



9 MILE CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

9 MILE
NEWS

District updates

[illegible]

Thus, the NMCWD directed Barr Engineering to conduct a study to identify high quality wetlands within the District. This study will help staff and managers understand the functions and values of

these wetlands, as well as identifying specific wetland protection and restoration opportunities in the Nine Mile Creek watershed, with a focus on protecting or restoring the highest quality wetlands.

This report was presented to the NMCWD Board of Managers at their Board Meeting on February 17th, 2021. Managers, staff, and District engineers will continue to refine priorities and goals for wetland protection and restoration in 2021.

What did the study find?

Based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI), there are approximately 3,968 acres of wetland in the Nine Mile Creek watershed; however, lakes are included in this total. To narrow it further, Barr engineers used GIS software to analyze these areas. 40 specific opportunities for protection and restoration were identified. They then selected 21 sites to visit in the field. Many of these 21 sites were identified as potential high-quality wetlands with unique or rare native wetland community types or containing rare species within a habitat corridor. Of the 21 site assessments conducted, nine of the wetlands were evaluated as high priority wetland protection opportunities (Section 3.3.3, Results). To learn more, read the full report below.

[Read the full report](#)

Normandale survey

Let us know how you think the Normandale Water Quality Project Improvement Project is going. Share your feedback with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District by taking a survey.

The goals of the Normandale Lake project are to improve water quality and the ecological health of Normandale Lake. To date, the projects that have been implemented at Normandale Lake have included a lake drawdown (2018–2019), aluminum (alum) treatment (2019), and herbicide treatment (2020). For more information on the project, visit the [current project](#) webpage.



[Take the survey](#)

Cost share grant application deadline



March 19 at 4pm is the deadline to turn in your stewardship grant application! We offer stewardship grants for projects that prevent stormwater pollution to our lakes and Nine Mile Creek. Examples of projects include raingardens, shoreline buffers, and permeable pavers. We also offer habitat restoration grants. The first grant application deadline for these grants is July 22.

Find out more about which type of grant your project might qualify for at ninemilecreek.org/grants/.

Learn more about the District's cost share grants by watching a recording of our information session at:
ninemilecreek.org/cost-share-information-session-video/

Raingarden and permeable paves installed as a cost share grant project at Cream and Ambers in Hopkins.

Chloride reduction grants available

The Lower Minnesota River Collaborative is excited to announce the launching of the Chloride Reduction Grant Program! The Chloride Reduction Grant program offers financial support and resources for businesses and local government units for tools and practices which reduce, directly or indirectly, chloride usage by that organization. Some examples include pavement temperature sensors that allow for more effective chloride application or outfitting

currently owned trucks with new segmented plow blades, which reduce the need for chemical removal of snow and ice.

These are cost-share grants. The grant amount is up to **\$20,000** max, and up to **75%** of the project cost.



Entities applying for Chloride Reduction Grant must be currently Smart Salting certified through Fortin and the MPCA. Certification must be earned or proven before funds are released. Entities must operate within Bloomington, Chanhassen, Carver, Chaska, Edina, Eden Prairie, Deephaven, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Shorewood and Richfield.

Interested in applying?

Click on this [link](#) and get started.

Questions? Contact Amy Bakkum, abakkum@rpbcwd.org.

The mission of the Lower Minnesota Collaborative is to protect, manage, and restore the water resources in its boundaries. The Lower Minnesota Collaborative includes the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, Richfield Bloomington Watershed Management Organization and the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District. We can't do this work alone though. We need an informed and empowered community to help create meaningful change with real results for clean water. The Chloride Reduction Grant exists to help grow and support that community.

Follow us!



The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District is now on Twitter! Tag us @9milecreekwd or use the hashtags #nmcwd #NineMileCreek or #9milecreek.

You can also find us on Instagram (@9milecreek), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)!

Upcoming Events

Friday Fireplace Reads

Friday, March 5, 2021: 12-12:30 PM

Livestream on Facebook and Youtube

This new series "Friday Fireplace Reads" will share snippets from non-fiction books about water and nature. Every other

Friday through April we will go live on Facebook and Youtube.

Each of the books features interesting stories about nature or water, and its impact on our lives. This series will include books written by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). We hope that you enjoy listening to a live reading in front of a cozy fireplace; perhaps it will help inspire your winter reading list.



