PROJECT PROFILE

Raingarden
Minnetonka, MN
2017
$2,333 Grant Funding
$5,707 Total Project Costs

SUMMARY

This cost share project installed a raingarden at a residential property in Minnetonka. The raingarden was installed near the road in the front yard. This required an encroachment agreement with the city but allowed the capture of street runoff in the raingarden, along with roof and driveway runoff.

The project was designed by the homeowner, a civil engineer. The raingarden uses plants from the District’s Native Cultivar Plant List, in addition to Minnesota native plants.

SPECIFICATIONS

• 550 square foot raingarden
• Contractor excavated the raingarden; homeowners did the rest
• Unsuitable subsoil was excavated & removed down to native soil
• Took about 6 weeks to complete
• Plants are MN natives and native cultivars

RESULTS

The project has been successful in infiltrating large amounts of stormwater runoff and has been tested several times with large rain events. Infiltrating runoff supports the cost share grant program goal of improving water quality. The plants in the raingarden are both beautiful and attract pollinators.

Many neighbors and people passing by have stopped to admire the project and ask about the purpose. Educating them about raingardens and native plants has been a rewarding part of the project. The raingarden has also been part of Nine Mile Creek Watershed District tours.