

Great River Greening

Create _____



*restoring the land,
renewing communities*

Did you know

that oak savannas once dominated our Twin Cities landscape? Located in a transition zone between the open prairies of western Minnesota and the dense forests of the north, a rich patchwork of savannas, prairies, and woodlands once thrived here. Before agricultural and urban development, our region had nearly two million acres of oak savannas.

Today, fewer than 3,800 acres of high-quality oak savanna remain. Without human assistance, a significant part of our region's natural heritage may soon be lost.



shades of green

See the forest for the trees

Oak communities are a major source of food and habitat for more than 200 species of native wildlife including scarlet tanagers, wild turkeys, ruffed grouse, Southern flying squirrels and fox squirrels. Redheaded woodpeckers and Eastern bluebirds have declined in our region due to the rarity of their preferred oak savanna habitat. Kittenails, a plant of oak savannas, are rare throughout their range due to habitat loss.

Historically, oak communities have also been vital to maintaining the water quality of our region's rivers. They help minimize the negative effects of storm water runoff by stabilizing the soil, buffering the rivers they border.

Oak savannas remain an essential element of the natural heritage of the Twin Cities region. Native oaks connect us to our history and offer us a majestic sense of place. Without them, our children and future generations will lose a part of their natural heritage—along with the memories they provide.





Help make the world a shade better

Great River Greening is leading the effort to restore oak savannas and forests throughout the Twin Cities region with **The Million Acorn Campaign**—a five-year, community-based restoration campaign.

Greening ecologists will work with public and private landowners to identify significant and high-potential sites for restoration. On-the-ground restoration work by the Greening crew—and volunteers of all ages—will include the removal of invasive species; prescribed burning; taking inventories; and planting ground layer vegetation and acorns.

Our community-based approach reaches a broad constituency. We are able to make a long-term impact by developing stewards of the land from every background and income level. We have already engaged more than 16,000 volunteers; planted 42,000 trees and shrubs and 170 acres of prairie grasses and wildflowers; and removed 565 acres of invasive species.

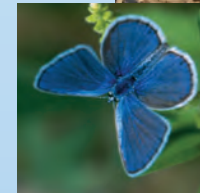
Great River Greening was founded on the principal that the best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second-best time is now. **The Million Acorn Campaign** will enhance the lives of thousands of people, while restoring our native oak habitats for future generations to cherish and enjoy.

“The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

a million acorn campaign

Great River Greening leads and supports community-based restoration of natural areas.



Help Greening restore our oak plant communities

Donate online at www.greatrivergreening.org or send this form and check payable to: Great River Greening, 35 W. Water St., Suite 201, Saint Paul, MN 55107

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Organization _____

Phone (h) _____

Phone (w) _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

E-mail address _____

*The
million
acorn
campaign*



Please do not include my name in the annual list of donors.

Thank You for your support!

Money does grow trees

Great River Greening invites your participation in a number of ways—from pulling buckthorn to fostering acorns. But before any on-the-ground work can happen, we encourage your financial support to help make ***The Million Acorn Campaign*** a reality.

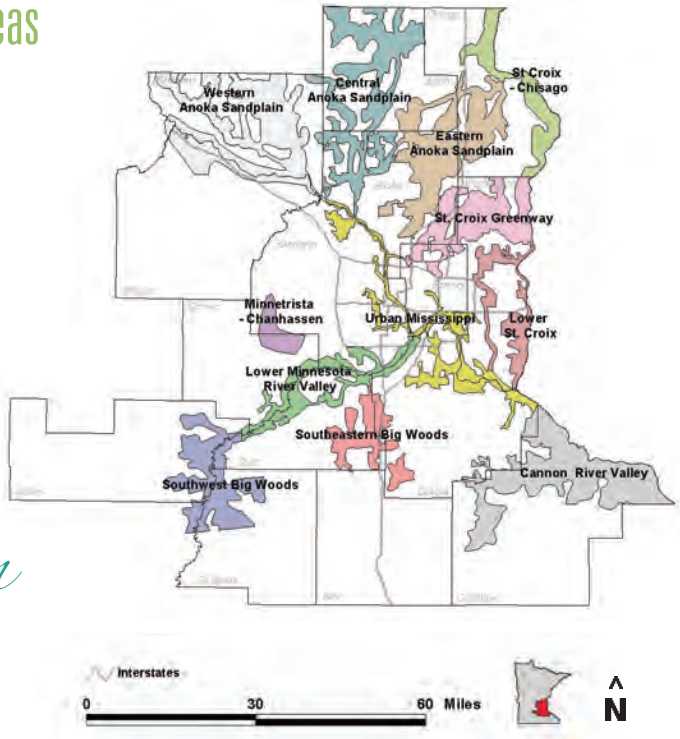
You can help now:

- \$25 buys 100 acorns
- \$100 buys 30 oak savanna plants
- \$500 sponsors one oak tree
- \$1,000 sponsors one group of volunteers
- \$5,000 co-sponsors one volunteer restoration event
- \$15,000 sponsors one oak restoration project

Help us restore our land and renew our communities. Please consider a generous contribution to Great River Greening's ***Million Acorn Campaign***. Won't you join us?

Major Focus Areas for Oak Forest and Savanna Restoration

The million acorn campaign



Plant a seed for tomorrow

The Million Acorn Campaign has a five-year goal to plant one million acorns and generate one hundred restoration projects throughout our region in partnership with many local and state conservation groups. Five thousand or more volunteers will forever be connected to a plot of land that they helped restore. Tens of thousands more will hear the story and learn the value of our oak heritage. Untold future generations will have the opportunity to stroll across an oak savanna and hear the sounds of wind and birds.

