

# GREAT RIVER GREENING



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

## 2,800 Volunteers

## 2,200 Acres Restored

urban parks, wildlife and pollinator habitats, shorelines, prairies and forests.

**1**  
**Million**  
Milkweed Seeds Collected

## 24,500 Native Plants

planted throughout the state, including shorelines along Sand Creek and the Minnesota River, a park in Watertown park and a nature center in St. Louis Park.

Earth Day with 320 volunteers, a midwinter buckthorn burn in Lindstrom, pollinator surveys, and Maplewood's Fish Creek Open Space Grand Opening.

63 Restoration Events

1,150 kids and teens inspired to care for our precious natural world

# Before & After Fish Creek Open Space



In 22 years, Great River Greening has worked alongside 42,000 volunteers to restore 20,000 acres on more than 350 sites throughout Minnesota, to improve, restore and care for our natural heritage.

In Fall 2017, **Maplewood's Fish Creek Natural Area** held the grand opening of a trail, five years in the making, that connects other trails from St. Paul to Woodbury. Great River Greening began working with the city in 2012, to restore health and habitat diversity to this 70-acre forest that opens to scenic views from a bluff. This is an important parcel, adjacent to a 142-acre natural area that makes up one of the last wild places in the Mississippi wildlife migration corridor, and an international flyway. More than 700 volunteers have pulled buckthorn and planted wildflowers at Fish Creek.



## Other highlights in 2017

- ◆ Began an oak savanna restoration in the Bridgeview Park Reserve, a 29-acre public park with Mississippi River shoreline a rare, nearly undisturbed pre-European plant community.
- ◆ Began assessing watershed conditions and identifying possible impairments in Deer Lake, in Itasca County and the Mississippi Headwaters region. Met with longtime partners and new alliances to expand programs in Nicollet County along the Minnesota River, as well as around the St. Cloud area, starting with Camp Ripley. Launched collaborative work with farmers in the Cannon River Watershed.
- ◆ Received support from The Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation to create a sustainable future for pollinator habitat restoration and conservation by creating local sources of genetically appropriate seed.

# In the News



**Grow with KARE** host Bobby Jensen interviewed GRG Project Manager Wiley Buck about our Million Milkweed Challenge, a two-year volunteer seed collection, which far exceeded the goal (1.8 million seeds).



**KARE 11 Saturday** did a live broadcast of our Earth Day event along Bushway Road in Wayzata, where 350 volunteers planted nearly 2,000 trees, shrubs, and wildflowers.



**The Star Tribune and the Pioneer Press** reported on Pilot Knob in Mendota earning a spot on National Register of Historic Places. When the City of Mendota Heights purchased Pilot Knob in 2005, the land was severely degraded. Great River Greening was brought in to restore its native Oak Savanna habitat. Since then, more than 2,000 volunteers have helped us transform the land.

For other stories see [greatrivergreening.org/news](http://greatrivergreening.org/news)

# Board of Directors

Darrin Ahrens | *Slalom Consulting*  
 Richard Barnes, Vice-Chair | *Retired, International Decision Systems*  
 Heidi Benedict | *Xcel Energy*  
 Laura Betker\* | *KARE 11*  
 Brenda Boehler\*\* | *CliqStudios*  
 Phil Cattanach\* | *Opus*  
 Hugh Cherne | *Best Buy Corporation*  
 Margaret Dalton | *Stoel Rives*  
 Bryan Ebensteiner, Treasurer | *Wilder Foundation*  
 Roger Green\*\* | *Retired, HealthEast Care Systems*  
 Frank Forsberg\* | *Consultant*  
 Barry Hofer\* | *Formerly Optum Insight*  
 John Hickey\* | *Smyth Company*  
 Jake Hamlin\*\* | *CHS*  
 Bobby Jensen | *Grow with KARE*  
 Rebecca Lawrence\*\* | *Piper Jaffray*  
 Julie Maday\* | *Best Buy*  
 Thomas R. Marek | *Fox Rothschild*  
 Kathy McCuskey | *Yamamoto*  
 Patti O'Leary, Chair | *Navigate Forward*  
 Todd Rhoades | *Cermak Rhoades Architects.*  
 Shane Shipman | *LeJeune Steel*

