



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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5 December 2011

U.S. Conference of Mayors and ScottsMiracle-GRO 1000  
1620 I Street Northwest  
Washington DC 20006

Re: City of Saint Paul's 2012 GRO1000 Gardens and Green Spaces Application

Dear GRO 1000 Selection Committee:

I am proud to submit the City of Saint Paul's Blooming Saint Paul application for the 2012 Gro1000 Gardens and Green Spaces grant program. Since taking office six years ago, my administration is committed to making Saint Paul "The Most Livable City in America" and a leader in sustainable urban living. The City has been proactive in protecting its air, water, and urban landscape and creating new gardens and green spaces.

The City of Saint Paul also has a long history of developing and preserving green spaces and parks including nationally renowned Como Park which includes the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory. The City has a strong commitment to gardening and many active garden clubs, including the Garden Club of Ramsey County, one of the oldest garden clubs in the country. In 2003, Saint Paul officially created an inter-departmental program to support, recognize and celebrate gardening and beautification efforts throughout the city. This program is called Blooming Saint Paul.

In its short history, Blooming Saint Paul has been embraced by the citizens of Saint Paul with more than 400 annual volunteers and more than 30 community organizations involved in supporting approximately 500 hanging baskets, 60 gardens and 120 planters throughout the city.

The proposed Blooming Saint Paul City Nursery project will support and advance all aspects of this program. The nursery will provide much needed plant stock for our community gardens and build this program's capacity to increase the number and quality of gardens in our community. Blooming Saint Paul has been a model in sustainable practice with all -electric watering vehicles to lowering the use of fertilizers, to purchasing a greenhouse for plant propagation and production. The Blooming Saint Paul City Nursery project is sustainable and community oriented and a proposal that I endorse.

If you need additional information about the grant application, please contact Anne Hunt, Environmental Policy Director, at [anne.hunt@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:anne.hunt@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or 651-266.8520. Let me thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. Your support will significantly advance our efforts.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor