Our Mission: Great River Greening leads and inspires community-based restoration of our prairies, forests and waters.

Restoring the land. Renewing communities.
Seventeen years ago, in 1995, Great River Greening embarked on a journey for which there was no road map. In an environmental field dominated by advocacy and land acquisition groups, there had never been a conservation organization devoted solely to stewardship and restoration. Nor had there been a locally grown organization that sought conservation outcomes of a quality on par with the national groups. Our great accomplishments since then, supported by thousands of volunteers and supporters like you, have proven the wisdom of our journey.

In 2011 we started The Campaign for Forests and Freshwaters. For the next five years, Great River Greening is committed to reducing pollution by at least 20% in threatened freshwaters, improving 20,000 acres of land that are degrading targeted Minnesota watersheds, and engaging 5,000 volunteers to do the work.

But even beyond this next campaign, our journey will bring us to new geographies and growing leadership. We started with a unique ability to build partnerships and drive those resources to on-the-ground conservation results. We will end with a vision of natural beauty and healthy land and water that is sustained for generations to come.

I am deeply grateful for the generosity of our volunteers and donors who enable us to implement exceptional projects and expand our reach. Such support gives us the opportunity to impact the current and future generations of stewards of our wonderful and complex natural world.

Thank You!

Deborah Karasov, Executive Director
Great River Greening has engaged nearly 30,000 volunteers in projects on both public and private land that conserve critical land habitat and improve water quality. By mobilizing and educating citizens to restore natural resources in their communities, Great River Greening builds a community of individuals who will be good stewards of these lands and waters in the future.

2011 Field Accomplishments

75 sites of restoration activities, restoring over 4,000 acres of land*

2,070 volunteers engaged in 6,201 hours of service
25,113 native trees and shrubs planted
1.71 miles of shoreline restored
1,001 acres of invasive species removed

*This increase in acreage was largely due to the new Anoka Sandplain Partnership
Anoka Sandplain Partnership

22 project sites

- A 20-partner collaboration targeting restoration of natural habitat on public lands throughout east-central Minnesota.
- A total of 2,500 acres were restored, with at least another 1,000 planned for 2012.
- Over the past three years, we have raised nearly $2 million for restoring and enhancing Minnesota's key natural assets in the region.

Major funding from the Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Fund through the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, and Xcel Energy Foundation.

Metro Area

192 project sites

- Work started in the Metro Big Rivers partnership to elevate conservation within habitat corridors along the Minnesota, Mississippi and St. Croix rivers in the Twin Cities Metro Area.
- Through the Metro Conservation Corridors partnership, Greening has restored 1,100 acres across 37 sites over the past nine years. Among other 2011 projects, more than 100 volunteers removed invasive species at Ike's Creek, one of the few native trout streams in the metro area, adjacent to the Minnesota Valley Natural Wildlife Refuge.

Major funding from the Minnesota Environmental Trust Fund through the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources and Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Fund through the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.

Minnesota River

1 project site

- Great River Greening began work on the first of several partnerships demonstrating that conservation impact can be made in agricultural watersheds.
- At Seven-Mile Creek ( Nicollet County), a tributary of the Minnesota River and the only designated trout stream in the southern Minnesota region, Greening is working with several partners including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Fishers & Farmers Partnership, Nicollet County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Major funding from the McKnight Foundation, RBC Blue Water Project, and Xcel Energy Foundation.
Financial Summary 2011

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<th>Funding Sources</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Government Contracts &amp; Grants</td>
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<td>Foundation Gifts &amp; Grants</td>
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<td>Non-government Contracts</td>
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<td>In-Kind &amp; Other Revenue</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong> $17,695</td>
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**Rum River**
3 project sites
- A collaborative program to protect and enhance the Rum River, a state-designated Wild and Scenic River, focused on shoreland stabilization and forests buffers within adjoining private lands.
- This is the first of several Wild and Scenic Rivers we will work on in the next couple of years.