The book on March 5 is Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Find the full book list here: ninemilecreek.org/fireplace-reads/

Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#) and follow our [Facebook Page](#) to get notified when we go live.

Stewardship Grant Application Deadline

March 19, 2021

Stewardship cost share grants help homeowners, associations, businesses, schools, and other organizations install projects that prevent stormwater pollution to our lakes and Nine Mile Creek. Examples of projects include raingardens, shoreline buffers, and permeable pavers. Find more info at: ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/stewardship-grants/

Upcoming Board Meetings

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 : 7-9 PM

Wednesday, April 21, 2021: 7-9 PM

[Live Virtual Meeting](#)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the District Board Chair has determined that an in-person meeting of the Board of Managers is not prudent or practical. The Nine Mile Creek Board of Managers will hold their monthly meeting remotely on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by accessing the web-based conference, or by phone (conference call).

Link will be posted, when available, at: ninemilecreek.org/board-meeting/



Garlic Mustard Bust

Spring TBD!

In-person event

If the conditions permit, we will host a socially distanced garlic mustard pull this spring. A date has not been set yet, but if you would like to be notified when it is, fill out this form: <https://ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/spring-garlic-mustard-pull-interest-form/>

This bust will be in an area recently cleared of buckthorn, the Cardinal Creek Conservation Area trail, next to Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point at 12800 Gerard Drive in Eden Prairie.

Cost Share Grant Spotlight: Suez Water Technologies and Solutions



Reverse osmosis filters at Suez Water Technologies and Solutions in Minnetonka

Suez Water Technologies and Solutions continues to put their water recycling installation (completed in 2019) to good use. Wastewater that used to discharge directly to Nine Mile Creek is now sent through a reverse osmosis filter system to be used again. Suez received a cost share grant from the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District in 2018 for the installation of their water filtration system to aid the District's goals of water conservation and water health.

Project Manager Megan Gustafson— “The project is a huge success. Even though it is the winter season, the recycled water system is saving on average 16,000 gallons per day.”

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. Learn more about the types of grants available at: ninemilecreek.org/grants

Snapshot



On a recent walk around Lake Smetana, MN GreenCorps member Lizzy found a stunning tree by the path, as well as a white-breasted nuthatch climbing down the tree (yes, this picture is right-side up!).



Watershed District

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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Winter news

District updates

Grant applications due Friday, March 19



March 19 at 4pm is the deadline to turn in your stewardship grant application! We offer stewardship grants for projects that prevent stormwater pollution to our lakes and Nine Mile Creek. Examples of projects include raingardens, shoreline buffers, and permeable pavers. We also offer habitat restoration grants. The first grant application deadline for these grant types is July 22.

If you don't know what your project type or track is, please contact Erica at esniegowski@ninemilecreek.org or 952-358-2276. If you would like some feedback, send your application to Erica by this Friday, March 5th, and staff will provide suggestions on improving it ahead of the deadline in 2 weeks.

Find out more at ninemilecreek.org/grants/. Watch a recording of our information session at: ninemilecreek.org/cost-share-information-session-video/

Shoreline buffer installed as a cost share grant project in Edina.

Normandale survey open through tomorrow

If you recreate around Normandale Lake, please take our survey on the Improvement Project by tomorrow, Wednesday, March 3, when the survey closes.

The goals of the Normandale Lake project are to improve water quality and the ecological health of Normandale Lake. To date, the projects that have been implemented at Normandale Lake have included a lake drawdown (2018-2019), aluminum (alum) treatment (2019), and herbicide treatment (2020). For more information on the project, visit the [current project](#) webpage.



Take the survey

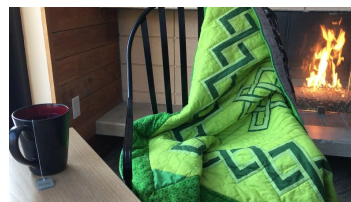
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Friday Fireplace Reads

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Nine Mile Creek Watershed District

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ninemilecreek.org

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Spring News

District updates

Final phase of Restoration at Discovery Point



Phase 3 of the habitat restoration at our office site, Discovery Point, began in early April 2021. This phase focused on removing the last portion of buckthorn from the 5-acre property. In this phase, we partnered with the City of Eden Prairie to also remove buckthorn from adjacent city property. Buckthorn removal began on April 1, 2021, and was finished the following week. Minnesota Native

Landscapes (MNL), the contractor for the restoration work, used a forestry mower for most of the buckthorn removal on the District's and City's property.