Chris Smith | *Ecolab*  
 Molly Snyder\* | *US Bank*  
 Nicole Strait | *Norwest Equity Partners*  
 Tom Tessman | *Communicus*  
 Reed Watson | *Bix Produce*  
 Megan Wolle | *Land O'Lakes*

**Key Staff**  
 Deborah Karasov / Executive Director  
 Huang Nguyen / Director of Finance & Administration

\*\* Ended term  
 \* New in 2018

Photo credits  
 nimmerphoto.com —  
 Cover & p3  
 City of Maplewood: p2

# 2017 Financials

## Revenue

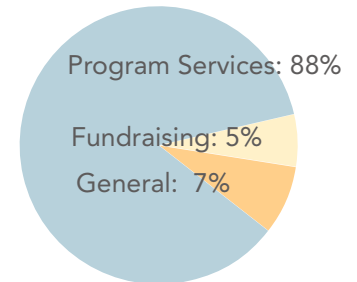
Public Support	770,810
Government grants and contracts	1,467,522
Program service fees	286,548
Special events	110,538
Other income and in-kind	2,041
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,637,459</b>

## Expenses

Program services	2,064,910
Management and general	168,041
Fundraising	117,944
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2,350,895</b>

## Assets & Liabilities

Total Assets	1,438,476
Total liabilities	466,403
Total Net Assets	972,073



# Save the Date

October 24, 2018



+  
**FEATURING:**  
 Hubert Joly, CEO, Best Buy  
 +  
 McNamara Alumni Center,  
 Minneapolis  
 Sponsored by Stoel Rives,  
 Land O'Lakes, and Best Buy

# Thank you!

## FOUNDATIONS

### \$200,000+

Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation

### \$75,000- \$199,000

McKnight Foundation

### \$20,000 - \$74,999

3M Foundation  
American Express Foundation  
Hardenbergh Foundation  
Katherine B. Andersen Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation  
The Nash Foundation  
Xcel Energy Foundation and Xcel Energy

### \$10,000 - \$19,999

Allianz Foundation of North America  
Andersen Corporate Foundation and Andersen Corporate  
Mortenson Family Foundation  
RBC Blue Water Project  
The Driscoll Foundation  
The Pentair Foundation

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous Foundation  
Buuck Family Foundation  
CHS Foundation  
Ecolab Foundation and Ecolab  
Land O'Lakes Foundation and Land O'Lakes  
Marcus McCoy Foundation  
Subaru of America Foundation  
Union Pacific Foundation

### \$1,000 - \$4,999

Athwin Foundation  
Bailey Nurseries Foundation  
Clif Bar Family Foundation  
Margaret A. Cargill Foundation  
Mississippi River Network  
SEBA Foundation  
Terhuly Foundation

### \$500 - \$999

Jean and Craig Jentz Foundation  
Paul and Patricia Curran Foundation  
Scott's Miracle Gro Foundation

## BUSINESSES

### \$10,000+

Anonymous  
Piper Jaffray

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Aggregate Industries  
BNSF Railway Company  
Cargill  
Ciranda  
Connexus Energy  
Minnesota Corn Growers Association  
Rahr Corporation  
Stoel Rives LLP  
Superior Minerals Company  
Surlly Brewing

### \$1,000-\$4,999

Accredited Investors  
Barr Engineering  
Braun Intertec  
Carl Bolander & Sons Company  
CBRE  
CenterPoint Energy  
Cermak Rhoades Architects  
Fox Rothschild LLP  
HealthPartners  
Integrated Project Management  
Kowalski's Corporate  
LeJeune Steel Company  
Patagonia  
Prosser Holdings LLC  
Stinson Leonard Street  
Summit Brewing Company  
Table Salt Productions  
Thomson Reuters