**St. Croix Blufflands and Floodplain**
Ended in 2011
- This was a collaboration with Audubon Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Washington Conservation District and other partners to improve migratory bird habitat throughout the lower St. Croix River Valley.
- Five private landowners collaborated in woodland restoration projects in selected focal areas (72 acres) and three public lands projects (140 acres).

Major funding from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Anderson Corporate Foundation.
Thank You 2011 Major Donors

**Corporations**

**$5,000 & Above**
- Brookfield Renewable Power
- Concept Group
- Pioneer Press / TwinCities.com
- REI
- Stoel Rives LLP
- Superior Minerals Company
- Xcel Energy

**$1,000-$4,999**
- Aggregate Industries
- American Engineering Testing, Inc.
- Anchor Bank
- Barr Engineering
- Braun Intertec
- Bremer Financial Corp.
- Brookfield Commercial Properties, Inc.
- CenterPoint Energy
- Collins Electrical Construction Co.
- Delta Air Lines
- Great River Energy
- Liesch Associates, Inc.
- Loucks Associates
- M & I Bank
- Minnesota Valley Electric Trust
- MSP Commercial
- National Wind LLC
- PACE Analytical Services, Inc.
- Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc.
- SmartWool
- Smiths Medical
- Summit Brewing Company
- Tiller Corporation
- Upper River Services
- Whole Foods Market

**$250-$999**
- Bituminous Roadways, Inc.
- Briggs and Morgan
- Carl Bolander & Sons Company
- Cretex Concrete Products, Inc.
- District Energy Saint Paul, Inc.
- Dorsey & Whitney LLP
- Egan Company
- Faegre Baker Daniels LLP
- Felhaber Larson Fenlon & Vogt
- HealthEast Care Systems
- Kraus-Anderson Construction Company
- Leonard, Street and Deinard
- Merchant and Gould
- Mike’s Tree Service
- Minnesota Native Landscapes
- Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly LLP
- Prairie Restorations, Inc.
- RBC Wealth Management
- SKB Environmental
- Valspar Corporation
- Wind on the Wires

**Employer Matching Gifts**

- Ameriprise Financial
- Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
- Thrivent Financial For Lutherans
- Thomson Reuters

**In-Kind Contributors**

- American Security Corporation
- Bailey Nurseries, Inc.
- Cambridge Floral Inc.
- Caribou Coffee
- French Meadow
- Half Priced Books
- Ike
- Jade Orchid Floral Designs
- Kenwood Elementary School
- Leitner’s Garden Center
- Lexington Floral
- OnSite Sanitation
- Out Back Nursery, Inc.
- Prairie Moon Nursery

**Foundations**

**$10,000 & Above**
- 3M Foundation
- Best Buy Children’s Foundation
- The McKnight Foundation
- The Pentair Foundation
- Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation
- Starbucks Foundation
- Vinaya Foundation
- Xcel Energy Foundation

**$2,500-$9,999**
- Andersen Corporate Foundation
- Bailey Nurseries Foundation
- Buuck Family Foundation
- Clif Bar Family Foundation
- Hardenbergh Foundation
- The Nash Foundation
- Rahr Foundation
- SEBA Foundation

**$250-$2,499**
- Anonymous
- Bloomington Rotary Club
- Hands on Twin Cities (HOTC)
- MDU Resources Foundation
- Mississippi Corridor Community Alliance
- Nandale Foundation
- Saint Paul Garden Club
- Thelury Foundation

**Individuals**

**Conservation Champions ($2,500+)**
- Susan and Joel Barker
- Jim and Susan Edberg

**Bluffland Benefactors**

($1,000-$2,499)
- Peter Butler
- Stewart Corn and Ellen Ferrari
- Roger Green
- Thane and Blanche Hawkins
- John & Marla Orway Charitable Lead Trust
- Kevin Patty and Mary McDowall
- Robert and Nancy Viking
- Joyce Wenz

