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Winter with 9 Mile Creek

District Updates

A recruitment poster for a Summer Intern Position. The poster is divided into two main sections by a diagonal line. The top-left section is white and features the 9 Mile Creek Watershed District logo. The top-right section is white and contains the text 'Join our Team!'. The bottom-left section is a photograph of a man and two children painting a fish on a table outdoors. The bottom-right section is a dark red triangle containing the text 'SUMMER INTERN POSITION OPEN' in large, white, bold letters. Below this, in smaller white text, it says 'Applications due February 15, 2019', 'More info at:', and the website 'ninemilecreek.org/summer-employment'.

The watershed district is hiring a summer intern for 2019. Those currently pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree in natural resources management, environmental education, landscape architecture, urban planning, geography, engineering, or related field are encouraged to apply. Graduates may also apply.

Applications are due by February 15, 2019. For full details, visit: ninemilecreek.org/summer-employment/

Apply for a Cost Share Grant



Attend the Cost Share Grant Information Session on February 20, from 5:30-7 PM at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point to find out how you can apply for a grant for your next project.

The application deadline is Friday, March 22, 2019.

Cathie, a 2017 grant recipient, describes her project:

After I moved into my new house I noticed that in heavy rain, an unwelcome lake would form on one side of my property. If it rained enough, the lake would turn into a river and wind across the yard and into the street. After researching solutions, I decided to install a dry creek bed and raingarden to capture the excess rainwater. One of the landscapers I talked to suggested I check out the Nine Mile Creek Cost Share Program to help with the expense. Ultimately I submitted a grant application, it was approved, my project went ahead and was successfully completed. The grant did not cover all expenses, but it did cover a significant portion. Just as important to me, the grant process, while easy to follow, required me and my landscaper to really think through our plan and put it to paper before we started digging. I am certain this well-planned approach also saved me money! In addition, the review of the plan by the Nine Mile Creek team helped me make sure that the solution I was proposing would indeed provide the intended outcome. Plus I got to feel good about contributing to cleaner water!

For more information, visit: ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/

Bloomington raingarden installed with a 2017 grant

Looking for a volunteer opportunity?



As we look ahead to spring, the District has many ways for people interested in the environment to volunteer. From planting flowers to cleaning up trash to teaching students, there is something for everyone.

Subscribe to our Volunteer Updates newsletter to hear about upcoming volunteer opportunities with the District!

[Subscribe](#)

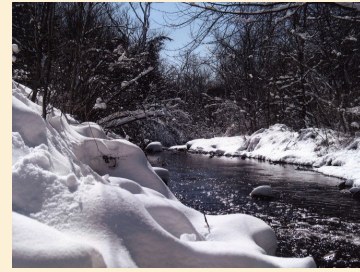
Upcoming Events

Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting

Wednesday, February 13, 2019: 6:30-8 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie)

The Nine Mile Creek Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) will discuss new business for 2019. CAC meetings are open to the public.



Cost Share Grant Info Session

Wednesday, February 20, 2019: 5:30 PM - 7 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie](#))



Grant funds are available to residents, associations, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and cities for projects located within District boundaries. Many types of projects are eligible for grant money, including raingardens, shoreline restoration, buckthorn removal with native restoration, and more! Do you want to learn more? Attend this Cost Share Information Session to hear a presentation on the program and get your questions answered.

Cost Share Grant Application Deadline

Friday, March 22, 2019

Apply for a grant for your clean water project! Grants are available for projects that fall within the boundaries of the [Nine Mile Creek Watershed District](#). Grant guidelines and applications available at: ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/.

Sustainable Residential Landscaping

Saturday, April 13, 2019

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie](#))



Get inspired for Spring! Find out the latest in designing your home landscape for water quality, pollinators, and ecological improvement. Learn why urban landscapes, including our own yards, negatively impact local lakes and creeks, and how you can make a difference. See examples of projects with inspirations from nature, including proven planting strategies. Leave with local resources for professional assistance and materials for your project.

Stay tuned: our summer events will be posted soon!

Snapshot



We partnered with staff at Richardson Nature Center to go to the Success Academy in Bloomington. Students learned how animals survive a Minnesota winter, and got to meet Richardson's painted turtle. We also recently installed updated displays at Hopkins' Valley Park. The new signs describe the restoration work the District has done on Nine Mile Creek.



Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District
Nine Mile Creek
Discovery Point
12800 Gerard Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
P. 952-835-2078
ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org
ninemilecreek.org

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the District office.



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Spring with 9 Mile Creek

From the Administrator



The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District is excited to celebrate its 60th anniversary this year. In September 1959, a citizen petition founded the District to address water resource issues throughout its 50 square mile area. The District became the fourth established watershed district in Minnesota and the second in the Twin Cities Metro Area.

While the watershed's landscape has changed greatly over those 60 years, the District's mission has remained the same: to work with our partners and community stakeholders to manage, protect and enhance our water resources.

To celebrate this milestone, the District will be hosting several exciting events to engage the public and raise awareness about the resources of the Nine Mile Creek Watershed. On September 25th we will formally celebrate our 60th anniversary with a networking "State of the Waters" social event. Event details are still being planned, but we are looking forward to an evening that will bring our partners together in celebration.

Sincerely,
District Administrator
Randy Anhorn

District Updates

Normandale Lake Water Quality Improvement Project



Drawdown

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District started refilling Normandale Lake on March 7, as planned, and the lake is now full. The lake was emptied in August 2018 as part of the District's [drawdown project](#) designed to control the aquatic invasive plant curly-leaf pondweed. The lake remained mostly empty (except near the outlet) throughout the winter to promote a deep-freeze of the lake bottom sediment. A winter freeze of the lake sediment bed can kill curly-leaf pondweed's vegetative propagules (called turions), thus stopping the plants' reproductive cycle.

An interesting phenomenon occurred this spring as a result of the drawdown – some of the top layer of frozen lake sediment loosened and floated to the surface when the lake filled back up. The District's engineering firm did a brief literature search and found that this has been documented after winter conditions such that we had this year. As the ice melted, the sediment has returned to the bottom of the lake.

Additional Steps

- Two plant surveys will be conducted this summer (June and August) along with sediment turion monitoring (October) to determine the success of the drawdown on the curly-leaf pondweed population.
- The Department of Natural Resources plans to stock the lake with adult largemouth bass and bluegill as broodstock in April or May.

Alum Treatment

The District has contracted with HAB Aquatic Solutions to conduct an alum treatment. This will occur in early May. The alum treatment will help control phosphorous levels in the lake. Alum is applied to the lake using specialized equipment and barges that ensure the precise placement of the material in the lake. On contact with the water, the liquid alum forms a fluffy aluminum hydroxide precipitate called floc. Aluminum hydroxide (the principle ingredient of common antacids such as Maalox) binds with the phosphorus to form an aluminum phosphate compound. This compound does not dissolve in water and the bound phosphorus can no longer be used to fuel algae growth. As the floc settles to the bottom, phosphorus and particles are removed from the water, leaving the lake noticeably clearer. The floc then forms a thin layer on the bottom. The floc layer keeps the phosphorus from entering the overlying water and makes it unavailable to algae. The result is a reduction in the frequency and intensity of nuisance algal blooms, rather than the total elimination of all algae.

Join us for a demonstration of this process by HAB on **Wednesday, May 8 at 12:15** at the [Normandale Lake Boat Launch](#) on Chalet Road in Bloomington.

Carp Management

The District worked with Carp Solutions to radio tag carp in Normandale Lake in mid-April. The results from the radio-tagging and a fish survey that Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District will perform this summer will help determine the best approach for managing the carp population in Normandale Lake.

For updates on this project, visit: ninemilecreek.org/normandale. You can also view the lake in real time with the [Normandale Lake Cam](#).

Subscribe to Normandale Updates

Spring Volunteering



Get outside and help the environment this spring by attending one of our volunteer events.

Valley Park Trash Cleanup: [700 8th St. S. Hopkins](#)

Saturday, May 4 | 1-3:30 PM

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/hopkins-valley-park-clean-up/

Volunteer Planting: [12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#)

Thursday, May 30 | 4-6 PM

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/volunteer-planting/

Subscribe to our Volunteer Updates e-newsletter below for other volunteer opportunities.

[Subscribe](#)

Upcoming Events

We're celebrating the 60th anniversary of the watershed district this year with some special events. We hope to see you around the watershed this spring and summer!

Alum Treatment Demo

Wednesday, May 8, 2019: 12:15-1:15 PM

Normandale Lake Boat Launch ([Chalet Road, Bloomington](#))

Come learn about alum treatments at this project demonstration.



HAB Aquatic Solutions will explain what alum is and how it improves water quality; they will also give a demonstration of the barge application process. Staff from the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and the City of Bloomington will also present an overview of the Normandale Lake Project and its goals.

Sustainable Lawns: Fescues and Flowers

Two dates to choose from: May 21 or June 5, 2019

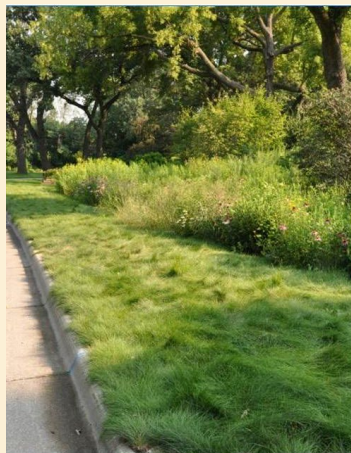
May 21 | 6-7:30 PM | [Chanhasen Library](#)

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/turf1/

June 5 | 6:30-8 PM | [Bloomington Public Works](#)

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/turf2/

Are you tired of mowing your lawn? Join us for a practical workshop and learn how to convert your traditional grass into a no-mow lawn or pollinator lawn. The terms “no-mow” and “low-grow” refer to a type of grass called fine fescues. You’ll learn everything from how to assess your current lawn, to selecting the right seed and planting and maintaining a no-mow or pollinator lawn.



Presented by Gregg Thompson, Watershed Specialist with the City of Eagan.

