

Proposal for
Harvesting of Aquatic Vegetation in Geddes Pond, RFP No. 20-02
City of Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Department

A. Professional Qualifications/Quality of Work

1. **Clearwater Plant Harvesters, LLC**
20701 Grade School Road
Caledonia, IL 61011
Operating as a Limited Liability Corporation
Licensed to operate in the State of Michigan
2. **Executive and Professional Personnel: (resumes attached)**

William (Bill) Morris: Owner/Operator

- Business Degree from Western Illinois University
- Agribusiness Farmer primarily in Grain
- High School Football Coach at North Boone High School
- Married with 2 children

Richard (Rich) Sexton: Owner/Operator

- Founder of Clearwater Plant Harvesters
- Licensed Securities Professional
- Previously on Crystal Lake Park District Board
- Married with 3 children

Amy Morris: Owner/Operator

- Masters Degree from Northern Illinois University
- Work for non-for-profit in development
- Served on several Boards and Management Committees
- Enjoys kayaking, swimming, and boating

Benjamin Hooker: Operator

- Currently attending Rock Valley College
- Studying to work for Department of Natural Resources
- Avid outdoor enthusiast
- Past member of 4H Club with numerous championships in poultry

Max Zwart: Assistant Project Manager/Operator

- Currently attending Iowa State University
- Honors Student
- Enjoys fishing and wildlife
- Over 3500 hours harvesting experience

Clearwater Plant Harvesters Team will be physically located on harvester, in truck either in transit to disposal site or at boat launch, and/or around docks. Bill Morris will be actively involved by participating and managing entire project. We normally have two members involved for each harvest. All Clearwater staff work as a team and are key to the successful completion of the project.

3. History, Services, and Qualifications:

Clearwater Plant Harvesters started in 2011 to meet the growing needs of harvesting aquatic vegetation. Since then, Clearwater has been serving lakes, ponds, rivers and harbors throughout Wisconsin, Illinois, and Michigan. Our EH-220 aquatic weed harvester is capable of harvesting weeds and filamentous algae at a depth up to 5 feet.

Clearwater is uniquely qualified for this work and has been providing harvesting of aquatic vegetation at Geddes Pond since 2016. Our team enjoys the beautiful environment and working with City staff to provide the best service possible. We are courteous to the recreational activity of visitors at Geddes Pond/Gallop Park. In addition to Geddes Pond, we also harvest weeds at several lakes in Michigan. We pay close attention when weed harvesting to protect turtles and other wildlife. Additionally, we carry a net onboard to retrieve turtles and other aquatic wildlife that may have been inadvertently carried in with weeds and place back into water. Clearwater is very respectful and mindful of the wildlife in the waters we serve.

B. Past Involvement with Similar Projects:

Geddes Pond

Ann Arbor, MI

Contact: Cheryl Saam 734.794.6240 ext. 42530

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Rich Sexton, Max Zwart, Amy Morris, Benjamin Hooker

Lake Columbia

Brooklyn, MI

Contact: Tim Breault (248)210-6874

840 acre lake, harvested 7 acre bay full of weeds

Working closely in developing long term harvesting program

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Benjamin Hooker

Kewson Lake

Onsted, MI

Contact: Danny Kewson (248)229-6443

20 acre lake, harvest 7-8 acres three times per year

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Benjamin Hooker, Max Zwart, Amy Morris

Crystal Lake

Crystal Lake, IL

Contact: Jeremy Husnik (262) 366-5879

228 acre lake. Harvest vegetation in 20 acre bay 2-3 times per year

Bill Morris, Rich Sexton, Max Zwart, Benjamin Hooker

Spring Lake

Rockford, IL

Contact: Joshua Spencer (815) 218-1662

10 acre lake. Removed algae to improve appearance and usability

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Amy Morris, Benjamin Hooker

B. Past Involvement with Similar Projects: (continued)

Waubessee Lake Protection District

Wind Lake, WI

Contact: Ralph Schopp (414) 531-6020

139 acre lake. Various portions of lake harvested over the years

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Rich Sexton, Max Zwart, Benjamin Hooker

WIND LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Burlington, WI

Contact: Kathy Aron (262) 514-3234

919 acre lake. Various portions of lake harvested over the years

Individuals involved: Bill Morris, Rich Sexton, Max Zwart, Benjamin Hooker

C. Proposed Work Plan

1. Clearwater Plant Harvesters will furnish labor equipment and materials to complete the harvesting of vegetation of up to 7 acres of aquatic plants in Geddes Pond. Harvesting will take place in June, July, and August. Geddes Pond aquatic vegetation will be harvested using our EH-220 Aquarius Harvester. Our harvester is capable of harvesting weeds up to 5 feet deep. Our harvesting process includes measures to contain invasive species fragments by utilizing wind directions, consistent clean-up of fragments throughout project, along with a harvesting pattern that contains fragments which are then harvested as project completes. The trailer used to transport the harvester also contains a conveyor that is used in transporting weeds to disposal site. Clearwater utilizes a local site to transport harvested vegetation to where it then composted. Harvester uses food grade hydraulic oil for added protection. Onboard the harvester, we maintain flotation devices along with a fish net to be used in the event a turtle or other wildlife appear with harvested weeds. Prior to entry into any harvesting project, both trailer and harvester are cleaned using heated pressure sprayer with water at 180 degrees plus. We are very diligent in keeping our equipment clean and the areas in which we work.
2. In addition, our team manually harvests vegetation around docks and piers to further enhance the aesthetics and usability of the pond. This is done at non-peak times to be courteous to visitors. In previous harvest periods, Geddes Pond has taken approximately 2-3 days. If additional time is necessary based on heavy growth, we will continue harvesting until project is complete with no additional charges. Our goal is to exceed expectations by going above and beyond. To maintain the water quality and use of Geddes Pond, Clearwater would harvest 3 times per year.

D. Fee Proposal(separate)

E. Authorized Negotiator

Bill Morris: Direct (815)378-8698, info@clearwaterhavesters.com

F. Attachments

- a. Legal Status of Offeror
- b. Vendor Conflict of Interest Form
- c. Living Wage Compliance Form
- d. Non-Discrimination Form

Respondent: William Morris, Clearwater Plant Harvesters, LLC

 1-22-2020

William (Bill) Morris

20701 Grade School Road, Caledonia, IL 61011
Cell: 815-378-8698 • bmorris@clearwaterharvesters.com

Professional Summary

Business owner with focus on serving the needs of lakes, ponds, rivers and harbors throughout the Midwest.

Skills

Self-motivated
Mechanically Inclined
Customer Service

Extremely organized
Team leadership
Goal-oriented

Work & Volunteer History

Owner/Operator 2015-current

Clearwater Plant Harvesters – Caledonia, IL

Manage Aquatic Weed Harvesting operations that includes customers throughout the Midwest. Company has grown by five times in the last 6 years.

Grain Farmer 1999-current

Operate small grain farming operation that produces corn and soybeans.

Managing Director, 1994-current

FBG – Rockton, IL

Consultant on board for employee benefits firm

Football Coach, 2008-2019

North Boone – Poplar Grove, IL

Assistant on coaching staff for Junior Tackle, Middle School and High School levels

Volunteer, 08/2007 to Current

RAMP Center for Independent Living – Rockford, IL

Assist RAMP in raising funds to provide services for individuals with disabilities by volunteering to support their events.

Education

Member of Midwest Aquatic Plant Society Midland, MI

Business Degree from Western Illinois University

IL & WI Life & Health License

Certified in Ethics

RICHARD P. SEXTON

7135 Fairway Drive Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 861-4049 Email: ray_con@sbcglobal.net

PROFILE

Responsible leader with the track record of supervising projects, building and guiding teams, and optimizing internal operations. Effective communicator with the proven ability to build and maintain long-term relationships by establishing a high level of confidence and trust.

CORE LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

- Training & Development
- Communication Skills
- Motivator
- Safety Management
- Administration
- Maintenance
- Relationship Building
- Operations
- Innovator

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clearwater Plant Harvesters 2011-present

Owner Operator

- Provide mechanical harvesting of unwanted weeds in waterways
- Involved in training and maintenance of equipment
- Assist with supervision of operations

Warehouse 2004-present

Property Owner/Manager

- Manage day to day operations of six tenants
- Handle all responsibilities surrounding this property
- Develop and maintain excellent tenant relations

Crystal Lake Park District 2007-2011

Board Member

- Elected member of a seven member board
- Responsible for the oversight of 42 different buildings and parks on 1400 acres

Crystal Lake Ice House 1994-2011

Owner

- Responsible for the overall operation of this three-rink ice skating facility
- Supervised scheduling and maintenance
- Hired, trained and supervised all staff members

Chicago Mercantile Exchange 1981-2005

Member/Trader

- Member of Chicago Mercantile Exchange
- Communicated with stock brokers via telephone and emails
- Initiated buy and sell orders

EDUCATION/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration/Finance from University of Dubuque
- Greater Elgin Food Pantry
- Chicago History Museum(Tour Guide)

AMY MORRIS

20701 Grade School Road, Caledonia, Illinois 61011 C: 815-703-3358 amymorris_13@yahoo.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Energetic professional with a comprehensive knowledge of fundraising best practices through 24 years of experience and a passion for success. Additionally, assist the operation of an aquatic weed harvesting company that serves customers throughout the Midwest.

SKILLS

- Strategic Planning
- Marketing
- Team Building
- Special Events
- Decision-making
- Customer Service
- Public Speaking
- Social Skills

WORK HISTORY

Operations, 2015 to Current

Clearwater Plant Harvesters – Caledonia, IL

- Aquatic Weed Harvesting
- Develop marketing and planning
- Assist in management of staff and operations

Development Director, 2007 to Current

RAMP, Inc – Rockford, IL

- Develop and cultivate relationships with individual and corporate donors, private foundations, churches, and service clubs
- Work with staff to develop and implement an annual fund campaign
- Oversee marketing and outreach efforts through organization's website, newsletter, brochures, social media, press releases

Regional Coordinator, 1996 to 2007

Muscular Dystrophy Association – Rockford, Illinois

- Planned, coordinated and organized special events
- Developed relationships with local sponsors
- Organized and implemented all aspects of the MDA fund-raising programs

EDUCATION/AFFILIATIONS

Master of Arts: Communication Studies, **Northern Illinois University**

Bachelor's Degree: Public Communications and Human Relations, **Western Illinois University**

North Boone Community Unit School District Board of Education, Past Board Member

Member of Boone County Special Education Co-op

Past Board Member; North Boone Junior Tackle Football

North Boone Lady Vikes Basketball Club, Past Board Member

BH

Benjamin Hooker

Professional Summary

I would describe myself as a hard worker and fast learner. I'm effective at multitasking, and meeting deadlines efficiently. I am very adverse and adaptable in all situations, and take pride in doing the best work I can.

Work History

Fx3 Plastics - Line Worker

Roscoe, IL

10/2019 - Current

- Supported current production needs by moving items between equipment, conveyors and packing areas.
- Conducted quality inspections of finished products.

Clearwater Plant Harvesters - Plant Harvester

Caledonia, IL

05/2019 - 08/2019

- Operated a plant harvesting machine.
- Responsible for working with a college in a pleasant manner.
- Conceptualized time management, built plans, and delivered clients with efficiency.

The 615 Club - Dishwasher

Beloit, WI

09/2017 - 11/2017

- Scraped, washed and efficiently restacked dishware, utensils and glassware to keep kitchen ready for customer demands.
- Assisted with kitchen prep work to help operations run smoothly and meet customer needs.

hooker.benjamin5@gmail.com

(815) 670-3554

Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Skills

- Safety and compliance
- Packaging effectively
- Machinery operation
- Worksite safety

Education

05/2019

North Boone High School

Poplar Grove, IL

High School Diploma

- Graduated with 3.7 GPA from North Boone.
- Elected Captain of North Boone Basketball team.
- Awarded Honor roll all 4 years of High School.

Rock Valley College

Rockford, IL

Associate of Arts: Undeclared

- Currently I am enrolled at Rock Valley College, with an undeclared Major about to finish my first year. I hope to graduate with my associate and work for the DNR.

Maxwell D Zwart

mdzward@iastate.edu

815-299-0498

Permanent Address:

1494 Middle Rd.
South Beloit, IL 61080

Current Address:

2526 Knapp St.
Ames, IA 50014

Education

Iowa State University, Ames, IA
BS, Construction Engineering
Heavy/Highway Emphasis
GPA: 3.17

Expected graduation May 2022

Work Experience

Clearwater Harvesters, Caledonia, IL

Assistant Project Manager

May 2016 - Current

- Planned and executed invasive species removal projects
- Developed harvest plans in coordination with customer and Department of Natural Resources
- Maintained and cleaned the harvester to meet company standards daily

Jensen Construction, Des Moines, IA

Labor

May 2019 - August 2019

- Physically worked with hand tools, tied steel, built forms, etc.
- Rigged straps, chain, or cable to load and unload trucks with a crane
- Operated, maintained, and fueled heavy equipment
- Used laser level or survey level to maintain grade

Edwards Apple Orchard, Poplar Grove, IL

Various Customer Service Jobs

September 2016 - November 2017

- Worked in industrial kitchen under food regulations to ensure safety
- Bagged purchased goods for customers
- Served as a customer's resource for help

A+M Farms, South Beloit, IL

Farm hand & Maintenance

July 2015 - August 2016

- Managed pig operation, feeding, cleaning, and breeding
- Serviced grounds, equipment, and buildings
- Operated equipment in a safe manner

Skills

- Autodesk Inventor
- Microsoft Office
- Revit
- OSHA 10 Hour
- VBA Programming
- Customer Coordination
- Surveying
- Autodesk Civil 3D
- Quantity Take Off

Volunteer Experience

Ducks Unlimited Clean Conservation, Ames, IA (2019)

AGC Service Projects, Ames, IA (2019)

Activities/Honors

Iowa State University

- AGC Student Chapter – Member (2019-2020)
- Iowa State Ducks Unlimited Chapter – Vice President (2018 – 2020)
- Journey Scholarship Award (2018)

**ATTACHMENT B
LEGAL STATUS OF OFFEROR**

(The Respondent shall fill out the provision and strike out the remaining ones.)

The Respondent is:

- A corporation organized and doing business under the laws of the state of _____, for whom _____ bearing the office title of _____, whose signature is affixed to this proposal, is authorized to execute contracts on behalf of respondent.*

*If not incorporated in Michigan, please attach the corporation's Certificate of Authority

- A limited liability company doing business under the laws of the State of Illinois, whom Bill Morris bearing the title of Owner whose signature is affixed to this proposal, is authorized to execute contract on behalf of the LLC.
- A partnership organized under the laws of the State of _____ and filed with the County of _____, whose members are (attach list including street and mailing address for each.)
- An individual, whose signature with address, is affixed to this RFP.

Respondent has examined the basic requirements of this RFP and its scope of services, including all Addendum (if applicable) and hereby agrees to offer the services as specified in the RFP.

Bill Morris _____ Date: 1-22-2020
Signature

(Print) Name Bill Morris Title Owner

Firm: Clearwater Plant Harvesters

Address: 20701 Grade School Rd Caledonia, IL 61011

Contact Phone (815)378-8698 Fax (815)227-0320

Email info@clearwaterharvesters.com

**ATTACHMENT C
CITY OF ANN ARBOR DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE**

Non-Discrimination Ordinance

The "non discrimination by city contractors" provision of the City of Ann Arbor Non-Discrimination Ordinance (Ann Arbor City Code Chapter 112, Section 9:158) requires all contractors proposing to do business with the City to treat employees in a manner which provides equal employment opportunity and does not discriminate against any of their employees, any City employee working with them, or any applicant for employment on the basis of actual or perceived age, arrest record, color, disability, educational association, familial status, family responsibilities, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, height, HIV status, marital status, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, source of income, veteran status, victim of domestic violence or stalking, or weight. It also requires that the contractors include a similar provision in all subcontracts that they execute for City work or programs.

In addition the City Non-Discrimination Ordinance requires that all contractors proposing to do business with the City of Ann Arbor must satisfy the contract compliance administrative policy adopted by the City Administrator. A copy of that policy may be obtained from the Purchasing Manager

The Contractor agrees:

- (a) To comply with the terms of the City of Ann Arbor's Non-Discrimination Ordinance and contract compliance administrative policy.
- (b) To post the City of Ann Arbor's Non-Discrimination Ordinance Notice in every work place or other location in which employees or other persons are contracted to provide services under a contract with the City.
- (c) To provide documentation within the specified time frame in connection with any workforce verification, compliance review or complaint investigation.
- (d) To permit access to employees and work sites to City representatives for the purposes of monitoring compliance, or investigating complaints of non-compliance.

The undersigned states that he/she has the requisite authority to act on behalf of his/her employer in these matters and has offered to provide the services in accordance with the terms of the Ann Arbor Non-Discrimination Ordinance. The undersigned certifies that he/she has read and is familiar with the terms of the Non-Discrimination Ordinance, obligates the Contractor to those terms and acknowledges that if his/her employer is found to be in violation of Ordinance it may be subject to civil penalties and termination of the awarded contract.

Clearwater Plant Harvesters
Company Name

Bill Morris 1-22-2020
Signature of Authorized Representative Date

Bill Morris Owner
Print Name and Title

20701 Grade School Rd Caledonia, IL 61011
Address, City, State, Zip

815-378-8698 info@clearwaterharvesters.com
Phone/Email address

Questions about the Notice or the City Administrative Policy, Please contact:
Procurement Office of the City of Ann Arbor
(734) 794-6500

**ATTACHMENT D
CITY OF ANN ARBOR
LIVING WAGE ORDINANCE DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE**

The Ann Arbor Living Wage Ordinance (Section 1:811-1:821 of Chapter 23 of Title I of the Code) requires that an employer who is (a) a contractor providing services to or for the City for a value greater than \$10,000 for any twelve-month contract term, or (b) a recipient of federal, state, or local grant funding administered by the City for a value greater than \$10,000, or (c) a recipient of financial assistance awarded by the City for a value greater than \$10,000, shall pay its employees a prescribed minimum level of compensation (i.e., Living Wage) for the time those employees perform work on the contract or in connection with the grant or financial assistance. The Living Wage must be paid to these employees for the length of the contract/program.

Companies employing fewer than 5 persons and non-profits employing fewer than 10 persons are exempt from compliance with the Living Wage Ordinance. If this exemption applies to your company/non-profit agency please check here No. of employees__

The Contractor or Grantee agrees:

- (a) To pay each of its employees whose wage level is not required to comply with federal, state or local prevailing wage law, for work covered or funded by a contract with or grant from the City, no less than the Living Wage. The current Living Wage is defined as \$13.61/hour for those employers that provide employee health care (as defined in the Ordinance at Section 1:815 Sec. 1 (a)), or no less than \$15.18/hour for those employers that do not provide health care. The Contractor or Grantor understands that the Living Wage is adjusted and established annually on April 30 in accordance with the Ordinance and covered employers shall be required to pay the adjusted amount thereafter to be in compliance with Section 1:815(3).