### \$500-\$999

Apple  
Best Buy  
Bituminous Roadways  
Hays Companies  
Henricksen  
River Rock Partners  
Talbots  
UnitedHealth Group  
WirthCo Engineering

## INDIVIDUALS

### \$1,000+

Darrin and Amy Ahrens  
Gordon Bailey  
Dick and Joyce Barnes  
Jon and Metta Belisle  
Heidi and Matt Benedict  
James and Sharon Bertrand  
Robert Bieraugel  
Sandy Boehler  
Brenda and Jeff Boehler  
James and Kathy Catalano  
Stewart Corn and Ellen Ferrari  
Bob Buck and Mary Courteau  
Teresa Daly and Greg Konat  
Jennifer Drew  
Bryan and Jo-Anne Ebensteiner  
Jim and Susan Edberg  
Kenneth Epstein  
Richard and Mary Fowler  
The Frisell Family  
Roger and Nancy Green  
Kirsten Gulbro  
Nick and Abigail Johnson  
Deborah Karasov  
Brad and Heidi Keil  
Steven King  
Rebecca Lawrence and Richard Thompson  
Tom and Leslie Marek  
Beth and Brian McCartan  
Kathy McCuskey  
Terri McEnaney  
Dennis Murnyak  
Patti and Dan O'Leary  
Raj Rajan and Kavitha Sitaram  
Todd Rhoades and Terri Cermak  
John and Lynnea Schwieters  
Chris and Coren Smith  
Nicole and Curt Strait  
Tom Tessman and Dianne Blake Tessman  
Jon and Lea Theobald  
Reed Watson and Gloria Gallo  
Erin Anderson Wenz and Greg Wenz  
Jonathan and Sarah Wilmshurst

### \$500-\$999

Todd and Cindy Awes  
John Byom and Eileen Supple  
Lydia Crawford and Phil Davies  
Eric Curran-Bakken  
Maggie and Matt Dalton  
Joan Duddingston  
Jaime Gmach  
Peter and Mary Gove  
Bill Casey and Betty Grant  
Kevin Johnson and Alisa Eland  
Alan Johnston  
Art Kaemmer  
Margo Kirwin  
Linda and Michael Kriel  
Jeffrey and Judy Mader  
Tim McGraw and Family  
Sally and Tom McNamara  
Beth Miller  
Kent Peterson  
Jill Rasmussen  
Terryll and Pat Schulte  
Lori Sharbono  
Mark Watson and Shirley Ochi-Watson