Bike Tour of Nine Mile Creek

Saturday, June 22, 2019: 1-3 PM

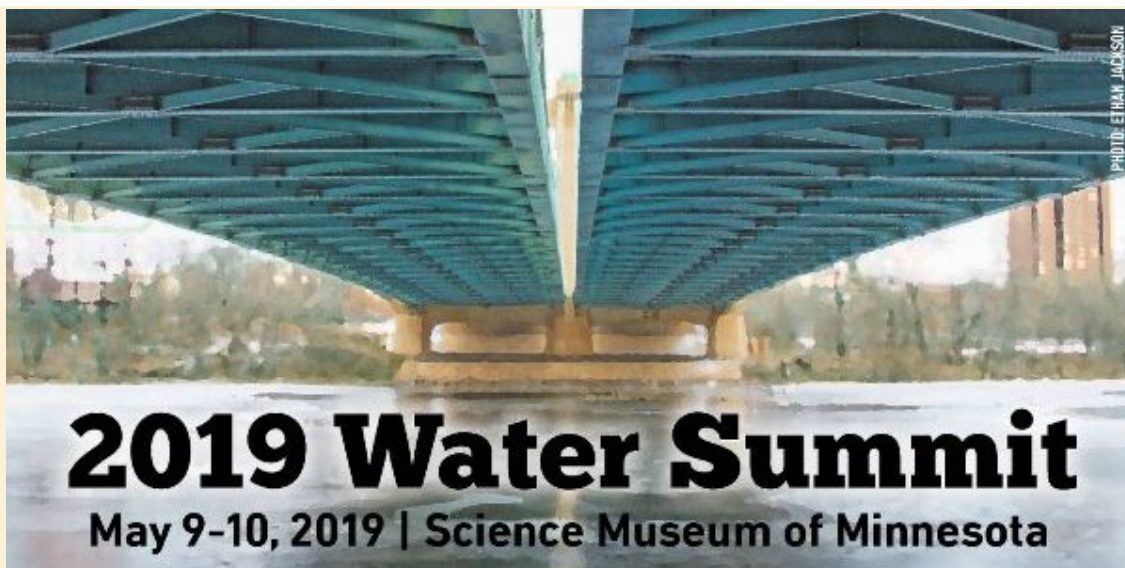
Three Rivers Park District Trail through Edina



Bring your family and your bikes to this bike tour of the creek! We will use the new Three Rivers Park District [Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail](#) to explore a section of Nine Mile Creek through Edina. At stops along the way, we will talk about the restoration techniques the District has used to improve the health of Nine Mile Creek.

Kids welcome. Helmets required. RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/bike-tour/

For more details on the rest of our 60th anniversary events, including the July 13th Fishing event and September 25th State of the Waters event, visit ninemilecreek.org/upcoming-events.



Register now for this inaugural two-day event that we are proud to sponsor!

2019 Water Summit: Bridging Science and Society
May 9-10, 2019 | Science Museum of Minnesota, Saint Paul

Relying solely on the science and technology behind our work doesn't always lead to successful projects and programs. We often overlook the power of people.

At the 2019 Water Summit we will explore new and innovative ways to protect our surface and groundwater resources, while also highlighting the role people play in determining the outcomes of our work.

Register or learn more here: <https://freshwater.org/2019-water-summit/>

Snapshot



Students at the Success Academy dressed up as parts of the water cycle during our recent visit to their school. Carp Solutions recently captured a few carp from Normandale Lake. They inserted radio tags in the fish before releasing them back into the lake for later tracking.



**Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District**

**Nine Mile Creek
Discovery Point**

12800 Gerard Drive
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P. 952-835-2078

ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org

ninemilecreek.org

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the District office.



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9 Mile Creek 60th Anniversary

The celebrations continue!

A screenshot of a web-based story map titled "Early Planning and Projects". The interface includes a navigation menu at the top with tabs: "Introduction", "'87 Storm", "Early Planning and Projects" (selected), "The Evolution to Water Quality", "Take Action", and "Credits". The main content area shows two side-by-side maps of the watershed. The left map is a grayscale aerial view with a blue line representing the creek and purple lines for planning boundaries. The right map is a color aerial view showing the same area with more detail. A text box on the left map says: "Explore how the watershed has changed over the years. Click on **Explore** in the bottom right hand corner." Below the maps, there is a dark gray text box with white text.

We are excited to continue celebrating our 60th anniversary this summer with you. Here is a sneak peek at the new story map we are creating to showcase the District's history. The interactive story map has many exciting features, like a map where you can slide a bar and explore how the watershed has changed over the years.

We will make an announcement when the story map is live; meanwhile, staff will put the finishing touches on it!

Welcome Megan!



Megan Jester was hired as the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District intern for the summer of 2019. She has jumped in with both feet and has been helping with the District's [Education Program](#), including the Popup Education Cart. Come out to a [program](#) and meet Megan!

Previously, Megan worked with [Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District](#) as a water resources technician intern. As our education and outreach intern, Megan hopes to help educate the public on the preservation and restoration of the Districts' land and water. With interests in biology, conservation ecology, and education, Megan hopes to become a high school biology teacher after completing college. She currently attends the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a biology major with an education certificate. After obtaining her bachelor's degree in biology, Megan would like to attend the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities to complete a master's program in secondary education. Besides working to promote the restoration of public waters, Megan enjoys spending time outside, in the gym, and in her art studio.

