



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point  
12800 Gerard Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
(952) 835-2078  
[www.ninemilecreek.org](http://www.ninemilecreek.org)

# Cost Share Grant Project Overview

## PROJECT PROFILE

Floating Islands

Caramel Pond  
Eden Prairie, MN

2016

\$2709 Grant Funding  
(per island)

\$3708 Total Project Costs

## SUMMARY

This cost share project installed 3 vegetated floating islands into Caramel Pond in Eden Prairie. Floating islands are structures made of recycled, non-toxic plastic that are planted with a variety of native wetland plants. The plants' roots grow through the island structure and into the waterbody where the island is placed. Both the roots and the bottom of the island become colonized by microorganisms that help clean the water of pollutants. The project was implemented by a group of neighbors, who have residential properties on Caramel Pond, to reduce summer algae and duckweed.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 90 square foot floating island
- Purchased from Midwest Floating Island
- Constructed from recycled plastics, injected with marine grade foam for buoyancy
- Goose fencing installed around the perimeter
- Anchored to keep them in open water

## RESULTS

The three vegetated floating islands were launched by the cost share grant recipients and neighbors on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The hope is the islands will reduce summer algae blooms and duckweed on the pond. The islands also are used as wildlife habitat. Turtles have been seen basking on the islands.

Installing these floating islands has been beneficial to the local community. The project has led to more active discussion in the neighborhood surrounding water quality and the roles that individuals play in improving water quality.

