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September 15, 2010

Tift Nature Preserve
1200 Fuhrmann Blvd.
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dear Greenway Ecological Standing Committee,

This letter is to report on activities and expenditures during the first year of the Tree Regeneration at Tift Nature Preserve project funded by the Greenway Ecological Standing Committee and to request disbursement of an additional \$100,000 for the second year of the project.

A detailed budget and list of activities from the first year is included, as well as a budget for year two funding. Major accomplishments include the planting of over 400 native trees and shrubs and control of invasive species on 10 acres of the preserve. All trees and shrubs planted are protected from deer browsing by fencing and tree shelters except for 25 trees left unprotected to educate the public and collect data on the impacts of deer on the preserve. Funding for these unprotected trees came from support provided by Friends of Tift Nature Preserve and not the Greenway Ecological Standing Committee. Documentation of all activities and expenditures can be provided upon request. The first year of this project was very successful and years two and three will only build on these achievements.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can provide any additional information. I can be reached at 716-825-6397 or dpsiering@sciencebuff.org. Thank you for your support of this project at Tift Nature Preserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Spiering".

David Spiering
Ecologist - Tift Nature Preserve
Buffalo Museum of Science



Year 1 Expenditures from Greenway Ecological Standing Committee Funding

<u>Category</u>		<u>Description</u>
Staff Implementation	\$15,000.00	Salary and support for Ecologist, Experience Manager, Educators
Administration	\$10,000.00	Business and operating expenses for Tifft Nature Preserve
Tree Planting	\$16,834.44	Trees & shrubs, planting plan, fencing & tree protection, wood chips, etc.
Invasive Species Control & Site Prep	\$28,014.50	Mechanical brush removal, herbicide application, ServiceCorps work crew
Supplies & Equipment	\$5,016.74	Hand tools, safety equipment, water pump & hoses, gas, etc.
Educational Programming & Materials	\$2,813.22	Interpretive signage, wildlife cameras
Research	\$839.11	Soil testing kits, plant pots, natural herbicides, measurement equipment
Total	\$78,518.01	Expenditures as of Sept. 15, 2010

Funding and In-Kind Support from Additional Sources (Grant Match)

<u>Category</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Source</u>
Staff Implementation	\$15,000.00	Salary for Ecologist & Educators	Buffalo Museum of Science
Tree Planting	\$2,500.00	Purchase of trees for deer browse experiment	Friends of Tifft Nature Preserve
Equipment	\$10,204.00	Replacement of ATV utility vehicle	The Baird Foundation
Volunteer Hours	\$3965.75	111 Volunteers for 547 Hours	Local Volunteers
Total	\$31,669.75	Assistance as of Sept. 15, 2010	

Year 1 Project Stats and Achievements

- 433 native trees & shrubs planted in the following numbers and species:
67 – Sycamore trees, 45 – Red maple trees, 45 – E. Cottonwood trees, 35 – Swamp white oak trees, 27 – Silver maple trees, 20 – Shellbark Hickory trees, 20 – Butternut trees, 20 – Basswood trees, 24 – N. Bayberry shrubs, 24 – Ninebark shrubs, 24 – Elderberry shrubs, 24 – Meadowsweet shrubs, 15 – Tulip poplar trees, 15 – N. White cedar shrubs, 10 – Black willow trees, 6 – Staghorn sumac trees, 8 – Gray dogwood shrubs, 4 – Serviceberry shrubs
- 10 acres of invasive woody brush (buckthorn & honeysuckle) cutting and control
- 3 projects to control Japanese knotweed using cutting, weed barrier fabric and native plantings
- 8 Work Days using 111 Volunteers for 547 Hours
- Development of *Forest Dynamics* summer camp and *Wildlife Ecology ALC* educational programs
- Collection of pilot data on effectiveness of natural herbicides, deer browse impacts, and deer herd population

Additional Projects to be Completed with Year 1 Funding

- Volunteer work day with General Mills to protect existing trees on preserve from beaver damage on Oct. 13
- Volunteer work day to control Japanese knotweed using cutting, weed barrier fabric and native plantings
- Offering of *Wildlife Ecology ALC* educational programming to two schools in October/November
- Installation of additional interpretive signage
- Purchase of equipment (Earth auger & bits, additional hoses for water pump, etc.)

Year 2 Budget for Greenway Ecological Standing Committee Funding

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>
Staff Implementation	\$15,000 Salary and support for Ecologist, Experience Manager, Educators
Administration	\$10,000 Business and operating expenses for Tifft Nature Preserve
Tree Planting	\$25,000 Trees & shrubs, planting plan, fencing & tree protection, wood chips, etc.
Invasive Species Control & Site Prep	\$30,000 Mechanical and chemical invasive species treatment, contracted labor
Supplies & Equipment	\$5,000 Hand & power tools, safety equipment, water pump & hoses, gas, etc.
Educational Programming & Materials	\$12,000 <i>Forest Dynamics</i> summer camp, <i>Wildlife Ecology ALC</i> , interpretive signage
Research	\$3,000 Soil testing, natural vs. traditional herbicide effectiveness research
Total	\$100,000

Funding and In-Kind Support from Additional Sources (Grant Match)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Source</u>
Staff Implementation	\$15,000 Salary for Ecologist & Educators	Buffalo Museum of Science
Tree Planting	\$2,500 Purchase of trees for deer browse experiment	Friends of Tifft Nature Preserve
Supplies, Equipment, Other Expenses	\$5,000 Funding to be spent as needed	Buffalo Museum of Science
Volunteer Hours	\$2,500 Assistance during organized work days	Local Volunteers
Total	\$25,000	