As you can see, it made quite a difference! This view of Discovery Point from the city trail shows how much buckthorn was removed. After the removal, MNL laid down straw and hydromulch to prevent erosion of the steep slope. They also installed a native seed mix. As the spring continues, they will plant shrubs and trees to complete the restoration. A section of the District's property, where buckthorn was removed in 2017 and fescue was planted, will also be converted to native prairie this May.

Watch a short 5 minute [video](#) on the Phase 3 habitat restoration work at Discovery Point. Find out more about the project [here](#).

Upcoming projects and water quality studies



There are a few projects coming up in Edina: here is a snapshot of what's happening.

Bristol & Mavelle Park/Lynmar Basin

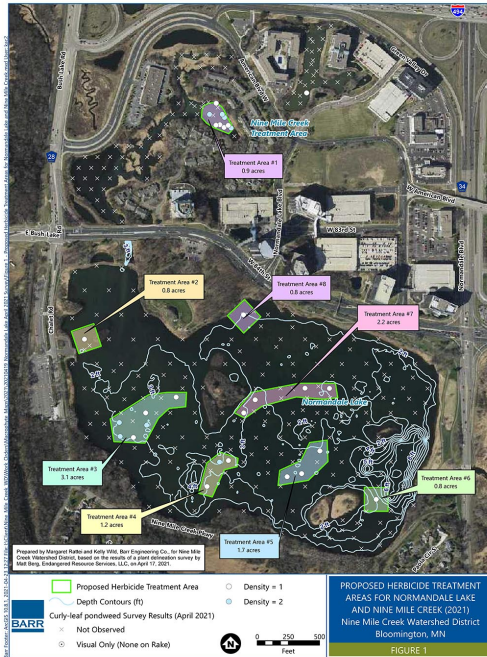
District and City of Edina staff are studying options to provide stormwater improvements at this small park. These improvements will also help downstream water bodies. At a recent community meeting, feedback was given to District and City staff that said keep it green, keep it open, but also enhance stormwater management and protect people from flooding. Next the project will move into initial concept design based on this feedback, which will be shared back later. Check out the project page on the [Edina Better Together website](#).

Arrowhead and Indianhead Lakes Study

The District is currently undertaking a water quality study called a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) on Arrowhead and Indianhead Lakes in Edina. The District is undertaking this study to identify potential water quality improvement projects to improve the overall health of the lakes. This

process will be completed in late 2021 or early 2022. Find out more at our current projects page: ninemilecreek.org/arrowhead-and-indianhead-lake-study/

Indianhead Lake, Edina. Photo by Barr Engineering.



Normandale Lake Herbicide Treatment

On Monday, May 10th (dependent on weather), PLM Lake & Land Management will conduct a partial lake herbicide treatment on Normandale Lake to combat remaining curly leaf pondweed growing in the lake. This herbicide treatment is part of the District's treatment plan following the 2018–2019 drawdown of the lake to reduce the levels of the invasive aquatic plant. Additional information on the Normandale Lake project is available at: ninemilecreek.org/normandale

The map shown here highlights the areas that will be treated, and the size of each area.

To be added to the Normandale Lake Project Newsletter, email gzembal@ninemilecreek.org.

New notification list for harmful algal blooms (HAB)

Summer is right around the corner and that can also mean algae blooms. You can't tell just by looking whether or not an algae bloom is harmful or not. So, when in doubt, best stay out.

You can sign up to be notified if a harmful algal bloom is detected in a lake within our district. Please email Gael at gzembal@ninemilecreek.org to be put on this list.



Upcoming Events

MPCA Smart Salting for Property Managers
Tuesday, May 11, 2021: 9 AM – 1 PM
 Live Virtual Training

Topics in this **virtual** MPCA training include:

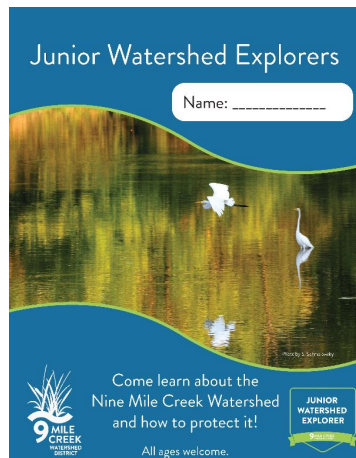
- Environmental, infrastructure, and vegetation impacts of salt
- Sustainable winter maintenance strategies
- Educating your workforce
- Communicating with property users
- and more!