District Updates

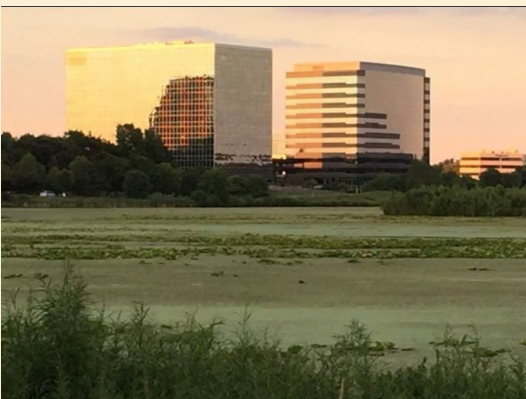
Normandale Lake



The Normandale Lake Water Quality Improvement Project has had a few recent milestones in improving the health of Normandale Lake in Bloomington. In early May, alum was applied to the lake by a barge, which is shown in the aerial image of Normandale Lake. The alum treatment will help control phosphorous in the lake, the nutrient that fuels algae growth.

The DNR stocked the lake with 30 adult black crappie and 20 adult bluegills in early June. Largemouth bass, northern pike and yellow perch will be stocked when they are available.

Before and After Photos



A local resident submitted these before and after photos of Normandale Lake from the same spot, on the same day, three years apart. The first one was taken in 2016 on June 28th, and the second one, which is noticeably clearer of algae, was taken on June 28th of this year. While in the long-term we anticipate reduced algal blooms, it is important to recognize that there will likely always be moderate levels of algae in Normandale Lake, with Nine Mile Creek flowing through and serving as a daily source of phosphorus to the lake.

The District will monitor water quality and conduct plant and fish surveys this year to evaluate the success of the efforts to control curly-leaf pondweed and phosphorus in the lake. For more information, visit

www.ninemilecreek.org/normandale/

Education-We need your input!



We strive to provide effective, engaging education to everyone in our District. We want to make sure that our education programs are meeting your needs--so we need your input! Click on the button to take the survey, it should only take about 5 minutes.

Your input will help us prioritize messages and topics for the next two years. Staff will use the input to create an Education and Outreach Plan for the District, which will be publicly available in the fall.

[Take Survey](#)

Master Water Stewards sought



Do you want to protect clean water in a lake or stream you care about? Is there something you want to know about water? Want to get off the sidelines and make real change? Become a Master Water Steward! This program provides training on how to protect local lakes and creeks from pollution. Following the training, Stewards put their knowledge into action in their own communities.

The one-time cost to enroll in the Master Water Stewards Program is \$200 per person, which covers course fees and field trips. Scholarships may be available. To qualify, applicants must live in a participating watershed district and attend an [information session](#). Local info sessions include July 23rd, 6-7pm at Smith Coffee in Eden Prairie, and August 20th, 6-7pm at Cream and Amber in Hopkins.

For more details and to apply, visit www.masterwaterstewards.org. Applications due September 20, 2019.

Upcoming Events

We're celebrating the 60th anniversary of our watershed district this year with some special events. We hope to see you around the watershed this summer!

Let's Go Fishing--Waitlist Open

Saturday, July 13, 2019: 10-12

[Bryant Lake Boat Launch](#)

This program is full, but you can still signup for the waitlist! To be put on the waitlist, email Megan at intern@ninemilecreek.org with

your name and group size.

Join the Eden Prairie Chapter of [Let's Go Fishing](#) in their pontoon boat on Bryant Lake. You'll learn some fishing basics, how to read a lake map, and hopefully catch and release a fish or two! Children under 16 will receive a free rod and tackle box, donated by the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

Adults that want to fish should have a MN Fishing license. No license needed if only children under 16 are fishing.



Popup Cart

Various days and locations

Check the [Upcoming Events](#) page of our website to find where the cart will be next!

Summer Bus Tour

Wednesday, July 10, 2019: 5:30-8:30 PM

Bloomington Public Works ([1700 W 98th St., Bloomington](#))



As part of our 60th anniversary celebration, we will be taking a tour bus to visit a few different projects around the watershed. These projects will highlight past accomplishments and partnerships, as well as what's coming for the future.

We have 15 seats left on the bus that we are opening up to the public. Registration will close when those spots are filled.

RSVP [here](#).

Master Water Stewards Info Session

Tuesday, August 20, 2019: 6-7 PM

Cream and Amber ([1605 Mainstreet, Hopkins](#))

Find more info session dates [here](#).

Project WET workshop

Tuesday, August 6, 2019: 9 AM - 3 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie](#))

Learn how to incorporate water education into your curriculum or programs. Get trained on Project WET activities using the woods and wetlands around Discovery Point, and become confident using them both indoors and out!

Project WET activities are designed to be easy to use to complement existing curricula rather than replace or add additional concepts. Activities fulfill objectives and educational standards in the sciences, as well as other disciplines. \$15 participation fee.



RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/project-wet/

Edible Hike

Tuesday, August 27, 2019: 6:30-7:30 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Dr. Eden Prairie](#))



Join us for Discovery Point Edible Hike! We'll sample a few new plants, and some familiar ones, as we learn responsible urban foraging techniques. You will also leave with a few recipes and resources to increase your confidence in your foraging skills.

Dress for the weather. Kids welcome.

