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July 2001

7/24/01

McKnight Issues Revised Environment Guidelines

[The McKnight Foundation](#) has released revised guidelines for its environment program. The new guidelines reflect the foundation's sustained commitment to grantmaking that protects the environment of the Upper Midwest and introduce additional funding opportunities through McKnight's new "Living Twin Cities" grants.

Living Twin Cities grants have two objectives: improving metropolitan transportation options and protecting metropolitan open space. The new program, together with McKnight's Children, Families and Communities program, represents an interdisciplinary effort by the foundation to encourage smarter growth, diminish the harm caused by poorly planned development, and create a vibrant, livable Twin Cities metropolitan area. The foundation anticipates awarding \$1 million in Living Twin Cities grants annually.

The foundation remains committed to its established environment grantmaking priorities -- protecting the Mississippi River and developing renewable power and encouraging energy efficiency in the Midwest. The foundation's Mississippi River guidelines are essentially unchanged from those issued in 1999. McKnight expects to award about \$5.5 million annually for Mississippi River conservation -- about 10 percent more than it has allocated for river conservation in the past several years.

In May the foundation announced that it was collaborating with the San Francisco-based [Energy Foundation](#) to sponsor a two-year project to open up new markets for wind energy in the Upper Midwest. The \$4.5 million "[Wind on the Wires](#)" project is dedicated to boosting economic development in the region by realizing wind power as a reliable, affordable and pollution-free source of energy.

For more information on The McKnight Foundation's environment grantmaking, go to: www.mcknight.org/program/environment.htm

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