At the end of training, there will be a voluntary certification test to become MPCA Smart Salting Certified for Property Managers.

RSVP here

Become a Junior Watershed Explorer In a neighborhood or park near you!



Complete activities in the booklet and become a Junior Watershed Explorer. In this program, you will explore the Nine Mile Creek Watershed, complete fun indoor and outdoor activities, and learn about your relationship with water. Finish the required amount of activities and you will receive a free Junior Watershed Explorer sticker and water bottle! This booklet is geared towards kids in grades 3-8, but can be adapted to older and younger children.

[Watch the instructional video](#)

Request a booklet at our website
here: ninemilecreek.org/jwebooklet/

Summer events coming soon!

Watch for another newsletter soon about our exciting list of summer events! There will be a mix of virtual and in person events, but all will follow current safety guidelines.

Upcoming Board Meetings

Wednesday, May 19, 2021: 7-9 PM

Wednesday, June 16, 2021: 7-9 PM

[Live Virtual Meeting](#)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the District Board Chair has determined that an in-person meeting of the Board of Managers is not prudent or practical. The Nine Mile Creek Board of Managers will hold their monthly meeting remotely on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by accessing the web-based conference, or by phone (conference call).

Link will be posted, when available, at: ninemilecreek.org/board-meeting/

Snapshot



Thanks to these Edina Girl Scouts who helped mark stormdrains in their neighborhood! Contact the District to check out stormdrain marking kits, as well as brooms and rakes to help clean out drains in your neighborhood. Thank you also to those who helped pull garlic mustard on the Cardinal Creek trail this April.



Nine Mile Creek Watershed District

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Summer News

District Updates

Apply Now: Habitat Restoration Grants



Do you want to restore native plant habitat? Are you interested in protecting pollinators? Apply for a habitat restoration grant for a project to restore native plant and wildlife habitat. Grants are reimbursed for up to 50% of a project's cost for materials and installation.

Maximum grant award:

- \$3,000 for residential projects
- \$5,000 for townhome, condominium, or lake associations

- \$10,000 for commercial, government, or nonprofit projects

Learn More! Visit: www.ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants

Grant deadlines are July 22 and October 21, 2021. [Apply here](#)



Cost Share Project Inspections

Projects that receive cost share grant funds from the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District have maintenance agreements to make sure the projects get the maintenance they need to continue to function properly. Project have five or ten year maintenance agreements, dependent on project type.

As such, we inspect a subset of grant projects with active maintenance agreements each summer. We take pictures of the project, note the condition the project is in, and, when needed, provide tips to project owner on how to improve any problems we find. For more information on our cost share project inspection process, contact [Erica](#).

Upcoming water quality study on Holiday, Wing, Rose lakes

The District is beginning the process of a water quality study in the Holiday, Wing, and Rose Lakes chain in Minnetonka. This study is called a UAA or Use Attainability Analysis. This study will identify potential water quality improvement projects to improve the overall health of the lakes. This process will be completed in early 2022.



A community meeting will be held in the summer of 2021 to gather feedback with interested people, provide an overview of the upcoming study and goals for future management of the lakes. We will post information on that meeting when it is scheduled here: ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-lakes-study/

Potential for Harmful Algae Blooms (HAB)

Hot days like what we have been experiencing in Minnesota this June are prime conditions for blue green algae blooms. These blooms typically occur later in summer, but the



abnormally early hot weather this year adds to the possibility of earlier blooms. Blue-green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, are a natural part of our freshwater systems, but these algae blooms can become harmful to people and pets. During a blue-green algae bloom, the water may look like it has spilled green paint on the surface. Not all blue-green algae blooms are harmful. However, when conditions are right, these blooms can secrete toxins that are harmful to people and pets. Harmful algae blooms are most likely to occur during warm weather in shallow, nutrient-rich lakes. You and your pets can become sick if you have contact with, inhale airborne water, or swallow water that contains blue-green algal toxins. So, it is best to avoid contact with lakes with potential blue-green algae blooms. Always remember, **when in doubt, best keep out.**

