowable budget. Bidders are encouraged to estimate site invasive species removal costs based on the RFP and the below table. See the below table for site summaries of invasive species removal, contractor scope, and partner site commitments:

Table 2: Invasive Species Treatment Summary

Site	Contractor to Provide Invasive Species Treatment	Acres of Treatment	Partner to Perform All Invasive Species Treatment
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	No	-	Yes
Sprague-Abbey site in the City of North Royalton	Yes	0.77	No
Mayfield Village site	Yes	3.25	No
3 public parcels in the City of Lyndhurst	No	-	Yes
Claribel Creek and Community Park in the City of Richmond Heights	Yes	1.6	No
City of Mentor’s Springbrook Park	No	-	NA
City of Mentor’s Civic Center	No	-	NA

10. For sites where the partners and contractor are expected to share maintenance responsibilities, how should the contractor estimate effort? Can some sort of standard like 50% be used so that all contractors are bidding on the same expectation and contractors can provide an accurate cost based on expected effort?

There will be no standard percentage set for maintenance responsibility for this RFP. The selected contractor’s effort will vary for both maintenance and watering at each site based on site conditions, partner contributions, scale of planting, and other project conditions. The selected contractor should provide the maximum level of maintenance and watering depending on each site's condition staying within the maximum allowable budget. Bidders are encouraged to estimate site maintenance costs based on the RFP and the below tables. See the below tables for site summaries of watering, maintenance, contractor scope, and partner site commitments:

Table 3: Maintenance Summary

Site	Contractor to Provide Initial Maintenance	Acres of Treatment	Partner to Perform All Maintenance
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	No	-	Yes
Sprague-Abbey site in the City of North Royalton	Yes	0.77	No
Mayfield Village site	Yes	3.25	No
3 public parcels in the City of Lyndhurst	No	-	Yes
Claribel Creek and Community Park in the City of Richmond Heights	No	-	Yes
City of Mentor’s Springbrook Park	No	-	Yes
City of Mentor’s Civic Center	No	-	Yes

Table 4: Watering Summary

Site	Contractor to Provide Initial Watering	Acres of Treatment	Partners to Perform All Watering
The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	No	-	Yes
Sprague-Abbey site in the City of North Royalton	Yes	0.77	No
Mayfield Village site	Yes	3.25	No
3 public parcels in the City of Lyndhurst	No	-	Yes
Claribel Creek and Community Park in the City of Richmond Heights	No	-	Yes
City of Mentor’s Springbrook Park	No	-	Yes
City of Mentor’s Civic Center	No	-	Yes