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## APPLICATION FORM

### COVER SHEET

**DATE:** April 25, 2005

**NAME OF APPLICANT ORGANIZATION:** Green Mountain Conservation Group

**CONTACT PERSON:** Jennifer Smith

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**WEBSITE:** <http://www.gmcg.org>

**AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST:** \$2,000.00

**TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:** \$35,000.00  
(\$62,710.00 includes in-kind services)

**TOTAL CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL BUDGET (If different from Project Budget):** \$95,000.00

**TOTAL AMOUNT YOUR ORGANIZATION SPENT LAST YEAR:** \$90,672.00

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, FULL AND/OR PART-TIME:** 2 employees, one ¾ time and one full time

**PROJECT PROPOSAL SUMMARY (No more than 3 sentences):**

GMCG is in its fourth year of the Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) Program in the Ossipee Watershed. Based on recommendations from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the University of New Hampshire, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and the Environmental Protection Agency we will begin our testing earlier this season (April instead of May), conduct more storm event sampling, and we will be adding a deep water testing program on Ossipee Lake. We will hire one summer intern to help the Program Director manage the expanded WQM Program.

**HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT NEGEF?**

We first learned about NEGEF in 1997, through a watershed activist.

**CHECK ANY OF THE FOLLOWING THAT APPLY TO YOUR ORGANIZATION:**

☐ Ad Hoc group

☒ Checking or Savings account in group's name

☐ Fiscal Agent \_\_\_\_\_ EIN \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Incorporated as a nonprofit in the state

☒ 501(c)(3) status with the IRS EIN 02-0498020

# APPLICATION FORM

## NARRATIVE

**Narrative should be no more than two pages in length, including budget.**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**Give a brief description of your proposed project. Be sure to include background of the issue.**

In 2002, the Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) program was established out of a partnership with Saco River Corridor Commission (SRCC) in Maine, to create a watershed wide WQM program, across 2 states and 26 towns. The primary goal of the WQM program is to provide the public with baseline water quality knowledge in this watershed to enable them to plan for future growth and monitor the effects of growth on water quality. In 2002, with the aid of 15 volunteers, GMCG monitored 10 sites located in Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich, and Tamworth. The WQM program tested for seventeen parameters including pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, turbidity, nutrients, and cations and anions. In 2003, in cooperation with town officials and UNH experts, the WQM program expanded to 15 sites in the Watershed with the help of 25 volunteers. In addition, GMCG partnered with Ossipee Lake Alliance to begin testing 14 Ossipee Lake tributaries as they entered the lake. Under the supervision of GMCG's summer interns, campers and counselors from surrounding camps conducted the monitoring of these sites. In 2004, GMCG maintained 15 sites throughout the watershed and the 14 sites on Ossipee Lake.

Across the watershed, we have received uniform support for this project. In November of 2004, GMCG held its second Water Quality Monitoring Program Steering Committee meeting with stakeholders including: New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, SRCC, US Environmental Protection Agency Region 1, Chocorua Lakes Association, Maine Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, University of New Hampshire Natural Resources Department and Cooperative Extension, The Community School, the Eaton Conservation Commission, and the WQM volunteers in both Maine and New Hampshire. Each of these groups has shown wide support for the program and provided insight for the growth and expansion of the program. Some of these suggestions included: winter sampling, storm event sampling, buying a conductivity meter, deep water sampling on Ossipee Lake, map the sub-watersheds of the Ossipee Watershed, place rain gages at each site to better monitor precipitation, and macroinvertebrate and ground water sampling.

This spring GMCG's water quality program coordinator, Jennifer Smith, spoke at both the Ossipee and Freedom town meetings where community supporters of the WQM program had submitted warrant articles for funding for the program. Freedom unanimously voted to appropriate \$5,000.00 for the chemistry costs of the 2004 and 2005 season. Ossipee voted to appropriate \$2,000 to contribute towards the chemistry costs of the testing in Ossipee. Sandwich, Tamworth, and Effingham are also contributing money through their conservation commissions for the 2005 season.