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/edible-hike/

State of the Waters

Wednesday, September 25, 2019: 5-7 PM

Hyland Hills Ski Chalet ([8800 Chalet Rd., Bloomington](#))

Celebrate 60 years of water protection with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District! Formed in September 1959, we were the second watershed district formed in the Twin Cities metro area. The next 60 years were dedicated to protecting and preserving the natural resources in our watershed. Join us to learn what we've accomplished, and look ahead to what we have planned for the future.

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/



Snapshot



A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help at the Volunteer Planting event. We got over 700 plants in the ground in about an hour! Despite the hot weather, bikers came out to learn about the restoration on 9 Mile Creek on our 60th anniversary bike tour.



Watershed District

Nine Mile Creek

Discovery Point

12800 Gerard Drive

Eden Prairie, MN 55346

P. 952-835-2078

ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org

ninemilecreek.org

District Board of Managers meets
the third Wednesday of each
month at 7:00 PM at the District
office.



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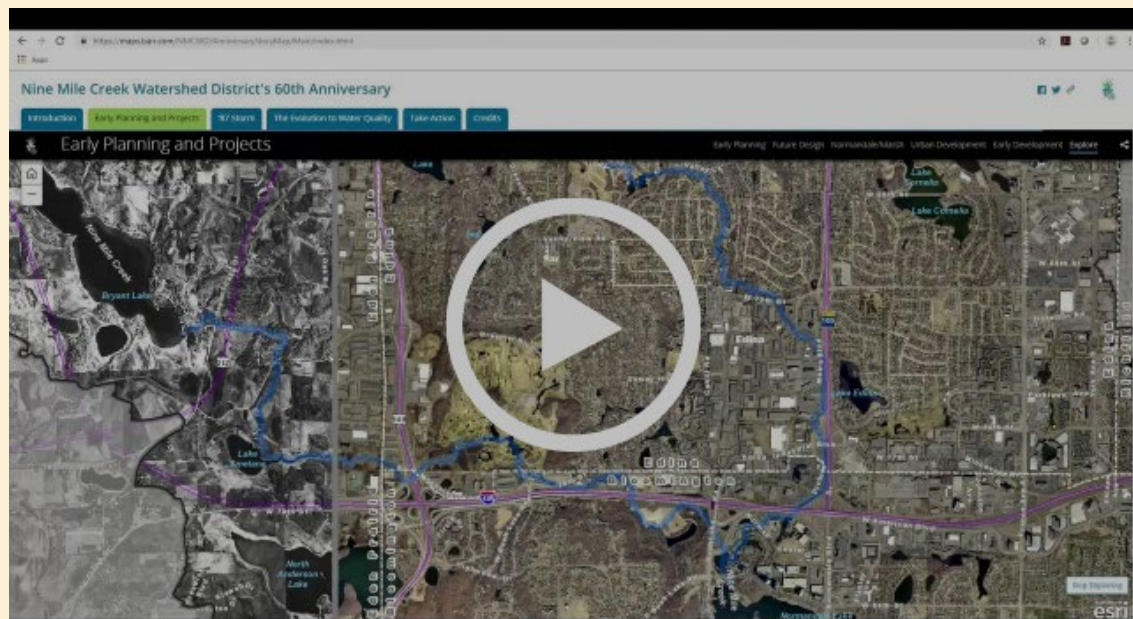


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Summer News

Announcing the Nine Mile Creek Story Map



To showcase the District's history and accomplishments, we have launched an interactive story map. Story maps combine maps with text, images, and multimedia content on the web.

Our 60th anniversary story map has many exciting features, including interviews with current and former District managers and maps that let you explore how the watershed has changed over the last 60 years. Check out the teaser video, then explore the map!

Explore the map!

District Updates

Lake Cornelia and Lake Edina Water Quality Improvement Project



Lake Cornelia and Lake Edina are shallow lakes with poor water quality. Both of the lakes are on the state's impaired waters list for excess nutrients. The District conducted a study of the lakes in 2018-2019 to help address the poor water quality. In 2019-2020, the District will look to implement projects to improve the health of the lakes, including potentially conducting an alum treatment this fall on Lake Cornelia.

Read the [Lake Cornelia and Lake Edina Water Quality Study Summary](#) or the [full study](#).

Public Hearing

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers will hold a public hearing on August 21, 2019, at 6:30 pm at the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Office (12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie, MN) to receive comments on the Lake Cornelia Alum Treatment Project and consider ordering the project. The estimated cost of the project, which includes two treatments five years apart is \$232,000. The project will be funded through a watershed-wide levy.

Read the [Lake Cornelia Alum Feasibility Study](#) or find out more information on the [project webpage](#).

Cost Share Grant Information Session



Are you thinking about installing a raingarden or shoreline buffer? The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District has cost share grants that could help! Grant funds are available to residents, associations, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and cities for projects located within the boundaries of the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

Many types of projects are eligible for grant money. A few examples include: raingardens, shoreline restoration, permeable pavers, native restoration, and more! Applications are due March 20, 2020 for projects to start in spring 2020.