In general, if you suspect a potential blue-green algal bloom, contact the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) or the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

- MPCA lake monitoring staff track reports of potential harmful algae blooms. You can email pictures of the suspected bloom to algae.mpca@state.mn.us or call 651-757-2822 or 800-657-3864 or visit the [MPCA's Blue-Green Algae and Harmful Algal Bloom web page](#).
- Report human health effects to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) [Foodborne and Waterborne Illness Hotline](#) at 1-877-366-3455. For health questions, citizens can contact MDH's Waterborne Diseases Unit at 651-201-5414 or visit the [MDH's Harmful Algal Bloom web page](#).

New notification list

If you would like to be notified when District monitoring detects a blue green algae bloom in a lake in the District during routine monitoring, you can sign up for our new notification list. Check if the lake you frequent is [within our district](#), then email Gael at gzembal@ninemilecreek.org to be put on the list.

Upcoming Events

MPCA Smart Salting for Property Managers

Thursday, July 15, 2021: 9 AM – 1 PM

Live Virtual Training

Topics in this **virtual** MPCA training include:

- Environmental, infrastructure, and vegetation impacts of salt
- Sustainable winter maintenance strategies
- Educating your workforce
- Communicating with property users
- and more!



At the end of training, there will be a voluntary certification test to become MPCA Smart Salting Certified for Property Managers.

[RSVP here](#)

Bike Tour of Nine Mile Creek

Saturday, July 17, 2021: 1-3 PM

Walnut Ridge Park, Edina



RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/bike-tour

Bring your family, friends, and your bike 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.

The tour route will be about 8.5 miles, roundtrip. There are a few hills along the route, but we will take an easy pace. Kids are welcome on the tour. Helmets required.

Beginning Seed Propagation

Wednesday, August 11, 2021: 1-3 PM

In person (Discovery Point) and online

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/seed-propagation

District staff started a native seed propagation experiment in the seed lab of the Discovery Point greenhouse. We had some successes and some failures, and we want to share those with you! We will talk about our process, what worked and what didn't, starting from harvesting the seeds from our landscape, all the way to getting the seeds to grow and where we planted them.



Upcoming Board Meetings

Wednesday, July 21, 2021: 7-9 PM

Wednesday, August 18, 2021: 7-9 PM

Location or virtual to be determined

Go to ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/ for up to date information on board meetings.

Snapshot



At the end of the school year, students, staff and parent volunteers came together to plant a raingarden at Normandale Hills Elementary School in Bloomington. 5th graders helped design the layout of the raingarden, plant the flowers, and even made stepping stones for a path through the garden. District staff will continue to work with Normandale Hills teachers to use the raingarden in their lesson plans.

Special thanks to the MN River Valley Audubon Chapter for the grant that helped fund this project. Learn more about MRVAC here: mrvac.org



**Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District**

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Summer News

In the News

Choose clean lakes for safer swimming



The summer of 2021 is off to a scorching start with record high temperatures and drought affecting most of Minnesota. As the temperatures soar, many have sought relief from the heat at their favorite swimming spots. In the land of 10,000 lakes, one question might be on the mind of swimmers: how do I know I've picked a safe place to swim? With a little bit of research, you can plan your next beach outing with confidence that you're heading to a healthy lake or stream.

MPCA Impaired Waters Viewer

One state-wide resource is a map called the [Impaired Waters Viewer](#), which is maintained by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. A body of water is considered "impaired" by the Minnesota

Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) if it has too much bacteria or nutrient pollution, making it unsuitable for swimming, fishing, or other recreation. At first glance, the Impaired Waters Viewer map may look a bit frightening with so many waterways colored bright red. However, you can click on each lake, river or stream to view important details about the impairment.

When browsing the Impaired Waters Viewer map, click on a lake or river and look for the codes AQC (aquatic consumption), AQL (aquatic life), and AQR (aquatic recreation). For example, Bush Lake in Bloomington is marked as impaired for aquatic consumption due to mercury found in fish tissue. This is one of many lakes where it's best to avoid eating fish caught there, but swimming is perfectly safe. Steer clear of swimming in lakes, rivers, and streams marked AQR until they are no longer impaired.