Check the applicable box below which applies to your workforce

- Employees who are assigned to any covered City contract/grant will be paid at or above the applicable living wage without health benefits
- Employees who are assigned to any covered City contract/grant will be paid at or above the applicable living wage with health benefits

- (b) To post a notice approved by the City regarding the applicability of the Living Wage Ordinance in every work place or other location in which employees or other persons contracting for employment are working.
- (c) To provide to the City payroll records or other documentation within ten (10) business days from the receipt of a request by the City.
- (d) To permit access to work sites to City representatives for the purposes of monitoring compliance, and investigating complaints or non-compliance.
- (e) To take no action that would reduce the compensation, wages, fringe benefits, or leave available to any employee covered by the Living Wage Ordinance or any person contracted for employment and covered by the Living Wage Ordinance in order to pay the living wage required by the Living Wage Ordinance.

The undersigned states that he/she has the requisite authority to act on behalf of his/her employer in these matters and has offered to provide the services or agrees to accept financial assistance in accordance with the terms of the Living Wage Ordinance. The undersigned certifies that he/she has read and is familiar with the terms of the Living Wage Ordinance, obligates the Employer/Grantee to those terms and acknowledges that if his/her employer is found to be in violation of Ordinance it may be subject to civil penalties and termination of the awarded contract or grant of financial assistance.

Clearwater Plant Harvesters
Company Name

20701 Grade School Road
Street Address

Bill Morris 1-22-2020
Signature of Authorized Representative Date

Caledonia, IL 61011
City, State, Zip

Bill Morris owner
Print Name and Title

(815) 3788698 info@clearwaterharvesters.com
Phone/Email address



ATTACHMENT E

VENDOR CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

All vendors interested in conducting business with the City of Ann Arbor must complete and return the Vendor Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form in order to be eligible to be awarded a contract. Please note that all vendors are subject to comply with the City of Ann Arbor's conflict of interest policies as stated within the certification section below.

If a vendor has a relationship with a City of Ann Arbor official or employee, an immediate family member of a City of Ann Arbor official or employee, the vendor shall disclose the information required below.

1. No City official or employee or City employee's immediate family member has an ownership interest in vendor's company or is deriving personal financial gain from this contract.
2. No retired or separated City official or employee who has been retired or separated from the City for less than one (1) year has an ownership interest in vendor's Company.
3. No City employee is contemporaneously employed or prospectively to be employed with the vendor.
4. Vendor hereby declares it has not and will not provide gifts or hospitality of any dollar value or any other gratuities to any City employee or elected official to obtain or maintain a contract.
5. Please note any exceptions below:

Conflict of Interest Disclosure*	
Name of City of Ann Arbor employees, elected officials or immediate family members with whom there may be a potential conflict of interest.	<input type="checkbox"/> Relationship to employee <hr/> <input type="checkbox"/> Interest in vendor's company <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe in box below)

*Disclosing a potential conflict of interest does not disqualify vendors. In the event vendors do not disclose potential conflicts of interest and they are detected by the City, vendor will be exempt from doing business with the City.

I certify that this Conflict of Interest Disclosure has been examined by me and that its contents are true and correct to my knowledge and belief and I have the authority to so certify on behalf of the Vendor by my signature below:		
<i>Clearwater Plant Harvesters</i>	<i>(815) 378 8698</i>	
Vendor Name	Vendor Phone Number	
<i>Bill Morris</i>	<i>1-22-2020</i>	<i>Bill Morris</i>
Signature of Vendor Authorized Representative	Date	Printed Name of Vendor Authorized Representative

Questions about this form? Contact Procurement Office City of Ann Arbor Phone: 734/794-6500, procurement@a2gov.org