### \$100-\$499

Craig Andresen  
Cindy Angerhofer  
Jeff Arnesen  
Tom and Karen Bach  
Joe and Michael Bailey  
Kay and Doug Baker  
Keela Bakken  
Michelle Baltus Pribyl and Joe Pribyl  
Paul Bard  
Julie Baumeister  
Don Beck  
Jim Benson  
Vernon and LuAnn Berglund  
Ben Berhe  
Steve Beuning  
Kurt Bogaard  
Gina Bonsignore and Rick Garber  
Annemarie Bossert and Thomas Lovett  
David Boyce  
Dana Boyle  
Bernadeen Brutlag  
George and Marsha Buchok  
Kevin and Ann Champion  
Jodi Ritacca Carlini and Greg Carlini  
Christopher Cassirer  
Hugh Cherne  
Elaine Christiansen  
Natalee Chromy  
Eliza and Frank Clark  
Jay and Page Cowles  
James Crants  
John and Kathy Curran  
Peter Danbury  
Maurine Davidson  
Andrew and Sarah Davis  
Ned and Sherry Ann Dayton  
Barb and Bob de la Vega  
Flannery Delaney  
David DeMoss  
Lori Dierke  
Brenda and Mark Doneux  
David and Margaret Duxbury  
Marcia and Berkan Endres  
Carol Engstrom  
Ruth Erkkila  
Rachel Estes Leyk and Sean Leyk  
Dixie Ewing  
Tim Faricy  
Heather Favre  
Anne and Charles Ferrell  
Mary Foarde  
Dale Forsberg  
Mary Franz  
Damon Fraser  
Lee Frelich  
Mike Frommelt and Brenda Beukelman  
Claudio and Kim Garcia  
Gary Gardner and Helen Kivnick  
Chris and Lisa Germann  
Joni Giese  
Lynn Glesne  
Nate Golin  
Lori Goodsell  
Heather Goodwin  
Greg and Maureen Grazzini  
Bonnie Grzeskowiak and Terry Wade  
Justin Hagen  
Jason Hammond and Stacy Bormett  
Kathleen Hartmann  
Cathy Hayden  
Mary and Bill Henry  
Eric and JoAnna Hesse  
Dennis Himan and Janet Masterson-Himan  
Barry and Ann Hofer  
Jenna Holm  
Lisa Hondros  
Kim Hubertus  
Ruby Hunt  
James Ivey  
Alan and Elizabeth Jackson  
Louie and Carol Jambois  
Cindy Jamieson  
Carol Jernberg  
Albert and Karen Joe  
Robert Kahl  
Bob and Cheryl Kaiser  
Phyllis Karasov and Alan Olstein  
Ann Karp  
Mike and Sara Kenefick  
Mark and Beth Kimball  
Joe Kingman  
Doug and Julie Kmoch  
Christine Koellner  
Jill and Chuck Koosmann  
Haris Kopic  
Julie and Dave Kreemer  
John Kundtz  
Bob LaBombard and Kathleen Cooney  
Ang Legein  
Margy and John Ligon  
Judy and Greg Lissick  
Bob and Helen Mairs  
Bruce and Mary Ruth Manthey  
Michele Marrinan  
Gen McJilton  
Edie Meissner  
Heather Meix  
Kari Melhus  
Karen Meyer  
Bill and Jean Meyer  
Darius Mikrobarts  
Pam Miller  
Christina Miller  
Barbara Mohr  
Dennis Nawrot  
Chuck and Barb Nelson  
Doug and Ann Ness  
Michael and Patsy Noble  
Dick and Marit Nowlin  
Karin Nyhus  
Charlotte and Brian Ogdahl  
Stan Oleson  
David and Suanne Orenstein  
Jackie Ottoson  
James Pagliarini and Elizabeth Raymond  
Richard and Barbara Palmiter

Kevin Patty and Mary McDowall  
Tim Pearce  
Gail Peterson  
Angela Peterson  
Taylor and Michelle Pettis  
Nancy Phipps  
Steve Plachinski  
Judy Plante  
Martha Pomerantz  
Brian Rank  
Lauri Roberts  
Lynne and Dan Robertson  
Timothy Robinson  
Cindy and Mark Rodahl  
Megan Rooney  
Thomas and Heather Roscoe  
Chris and Stan Rud  
Bob Safford and Patrick Kubiak  
Betsy and Sumner Schmiesing  
Mark Schulte  
Chris and Annette Scotti  
Ryan Shannon  
Michelle Sharp  
David Sletten  
Bill and Debby Smith  
Darran Spence  
Ray and Caroline Stacey  
Lori Swanson  
Kris and Jill Swarhout  
Eldon and Addie Tessman  
Jill and Pete Treacy  
Jon Trettel  
Chuck Trierweiler  
James VanDrasek  
Angie Veldhuizen  
Jeffrey and Gail Watson  
Donald Weden  
Kimberly Welch  
Joyce Wenz  
Jean West  
Loralee Wick  
David Wilhelm  
Frank and Frances Wilkinson  
Dawn and John Willar  
Richard Garcia and Gwen Williams  
Jennifer Willner  
Megan Wolle  
P. Gilmer Young  
Jim and Deb Zyduck

### \$1-\$99

We thank 138 additional individual donors for helping to make Great River Greening's work possible.

We also thank the more than 40 project partners and landowners in 2017 with whom we collaborated on restoration and enhancement projects, as well as the Minnesota Environmental Trust Fund and the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Fund.