This article first appeared on Clean Water Minnesota, where you can [read the full article](#).

Cost Share Grants

Restoration grant deadline approaching: apply by July 22



Do you want to restore native plant habitat? Are you interested in protecting pollinators? Apply for a habitat restoration grant by July 22, 2021, for a project to restore native plant and wildlife habitat. Grants are reimbursed for up to 50% of a project's cost for materials and installation.

Maximum grant award:

- \$3,000 for residential projects
- \$5,000 for townhome, condominium, or lake associations
- \$10,000 for commercial, government, or nonprofit projects

Learn More! Visit: www.ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants

Overwhelmed by the idea of starting a native garden? Check out [this article](#) from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for some good tips!

Grant deadlines are July 22 and October 21, 2021. [Apply here](#)

Cost Share Project Spotlight



Before receiving a stewardship cost share grant from the District in 2020, Highlander Townhomes had stormwater flowing over roofs, driveways, and roads before heading to Nine Mile Creek. In winter, there were major safety concerns as ice built up. These infiltration rock channels intercept the problematic stormwater and soak it into the ground.

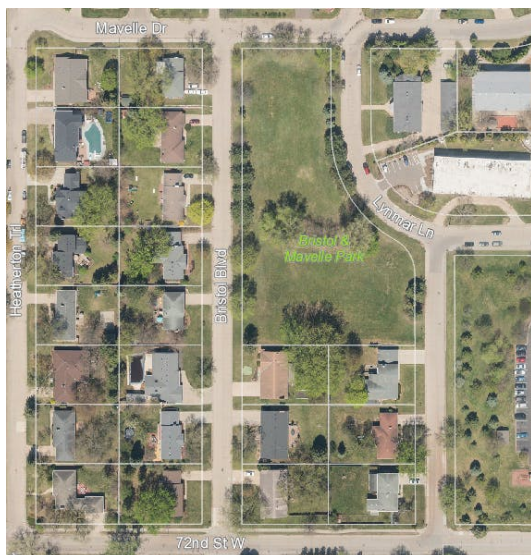
Great job Highlander Townhomes for implementing this unique solution to stormwater runoff and for reducing salt use in the winter!

From project manager Carole— “The rock water channels have performed flawlessly, and we are so grateful our project was selected and able to move forward. We have not needed to use ANY salt on the driveways this winter. All of the water created by the melting snow on our massive roofs has been absorbed by the water channels. Our driveway is no longer a skating rink!”

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. Learn more about the types of grants available at: ninemilecreek.org/grants.

Project Updates

Lynmar Basin/Bristol & Mavelle Park



Share your thoughts

The City of Edina is partnering with the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District to study options for providing stormwater improvements in this park. An in-person community meeting at the park is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13th from 5:30–7:00 PM.

The District and City will have initial design concept ideas available to view. You can share your feedback on planting styles, path locations, green space, and more. Drop in anytime between 5:30–7 PM to talk to staff and help shape the future of this park. If you can't attend in person, take this [short survey](#). You can also view past feedback and other project documents on the Better Together Edina [website](#).

Volunteers needed to help with carp study

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District is working with WSB to conduct carp and goldfish research and management work in Bloomington and Edina. The District wants to decrease the carp and goldfish populations in Normandale Lake (Bloomington) and the Lake Cornelia system (Edina) to improve the health of these lakes. Carp and goldfish are invasive fish that cause harm to lake systems.



This volunteer position will be responsible for baiting fish nets with corn. The corn is designed to aggregate carp and goldfish to the nets, as other fish do not feed on the corn. Once the fish are trained to aggregate in the area, WSB will net and remove the carp or goldfish from the lake. Minimum of one week (Monday–Friday) and approximately 5–10 hours per week. Training and materials will be provided.

Contact Erica if you are interested in volunteering for a week this summer.

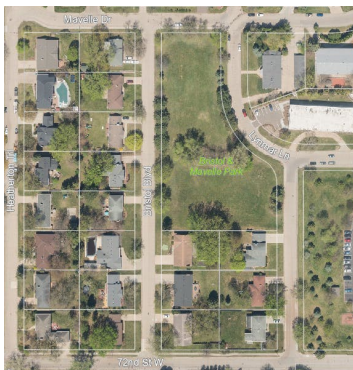
Upcoming Events

Community Meeting for Lynmar Basin

Tuesday, July 13, 2021: 5:30 – 7 PM

Bristol and Mavelle Park, Edina

An in-person community meeting will be held at the park, July 13th from 5:30–7:00PM. District and City of Edina staff will have initial design concepts available to view and seek your feedback.