Attend one of these information sessions to get your questions answered, and find out how to apply:

Wednesday, August 14, 2019 at 5:30 PM or

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 5:30 PM

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie)

Become a Master Water Steward



Do you want to protect clean water in a lake or stream you care about? Is there something you want to know about water? Want to get off the sidelines and make real change? Become a Master Water Steward! This program provides training on how to protect local lakes and creeks from pollution. Following the training, Stewards put their knowledge into action in their own communities.

The one-time cost to enroll in the Master Water Stewards Program is \$200 per person, which covers course fees and field trips. Scholarships may be available. To qualify, applicants must live in a participating watershed district and attend an [information session](#). Attend a local info session on August 20th, 6-7pm at [Cream and Amber](#) in Hopkins.

For more details and to apply, visit www.masterwaterstewards.org. Applications due September 20, 2019.

Upcoming Events

We hope to see you at some of our upcoming events!

[Cost Share Grant Info Session](#)

Wednesday, August 14, 2019: 5:30-6:30 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie](#))

[Master Water Stewards Info Session](#)

Tuesday, August 20, 2019: 6-7 PM

Cream and Amber ([1605 Mainstreet, Hopkins](#))

[Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks](#)

Wednesday, September 18, 2019: 9 AM-2 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#))

This training offers information about best practices for managing snow and ice on parking lots and sidewalks. These practices will help you save money, time, and the environment. Training is free and includes lunch.

Contractors, staff and volunteers who maintain parking lots and sidewalks are encouraged to attend.

An optional test is offered at the workshop to earn Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Level 1 Certification in Snow & Ice Control Best Practices.



RSVP at: ninemilecreek.org/winter-parking-lot-and-sidewalk-workshop/

[State of the Waters](#)

Wednesday, September 25, 2019: 5-7 PM

Hyland Hills Ski Chalet ([8800 Chalet Rd., Bloomington](#))



Celebrate 60 years of water protection with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District! Formed in September 1959, we were the second watershed district formed in the Twin Cities metro area. Join us to learn what we've accomplished in the past 60 years and what we have planned for the future. Heavy appetizers provided.

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/

Partner news



Few people realize that the land of 10,000 lakes may soon face a water shortage. While surface water is abundant in our region, the majority of the metro relies on groundwater. This out-of-sight natural resource is far from limitless. Groundwater isn't replenished as quickly as surface water, and our supply is already dwindling. Becoming conscious of water waste is the first step to making a change. The EPA estimates that as much as 50% of the water used outdoors is wasted. A combination of evaporation, wind, and inefficient irrigation methods adds up to a massive loss of a precious resource. Find out how smart irrigation controllers could help this problem, at [Clean Water MN](#).

Snapshot



On our summer tour of the watershed, past and present managers stopped for a photo at Lake Cornelia. Get your limited edition 9 Mile Creek 60th Anniversary sticker! It looks great on water bottles and phone cases. Visit a District program this summer or our office to pick one up.



**Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District**
12800 Gerard Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
P. 952-835-2078
ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org
ninemilecreek.org

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the District office.



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Fall News

District Updates

Celebrate 60 years of water protection at the State of the Waters



Join us in celebrating our 60th anniversary! Though the District has undergone many changes over the years, the one thing that hasn't changed is our passion for protecting natural resources. At our 60th

anniversary celebration, we'll have activities, appetizers, and take a look back at the highlights of the last 60 years of water management. Come share in the celebration as we look forward to another 60 years of protecting our water resources in partnership with you!

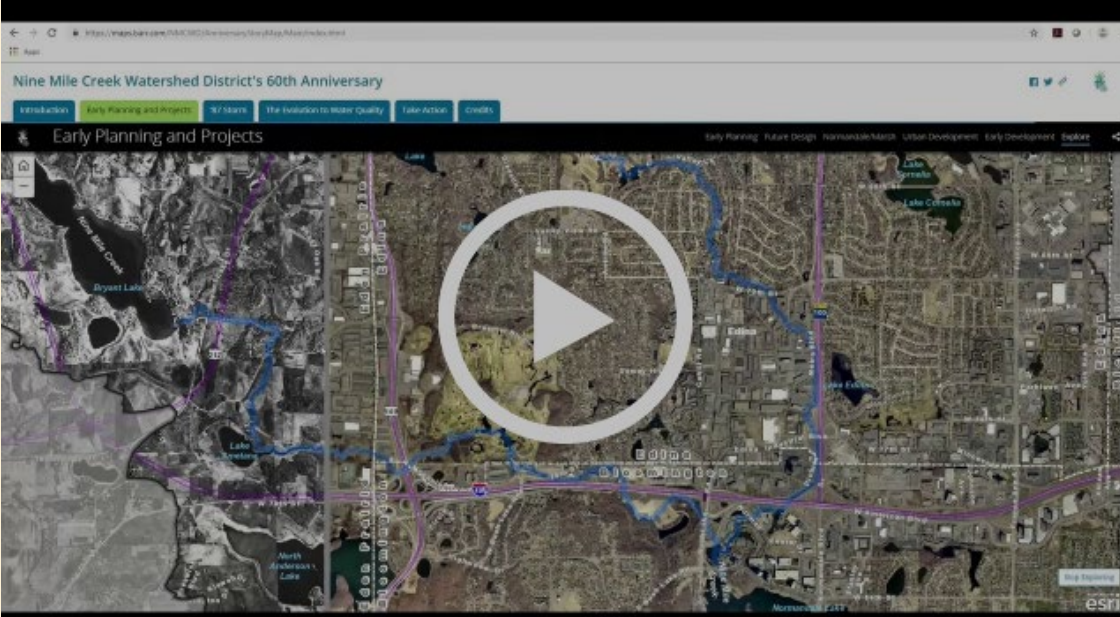
Date: Wednesday, September 25

Time: Open house from 5-7 PM; a few words from our District Administrator at 6 PM