Also this spring, Jennifer, with the help of UNH Natural Resource Department's Michelle Daley and Cooperative Extension's Bob Craycraft, presented the results of the 2004 testing season at a public meeting. Municipal officials, volunteers, and community members came to learn about the program and the health of the water. Audience members were very engaged in the discussion, feeling comfortable to interrupt to ask a question at any point. Many people were concerned with one site that has continued to show impairment with high levels of sodium, chloride, magnesium, calcium, turbidity, and total phosphorous and even offered solutions to the problem. In some cases high levels of nutrients are naturally occurring. However, often times these elevated levels may indicate land practices that are not environmentally sound and can be addressed. For example, if the source of the problem is determined to be caused by road salt, this can be addressed with the town or state road agent. Some solutions might include a reduction in road salt or placement of rip rap to protect the water body. To illustrate a solution that has worked locally, in 2001 Chocorua Lake Association (CLA), a GMCG WQM partner, worked closely with state and local officials to implement better management practices (BMP) on Rt. 16. Results from this project have already reduced phosphorus loading on the lake by 80 %. GMCG will continue to work with the community on this site and hopefully find a way to reverse the negative impacts on the site.

The fact that the towns are taking initiative to determine the cause of potential problems is a true testimony to how far the WQM program reaches. In addition to support from town officials, the general population's interest has also increased. In 2002, 15 volunteers helped test 10 sites. In 2003 and 2004, twenty five volunteers and six children's camps helped test 28 sites. For the upcoming 2005 season, GMCG recruited 10 volunteers, in addition to the 25 from last year, to test the 28 sites throughout the watershed. Due to the increase in volunteers and the positive feedback from the towns, we have decided to expand our testing season.

In order to coordinate the expansion of the program GMCG will purchase additional equipment and hire one intern to oversee the 2005 WQM program. We have secured funding in part from each of the watershed towns, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service and New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and are seeking \$2000 from NEGEF. This intern will oversee coordination of volunteers, maintain the database for water quality data, and help coordinate Lake Hosts on Ossipee Lake to inspect for milfoil. As in previous years, GMCG and UNH Cooperative Extension will present an annual water quality report in the winter to municipal officials across the watershed. This report will give municipal officials enough information to determine where there are water quality concerns and take action based on this scientific data.

# APPLICATION FORM

## APPLICANT PROFILE

**Completed Applicant Profile should be no more than two pages in length.**

- 1. What is the mission or the goals of your group?**  
Since 1997, the Green Mountain Conservation Group, a non-profit charitable organization has dedicated its efforts to natural resource conservation in the Ossipee Watershed. Through research, education, advocacy and land conservation we strive to promote the awareness and appreciation of our watershed's natural resources and encourage a commitment to protect them. Our guiding principle is to present objective information in a non-confrontational format enabling the public to make informed natural resource decisions.
- 2. How long has your group been in existence?**  
Established in 1997.
- 3. What issue/issues got your group going?**  
GMCG was formed by a handful of local citizens concerned about environmental and land conservation issues in the town of Effingham. Faced with new development, sludge spreading, a proposed stock car race track in an important groundwater resource area, liquidation logging practices that negatively impacted the local economy and jobs and other environmental issues, this small group of citizens began to meet to discuss these problems and to seek solutions.
- 4. How many people started the group?**  
In the beginning, there were 10 individuals primarily involved.
- 5. Is this the first time that the group's "founders" had been "activated"?**  
**If not the first time, with what other issues had they been involved?**  
No, the group has been active since 1997 and has gained support locally and state wide.
- 6. How many people are currently involved as the core group of leaders/workers?**  
GMCG has 12 board members, 25 WQM volunteers, 6 newsletter volunteers, and 2 staff.
- 7. Is this a membership organization? If so, how many members do you have? If not, how many are on your mailing list?**  
Yes, we have approximately 1,200 members now.
- 8. Do you have any paid staff?**  
**If yes, how many full-time equivalents?**  
Yes, we have two paid employees. The Executive Director is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  employee and the Water Quality Program Coordinator is a full time employee.
- 9. Approximately how many people in your community can be "activated" to support your issue – i.e., go to a meeting, sign a petition, call a selectperson, etc.?**  
Hundreds of people have been activated to support GMCG issues. For example in response to our call for help, we had over 550 people write to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to stop a trash company from developing over a sensitive area on the aquifer.
- 10. Has the focus of your group broadened or changed at all since it first started?**  
**If so, in what ways?**  
The focus has expanded to include a representative on our board from the watershed in Maine. We have increased our membership to 600 dues paying members and 1,200 people on our mailing list. We have also expanded our educational programs to include the WQM program. In addition we are now a land trust and hold 41 acres of our land and 405 acres of easement land and we are currently working with a group to secure 2,000 acres. We have continued to expand our partnership with other local non profit organizations, towns, and state agencies.
- 11. Have any members of your group run for or been appointed to public office since they started working on your issue/issues? If so, for what office? Elected or appointed?**  
Yes, we had three board members elected as selectmen and another three board members appointed to conservation commissions and one member was elected to the planning board. These individuals were elected and appointed.

