



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:** Erica Sniegowski  
**DATE:** July 7, 2020  
**RE:** Program & Project Manager's Report for the July 2020 Regular Board Meeting

**Project Updates**

**Nonprofit BMP Project**

During the last month I have conducted site visits to the raingardens to assess site conditions and check progress on the projects. I continue to connect with project partners to update them on progress and work with Barr on construction coordination. Finalized site restoration at St. Luke's, St. Edwards, Oak Grove, and Good Samaritan is occurring this week. Directional drilling of the tile line at Chapel Hills is complete. The rain garden basin work will start this week or early next week.

Raingarden basin at St. Luke's Lutheran Church/Mt. Olivet Rolling Acres with plants installed



**Discovery Point Restoration and Maintenance**

Landbridge Ecological was at Discovery Point on June 11 for a maintenance visit. Maintenance visits will continue through this summer and fall. The Minnesota Land Trust's annual monitoring of the conservation easement at Discovery Point occurred on July 1<sup>st</sup>. I gave a short talk about the work on our property to the staff and volunteers that came out to monitor our site.

**Normandale Lake**

I am working on a new interpretive sign for Normandale Lake and an updated brochure.

**Program Updates**

**Education and Outreach (E/O) Program**

Education and outreach staff have been actively working on new outreach/communication materials including lake factsheets. Staff worked with the Design Company on a template for the lake factsheets, and Megan has been compiling information. After final review, occurring shortly, these will be posted on our website. Additionally, staff have been working on an updated cost share flier, filamentous algae factsheet, and weekly blog and social media posts.

I continue to help with planning for the 2020 Salt Symposium. The District is a Gold Sponsor of the symposium. More information about the symposium is available at: <https://fortinconsulting.com/salt-symposium/>.

**Overall Health of Bryant Lake**  
 The water quality of Bryant Lake has improved in recent years. Projects completed by the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District have resulted in reduced algae and increased water clarity. These projects, including on-site treatment, have also increased oxygen movement (hypoxia). Lower phosphorus levels help prevent algae blooms and keep water clarity high. The decrease in phosphorus has improved the overall health of Bryant Lake. However, invasive species, such as Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly Leaf Peltandra, are present in Bryant Lake. District partners have aquatic plants in the summer to allow for improved restoration.

**Bryant Lake Projects**  
 To improve the health of Bryant Lake, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District conducted an alum treatment in 2008 and 2019 to control nutrient levels (phosphorus). On contact with the water, alum allows for a stiff, curvy, green to black precipitate called floes that do not drink. The aluminum hydroxide binds with phosphorus in the water, and the phosphorus can no longer be used to fuel algae growth. This project resulted in a decrease in phosphorus, which improved the overall health of the lake. District partners will continue to harvest aquatic plants to improve restoration and help control plant growth. Bryant Lake now remains free from the harmful water lilies in 2018 due to the District's projects on the lake and its surrounding area.

**Lake Characteristics**

Surface Area	078 acres
Average Depth	15 feet
Max Depth	42 feet
Linear Area	64 acres feet
Watershed Size	5,746 acres
Location	Eden Prairie
Invasive Species	Curly Leaf Peltandra, Purple Loosestrife, Eurasian Watermilfoil
Water Quality	Good

**Bryant Lake Watershed**

Map showing the location of Bryant Lake within the watershed.

Lake Factsheet Example

### **Cost Share Grant Program**

Lauren and I are meeting to continue discussing restoration grant revisions and planning for subcommittee meetings. The subcommittee met on June 12 and July 8. We will meet again before the August board meeting, and staff will bring a subcommittee recommendation regarding restoration grants to the August board meeting.

A cost share grant information session is planned for August 27 at 6:30 PM. The information session will be virtual.

Cost share data from 2008-2020 was supplied to Houston Engineering to import into MS4Front.

I expect cost share site inspections to begin mid to late-July.

### **Meetings**

June 9	Staff check-in meeting and E/O check-in
June 9	Chapel Hills discussion with Smith Partners and Barr
June 9	Restoration phase 3 budgeting phone call with Barr
June 12	Cost share restoration subcommittee meeting
June 12	Normandale budgeting phone call with Barr
June 15	E/O check-in meeting
June 15	Salt symposium planning meeting
June 16	Staff check-in meeting
June 22	E/O check-in meeting
June 30	Staff check-in meeting
July 6	E/O check-in meeting

### **Miscellaneous Meetings**

I had additional e/o staff meetings and meetings with Lauren to prepare for the restoration subcommittee meetings.