Location: Hyland Hills Ski Chalet, Alpine Room ([8800 Chalet Road, Bloomington](https://www.hylandhills.com/locations/alpine-room))

Free event; RSVP required: ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/

Explore the Nine Mile Creek Story Map



To showcase the District's history and accomplishments, we have launched an interactive story map. Story maps combine maps with text, images, and multimedia content on the web.

Our 60th anniversary story map has many exciting features, including project highlights, interviews with current and former District managers, and maps that let you explore how the watershed has changed over the last 60 years. Check out the teaser video, then explore the map!

[Explore the map!](#)

Cost Share Grant Project Spotlight



Maria, a 2018 graduate of the Master Water Stewards program, recently finished up a rain garden at her condo association. This project was awarded a 2019 Cost Share Grant from the District for its benefits to water quality. Maria worked with not only her condo association, but the neighboring one as well, in order to implement this project on a communal green space. The rain garden was installed at the bottom of a driveway shared between two condo associations. This rain garden, which is 1450 square feet in size, catches both street and driveway runoff, and helps filter water before it gets to a nearby wetland. Metro Blooms and Elliott Design Build Inc. help design and install the rain garden.

Curious about getting a grant?

The next info session for the Cost Share Grant program is on February 19, 2020 at 5:30 pm at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie, 55346).

Become a Master Water Steward

Join over 300 Minnesotans in protecting local lakes and rivers by becoming a Master Water Steward

You can make a difference for water in your community!

Become trained and certified as a Master Water Steward and you will join a team of people who have dreamed up, created, and installed projects that make measurable impacts on water health.

Applications are now being accepted for the Fall 2019 cohort of Master Water Stewards.

Learn more at:

masterwaterstewards.org



Priority application deadline is September 20. Click the button below to learn more.

Apply now

Upcoming Events

State of the Waters: 60th Anniversary Celebration

Wednesday, September 25, 2019: 5-7 PM

Hyland Hills Ski Chalet ([8800 Chalet Rd., Bloomington](http://8800ChaletRd.com))

Formed in September 1959, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District was the second watershed district formed in the Twin Cities metro area. Join us at our open house event where we will celebrate the past 60 years of water management. There will be activities, information on District projects and programs, and more! Heavy appetizers provided.

RSVP at: ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/



Attend one of the free trainings below to become
Smart Salting certified!

Trainings presented by Fortin Consulting, Inc.

Funding for this workshop is provided by MPCA



through a grant from US EPA, Section 319
Nonpoint Source Management Fund with match
provided by local partners.

Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Wednesday, September 18, 2019: 9 AM-2 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#))

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/winter-parking-lot-and-sidewalk-workshop/

Smart Salting for Property Managers

Monday, September 23, 2019: 9 AM-2 PM

Good Samaritan United Methodist Church ([5730 Grove St., Edina](#))

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/property-managers-2/

Level 2 Training Organizational Certification

Tuesday, October 8, 2019: 8 AM-12:30 PM

Edina Public Works ([7450 Metro Blvd., Edina](#))

RSVP: Email Martha at EngIntern5@EdinaMN.gov

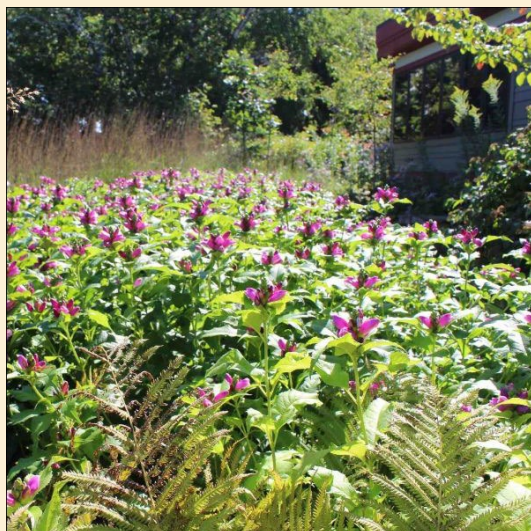
Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Thursday, November 7, 2019: 9 AM-2 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#))

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/smart-salting-parking-lot-sidewalk/

Snapshot



Thanks to Kelley Regan for capturing this shot of Pink Turtlehead blooming in the back garden at our District office. We recently debuted a limited edition set of trivia coasters around the watershed! Go to ninemilecreek.org/trivia for the answer!



**Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District**
12800 Gerard Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
P. 952-835-2078
ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org
ninemilecreek.org

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the District office.



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Winter News

District Updates

Thank you to our Citizen's Advisory Committee!



The District would like to thank the members of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for their work in 2019. We are grateful for the time and dedication of the committee, and the work they do to support District

programming.