## NEGEF APPLICATION NARRATIVE – PAGE TWO

**If your project is successful, what changes will occur in your community and its environment? Please include a timeline for its completion.**

This program is intended to be an on-going sustainable project to monitor the long term effects of land use changes on water quality. GMCG will continue to work with each of the towns to advocate for planned development that will not negatively impact our natural resources. The water quality data will help GMCG demonstrate the impacts land use changes can have on water quality. This year GMCG has seen increased support for the WQM program with two towns appropriating money at town meeting. During the next year GMCG will continue to work with the towns for funding so that the WQM program will become sustainable. In this way, the WQM program will be driven by the citizens of the Ossipee Watershed.

### **PROJECT BUDGET**

**1) Itemize anticipated expenses and income for this Project Proposal. Also note in-kind services (donated materials and/or labor) you may receive for this proposal.**

#### **Expenses**

\$4,000 for 1 intern salary  
(1 intern at \$10.00/hour x 400 hours)

\$4,000.00 in lab fees

\$15,000.00 Program Director  
(1/2 salary for 1 year)

\$5,000.00 GMCG Overhead for WQM  
(GMCG staff, office supplies, phone, insurance)

\$7,000.00 water quality equipment  
and supplies.  
(Please see attached WQM supplies budget)

#### **Income**

\$15,000 DES

\$20,000 NHCF

\$6,000 town support

#### **In-kind Services**

\$10,710.00 volunteer work  
(30 volunteers 1.5 hrs/week x \$17/hr x 14 weeks)

\$17,000.00 Lab analysis in kind donation (UNH)

**2) Principal sources of support (E.g. Membership dues, individual donations, grants, special events, etc.) Please list any grants that your group has received.**

Individual donations, membership dues and unrestricted/restricted grants are the primary sources of our financial support. Last year we received four grants from: NEGEF for \$2,500; the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for \$15,000; the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation McCabe Environmental Fund for \$15,000; and from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Jocelyn Gutches Fund for \$3,000.

**Please include the following ATTACHMENTS with your application form:**

- If a 501(c)(3) organization, include your IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination with EIN
- If using a Fiscal Agent, include its EIN
- If Ad Hoc/Unincorporated, name of bank and account number
- A list of key volunteers, board of directors and current staff with affiliations and brief biosketches
- Financial statement for most recent completed year and budget for current year, if available
- List of local media with contact person to whom we can send a press release
- Selected copies of group's newsletter, brochure, and/or press clippings, if appropriate

## 2005 Water Quality Monitoring Budget

### NEW WQM Equipment

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
YSI 556 Multiparameter meter	1	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00
Secchi Disk 200 mm	1	\$49.00	\$49.00
20 meter 1/8" calibrated line	1	\$44.00	\$44.00
Turbidity Meter	1	\$837.00	\$837.00
Celsius thermometers	2	\$19.30	\$38.60
Kemmerer Kit	1	\$479.00	\$479.00
Staff gages	6	\$30.00	\$180.00
Rain gages	6	\$30.00	\$180.00
Total			\$4,907.60
Shipping			\$92.40
<b>Final Total</b>			<b>\$5,000.00</b>

### Equipment Supplies

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
4.00 pH buffer	3	\$74.00	\$222.00
7.00 pH buffer	3	\$74.00	\$222.00
Conductivity calibration sol'ns	1	\$115.00	\$115.00
Batteries			\$150.00
Battery charger	1	\$29.99	\$30.00
500 mL wash bottle	1	\$4.70	\$4.70
Total			\$743.70
Shipping			\$40.00
<b>Final Total</b>			<b>\$783.70</b>

### Other Supplies

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
Rite in the Rain paper	1	\$26.95	\$26.95
Rite in the Rain pens	4	\$7.95	\$31.80
Total			\$58.75
Shipping			\$7.55
<b>Final Total</b>			<b>\$66.30</b>

### Office Supplies and Training

**Total Estimated Cost** **\$250.00**

### WQM End-of-the-Season Party

**Total Estimated Cost** **\$250.00**

### Staples Printing Costs

Item	Estimated Total
Annual Report	\$370.00
Datasheets	\$30.00
Other	\$250.00
<b>Final Total</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>

<b>Total Estimated WQM Budget</b>	<b>\$7,000.00</b>
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