



Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point
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Cost Share Grant Project Overview

SUMMARY

PROJECT PROFILE

Pond Buffer

Minnetonka, MN

2013

\$1,994 Grant Funding

\$2,659 Total Project Costs

This cost share project created a native plant buffer along the shore of a pond. Buffers help improve water quality by stabilizing the shore and filtering stormwater runoff.

The pond is surrounded by six residential properties. During the summer, the pond is typically covered with a layer of duckweed and watermeal. The project sought to reduce nutrient inputs into the pond and reduce duckweed and watermeal growth.

The project required removal of non-native plants and invasive species from the pond perimeter. This was followed by installation of native plants to create the buffer.

SPECIFICATIONS

- Removal of reed canary grass and other non-native plants from perimeter
- Buffer zone: 5-10 feet wide, 150 feet long
- Deep-rooted, wet meadow vegetation planted
- Little bluestem grasses planted on steep sloped pond berm
- 1200 total plant plugs installed
- Contractor: Hayland Woods Native Nursery

RESULTS

The buffer planting was completed on 7/10/13. On 7/13/13, significant rainfall caused the high-water levels in the pond. This rainfall required around 10% of the vegetation to be replanted. Thorough site maintenance and inspection allowed for the native plant buffer to completely reestablish and thrive by September 2013.

The project was successful in establishing a native plant buffer on the pond shoreline. As of 2016, native vegetation continued to grow, and required infrequent maintenance to prevent weeds from establishing.

Water quality in the pond has shown improvements, with reduced duckweed and watermeal populations observed compared to pre-project years. The new native plant community created excellent habitat for wildlife, especially pollinators like butterflies.

