Everyone can improve water quality through their personal behaviors, choices, and commitments. The Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) offers multiple opportunities and cost-share programs to enable counties, cities, and landowners to identify and implement water quality projects and reduce runoff in the watershed.

**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**
All landowners in the district are eligible. This includes residents, churches, schools, communities, and businesses.

**WHAT PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?**
- Native plants (including pollinator gardens)
- Small buffer strips
- Waterspout gardens
- Rain barrels
- Targeted water education, information, or outreach activities

**WHAT PROJECTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE?**
- Landscaping or purely decorative activities
- Non-native plantings
- Riprap
- Retaining walls
- Applicant labor or time
- Projects that have received funding from other cost-share or Lawns to Legumes programs.

**New for 2020:** Landowners are limited to one application per year. Applicants can not receive funding in consecutive years. Applications from landowners who have received these funds previously will not be considered until June 1st, 2020. This requirement may be waived for HOAs or other organizations.

**Mini Grant Project Details**
Do not start work before receiving a grant award. These grants are awarded on a first come - first serve basis to eligible and complete applications. Submitting an application does not guarantee mini-grant approval. If a grant is awarded, a cover letter describing the project including the requested amount of reimbursement, copies of (paid) receipts, and photos of the completed project must be submitted with the final request for dollars.

This is a reimbursement grant. The amount of the grant cannot exceed the cost of the actual project. Applicant labor or time is not eligible for payment. Projects must be completed within one year of the date of the approval letter. Receipts dated before the grant award is made will not be accepted or reimbursed. **DO NOT START WORK BEFORE RECEIVING A GRANT AWARD.**

What is the process to apply for funds?
1. Identify a project.
2. Complete and submit a grant application to the RCWD—up to $500 per year for an eligible project. **Submit application to RCWD Att: Mini Grants, 4325 Pheasant Ridge Dr. #611, Blaine, MN, 55449.**
3. Receive approval and grant agreement from RCWD.
4. Make eligible purchases under the project in accordance with the grant agreement.
5. Submit a cover letter describing the project including the requested amount of reimbursement, copies of (paid) receipts, and photos of the completed project.
6. Maintain the project for a minimum of 5 years and participate in RCWD’s outreach and project sharing efforts.

See reverse side for application and additional information.
Please provide a brief narrative of the proposed project and project benefits:

**Additional Requirements:**
Projects must be maintained for a minimum of 5 years, and applicants must be willing to participate in RCWD’s outreach and project sharing efforts. The applicant is responsible for maintenance during the 5 year period. The RCWD does not complete the maintenance activities. A project may be visited and inspected by RCWD staff during the 5 year maintenance period. Please inform RCWD if you move within the 5 years of project implementation so we may provide the new owners with an informational packet on the benefits of “planting for clean water”.

**Are you willing to commit to the following grant requirements:**

- Maintain the project for at least 5 years after its implementation? YES NO
- Participate in RCWD’s outreach and project sharing efforts? YES NO
- Do you understand that your site may be visited and inspected by an RCWD employee during the 5 years after a grant is received? YES NO

Print Name______________________________________________
Signature _______________________________________________  Date __________________