**Savanna Sponsors ($500-$999)**
- Todd Awes
- Vernon Berglund
- Robert Bieraugel
- Kathryn and James Catalano
- Patricia Combs
- Edward and Sherry Ann Dayton
- Astrid Eglitis
- Kevin Johnson and Alisa Eland
- Art and Martha Kaemmer
- Michael and Angie Kaphing
- Deborah Karasov
- Phyllis Karasov and Alan Olstein

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*“I love how community is created while at the same time “real” work is being accomplished—invasive plant species are ripped out, native plants and wildlife habitat is allowed to flourish, and at the end of the day, everyone knows they did something good.”*  
- Volunteer, 2011
D. Randall King  
Thomas and Lezlie Marek  
Ford and Catherine Nicholson  
Richard and Shannon Savelkoul  
Jon and Lea Theobald  
Mark S. Thomas  
Thomas and Martha Venema  
Jonathan and Sarah Wilmshurst  

Prairie Patrons ($100-$499)  
Anonymous  
Dorothee Aeppli  
Craig Andresen  
Cindy Angerhofer  
Gordon Bailey, Jr  
Al and Lois Barron  
Eric Beazley  
Jon and Metta Belisle Donor Advised Fund of the St. Croix Valley Foundation  
Brad Beneke  
Charles Bennett  
Sandy Bergeron and Dean Elstad  
Lori Biederman and Dave Peterson  
Mark and Pam Bintzler  
Amy Boche  
Laurel Boerger and Norm Reznicow  
Annemarie Bossert and Thomas Lovett  
Elizabeth Brackett  
Marvin Breitkreutz  
Ellen T. and Peter C. Brown  
Bernadeen Brutlag  
Ruth Ann Bueckers  
Rob Buffler and Sally Caudill  
Bob and Gerry Bullard  
Darrell Butterwick  
Gail Cederberg  
Hugh Cherne  
Tory and Carrie Christensen  

We do our best to keep reporting as accurate as possible, and apologize for any errors. Please contact Rob Nygaard with any concerns, 612-665-9500 x18
Your Community Programs

Volunteer Program
One of the greatest strengths of Great River Greening is its ability to attract and motivate a large volunteer force that works on restoration events that support the mission and help achieve our long-term goals. Last year, Greening engaged 2,070 volunteers in spring and fall restoration events. We successfully engage and advance their interests, while educating and promoting community involvement.

Major funding from 3M Foundation, Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation, REI and Vinaya Foundation.

Science Area Teen Network
The Science Area Teen Network (SATN) is unique in combining youth development with the environment, focusing on green jobs. Targeting at-risk youth, SATN capitalizes on resources that only Greening can provide: hands-on activities in the field, experience with Greening scientists, and connections to other professionals through our corporate sponsors and professional networks. In 2011, we reached a milestone, engaging 500 youth to date.

Major funding from Best Buy Children’s Foundation, The Pentair Foundation and Starbucks Foundation.

Together, We Are Just Getting Started
With almost 7,000 acres restored in Minnesota, we realize that there are decades of restoration ahead. It is essential that this work continues in order to revive and maintain the ecological and aesthetic functions of natural spaces and clean water. Transforming degraded land into healthy habitat and cleaner water improves quality of life, property values and the sustainability of communities. Restoring the land also provides an opportunity for youth to study our natural environment.

We cannot do this without your support! Thank you!

Campaign for Forests and Freshwaters
We improve water quality, in places like the Minnesota River

- We are beginning work in the Minnesota River region, showing that conservation results are possible if you work in a collaborative manner. This work is supported by a leadership grant from RBC Blue Water Project and the McKnight Foundation.

- Seven Mile Creek is our first watershed. We have a technician housed in the Nicollet County Soil and Water Conservation District. He will work with farmers to buffer their fields, repair eroded ravines, and protect the trout creek that the farmlands drain into.

Join today! Visit greattrivergreening.com or call 651-665-9500 x23

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