



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point  
12800 Gerard Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
  
(952) 835-2078  
  
ninemilecreek.org

MEMO

**TO: Nine Mile Creek Board of Managers**  
**FROM: Gael Zembal**  
**DATE: May 17, 2021**  
**RE: Education & Outreach Coordinator's Report for May 2021 Board Meeting**

## Program Updates

### Education

Lizzy continues to create content for groundwater conservation, raising awareness on the importance of conserving groundwater in the home. She has also taken on more duties in the seed propagation experiment, and we are planning a class in late summer for the public on this topic. Other topics and classes for the Summer Education Series will be posted in the coming weeks. Lizzy has also continued to develop a new story map about the District's capital improvement projects. Finally, Lizzy has helped increase our social media presence, with over 150 new followers this year across all our platforms.

## Partnerships



### Normandale Hills Raingarden

The raingarden has been prepared for planting, including adding compost and mulch into the basin. Parent and student volunteers helped with all this prep, and we are very grateful for their assistance. Students will help plant the flowers this week. I will continue to work with teachers to incorporate the garden into their lessons in the coming school years.

## Professional Development

**International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)**

I took the Planning for Public Participation course in May. This course will help me create more meaningful ways for our stakeholders to provide feedback on our education programs and projects.

## Meetings

All-staff meetings to check in and track progress (2-3 weekly)

- April 21&22 Pet Waste Prevention Events with City of Minnetonka
- April 22 Presentation at the Edina Goddard Preschool with Lizzy
- April 24 Garlic Mustard Bust with Lizzy
- April 26 Assist RPBCWD in interviews and decision making for their E&O position
- April 28 Edina Climate Action Plan kickoff meeting
- April 29 Virtual presentation for Cornelia and Countryside Elementary with Lizzy
- May 5 Set up Cost Share Grant Display at Untiedts Garden in Eden Prairie with Lizzy
- May 10-14 IAP2 Planning course



## Volunteers

Stormdrain stenciling kits have been very popular this spring. Thanks to a few different Edina Girl Scout troops for marking the area around Lake Cornelia, Bredesen Park and Normandale Elementary. More kits will be loaned out through the rest of May. Some of the girls also adopted drains with their families through Hamline's Adopt a Drain program.

The Garlic Mustard Bust on April 24 along the Cardinal Creek wetland trail was very successful. We had nearly 20 people attend, and in two hours, we removed all the garlic mustard and narrow leaved bittercress in the newly cleared space. I also found many native woodland plants sprouting, which is a hopeful sign for the health of that space.

Adopt a Dock plates went out in April and May. These specialized plates will help volunteers monitor for zebra mussels in Bush, Bryant, and Cornelia Lakes.

## Upcoming Events

- May 18 MPCA Smart Salting for Roads | WebEx training | 9 AM- 2:30 PM
- June 2 CAC meeting | Virtual | 7 PM
- July 15 MPCA Smart Salting for Property Managers | WebEx training | 9 AM- 1 PM