District staff would especially like to recognize and thank departing members for their service:

Roger Willette: member since 2012

Maressia Twele: member from 2012-2015 & 2019

Jenifer Prince: member since 2015

Cal Johnson: member since 2016

Join the Citizen's Advisory Committee



Are you interested in making a difference in your community? Do you wonder how you might help protect lakes and creeks? Become a volunteer on the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and make a difference through sharing your community insights and ideas. Four positions on the CAC are currently available.

The CAC is a volunteer advisory group that supports the watershed district in its mission to manage, restore, and protect water resources. If you live or work in the District and are interested in citizen education, water issues, or exploring the role of the District in managing local water resources, then consider applying for the CAC.

Members are appointed in January by the Board of Managers to serve one-year terms. CAC members typically spend a minimum of 10 hours per year at quarterly meetings and volunteering at District programs. Contact Education and Outreach Coordinator [Gael Zembal](#) for more information. Learn more and apply by clicking the button below.

[Learn more](#)

Coming Soon: 2019 Annual Communication



The District is currently finalizing its Annual Communication, which describes the activities of the District over the past year. The Annual Communication is made available through email, mail, and on the District's website. In it, you will read about District projects, our monitoring program, the education program, and more. Watch for it in your inbox at the end of the year.

Partnering on chloride reduction

The summer, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District partnered with the MPCA to lead a stakeholder process to develop guidance and resources on chloride reduction practices and programs.

Water softener rebate

A [water softener rebate program guide](#) was developed for communities interested in implementing a rebate program to reduce chloride from home water softeners. This first of its kind guide includes valuable

information, resources and specific examples for implementing a successful water softening rebate program.

Model ordinances for chloride reduction

A suite of [model ordinances](#) was also developed that communities can choose to implement. There are several options to consider, which are intended to assist with reducing salt pollution.

For these resources and more information, visit: pca.state.mn.us/water/statewide-chloride-resources

Grants

Apply for a Cost Share Grant



Thinking about installing a rain garden, shoreline buffer, or other stormwater best management practice? Apply for a Nine Mile Creek Cost Share Grant!

Attend an information session at the District's office on February 19 to learn about the grants. Applications open soon, and are due on March 20, 2020. [Learn More](#)

Lawns to Legumes grants now available

[Lawns to Legumes](#) is a new program from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). This program aims to protect the federally endangered rusty patched bumblebee (Minnesota's state bee) and other at-risk pollinators. Lawns to Legumes offers a combination of workshops, coaching, planting guides and cost-share funding for installing pollinator-friendly native plantings in residential lawns.

Minnesota residents can apply to be reimbursed for up to \$350 in costs associated with establishing pollinator habitat in their yards.

Applications for the first round of funding will be accepted through **February 28, 2020**. Funding decisions and all notifications will be emailed in March for Spring 2020 installations.



[Apply for Lawns to Legumes](#)

Upcoming Events

Lake Smetana Study Community Meeting

Tuesday, January 14, 2020: 12-1 PM

Cigna, Town Hall Room 1-H2 ([11095 Viking Dr. One Southwest Crossing, Eden Prairie](#))

Join the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District at this community meeting to learn more about the water quality study on Lake Smetana. Questions? Contact Randy at 952-835-2078.



Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Tuesday, January 28, 2020: 9 AM-2 PM

Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#))

RSVP: ninemilecreek.org/smart-salting-parking-lot-sidewalk/



Learn about best practices for managing snow and ice on parking lots and sidewalks. These practices will help you save money, time, and the environment. Training is free and includes lunch.

Who should attend?

Contractors, staff and volunteers who maintain parking lots and sidewalks.

An optional test is offered at the workshop to earn Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Level 1 Certification in Snow & Ice Control Best Practices. Certified individuals are listed on the [MPCA website](#).

Cost Share Grant Information Session

Wednesday, February 19, 2020: 5:30 PM

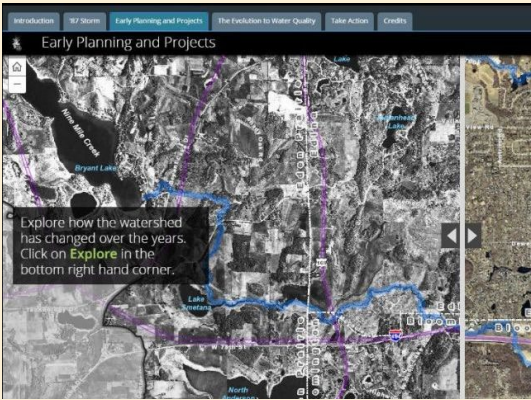
Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point ([12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie](#))

Grant funds are available to residents, associations, nonprofits, schools, businesses, and cities for projects located within District boundaries. Many types of projects are eligible for grant money, including raingardens, shoreline buffers, permeable pavers, and native restorations. Do you have questions or want to learn more? Attend this Cost Share Information Session to hear a presentation on the program and get your questions answered. Cost Share Grant applications are due on March 20, 2020.

More information: ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/



Snapshot



Staff and Managers accepted a plaque commemorating the District's 60 year anniversary at the Minnesota Association of Watershed District's conference in December. To showcase the District's 60 year history and accomplishments, we have launched an interactive story map. Go to <https://maps.barr.com/NMCWD/StoryMap/Main/index.html> to explore!



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