



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point

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MEMO

TO: Nine Mile Creek Board of Managers
FROM: Gael Zembal
DATE: October 14, 2020
RE: Education & Outreach Coordinator's Report for October 2020 Board Meeting

Program Updates

K12 Education

I presented a Zoom lesson about watersheds to 4th graders at the International Spanish Language Academy.

Outreach

Bob C and Lizzy and I installed a few more 9 Mile Creek signs along crossings around the watershed. We have about 15 more signs that need installation, but we also have lots of utilities in these locations, so it is slow going.

I worked with Lizzy and Erica on the development of the Jr. Watershed Explorer booklet. Lizzy and I are also working on keeping the blog posts on our website up to date.

Miscellaneous

Program and Outreach Overview

On Oct 1, I presented to the Board about the District's Education and Outreach program, goals, and future. This presentation is still available if anyone would like to review it.

Meetings

All-staff meetings and EO meetings to check in and track progress, twice weekly

- Sep 21 Met Lizzy, introduction to office and staff
- Sep 24 CAC meeting
- Sep 25 Work with Imagine IT on computer data transfer
- Sep 29 Webinar on turfgrass maintenance
- Sep 30 Train Lizzy on Adobe suite (indesign, illustrator, photoshop, premiere rush)
- Oct 1 Meet with Erica and Lizzy to discuss budgeting and State of Waters event
- Oct 2 Meet with Oak Grove raingarden caretaker to discuss ongoing maintenance
- Oct 7 Virtual run through of Diversity and Equity panel for Watershed Partners
- Oct 8 State of the Waters planning with Erica and Lizzy
- Oct 8 Sorting and arranging Photo Contest pictures for calendar with Erica and Lizzy
- Oct 9 Install creek crossing signs with Bob and Lizzy
- Oct 13 Meet with B from RPBCWD to discuss Equity initiatives

- Oct 14 Host Watershed Partners monthly discussion: panel on Equity initiatives
- Oct 14, 19 Film volunteers for We are the Watershed video
- Oct 20-21 Attend Water Resources Conference

Volunteers

Volunteer Monitoring

Our Citizen Assisted Lake Monitoring program volunteers will be turning in their samples for the summer, and our Adopt a Dock volunteers have taken their plates out of the water. We thank them for all their help in collecting data this year.

MN Water Stewards

This program has been changed to the Minnesota Water Stewards by the Freshwater Society to make the program more inclusive.

Citizen Advisory Committee

The CAC met on Sep 24 to share their experiences from the Salt Symposium, discuss ideas for the State of the Waters event, and discuss the photo contest and new online voting procedure. 9 out of 11 CAC members voted on their top 12-15 pictures in each season, and staff then arranged the pictures in the most pleasing way for the 2021 calendar. We will once again be working with the Design Company to design and print the calendar.



Cardinal Creek Buckthorn project

For the past few years, volunteers have been working to clear buckthorn and other invasive plants from the City of Eden Prairie trail adjacent to Discovery Point. Volunteers and District staff prepped and seeded the site on September 30th. Staff and volunteers will assess the seed growth in spring, and organize needed weed pulls and herbicides as needed on a yearly basis.

Upcoming Events

- Jan 6, 2021 State of the Waters & Calendar release | Zoominar | 6:30-7:30 PM