Learn more at bettertogetheredina.org/bristol-mavelle-park

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RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/bike-tour

Bring your family, friends, and your bike 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.

The tour route will be about 8.5 miles, roundtrip. There are a few hills along the route, but we will take an easy pace. Kids are welcome on the tour. Helmets required.

Beginning Seed Growing

Wednesday, August 11, 2021: 1-3 PM

In person ([Discovery Point](#)) and online

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/seed-propagation

District staff started a native seed propagation experiment in the seed lab of the Discovery Point greenhouse. We had some successes and some failures, and we want to share those with you! We will talk about our process, what worked and what didn't, starting from harvesting the seeds from our landscape, all the way to getting the seeds to grow and where we planted them.



Upcoming Board Meetings

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 : 7-9 PM *Last fully virtual meeting*

Thursday, August 5, 2021: 5:30-7 PM (In-person board workshop at Discovery Point)

Wednesday, August 18, 2021: 7-9 PM (In-person meeting at Discovery Point)

Go to ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/ for up to date information on board meetings.

Snapshot



Check out our two new activities for you and your family to try this summer. If you have little ones, complete the newest edition of the [Junior Watershed Explorer](#) for kids prek-1st grade! They can win prizes, like a sticker or water bottle. Or, do a [water efficiency check](#) of your house to get a free sprinkler timer, faucet aerator, or efficient shower head!



12800 Gerard Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
P. 952-835-2078
ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org
ninemilecreek.org

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



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Fall News

District Updates

We're hiring!



Natural Resources Project and Planning Manager

This new, full-time position is responsible for the development and implementation of watershed projects and the oversight of capital projects. The successful candidate will implement projects that address water quality and flood control issues as well as wetland and natural habitat restorations. They will also coordinate watershed management activities involving other local units of government, city departments, agencies, and private and non-profit sectors in the watershed.

Position Status: Full Time

Reports To: District Administrator

Classification: Exempt (FSLA)

Salary/Hours: \$52,000 – \$97,200, plus paid personal time off, PERA contributions, medical/dental insurance

[SEE FULL POSITION DESCRIPTION](#)

Application

Please send cover letter and resume, along with the names of three references to:

Randy Anhorn

District Administrator

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District

ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org

DEADLINE: Friday, October 1, 2021 at 4:30pm

Non-profit raingarden sites receive educational signs



The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District completed a project in 2020 where priority locations were targeted for stormwater best management practices. The District installed six raingardens at five non-profit sites. Raingardens are shallow basins designed to catch and soak in stormwater as it runs off the land.

The District recently installed educational signs at each of these five sites. The signs explain what a raingarden is, and why we installed them, as well as the specific benefits of each raingarden.

An example is shown above; click on the picture to see each sign, or visit the project locations to see them for yourself!

Raingardens, as part of this project, were installed at:

- **Chapel Hills United Church of Christ:** 6512 Vernon Ave S, Edina
- **Good Samaritan United Methodist Church:** 5730 Grove St, Edina
- **The Church of St. Edward:** 9401 Nesbitt Ave S, Bloomington
- **St. Luke's Lutheran Church/ Mt. Olivet Rolling Acres:** 1701 W Old Shakopee Rd/1601 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington
- **Oak Grove Presbyterian Church:** 2200 W Old Shakopee Rd, Bloomington

This project was funded with NMCWD capital improvement funds, in addition to [Hennepin County](#) and [Clean Water Fund](#) grants. More information on the project is found on our [Current Projects](#) page.

Thanks to all the partners that helped make this project possible:

Planning assistance and project design provided by [Barr Engineering](#)

Interpretive sign design by [The Design Company](#) with graphic support from Barr Engineering

Cost Share Grants

Restoration grant deadline approaching: apply by October 21



Do you want to restore native plant habitat? Are you interested in protecting pollinators? Apply for a habitat restoration grant by October 21, 2021, for a project to restore native plant and wildlife habitat. Grants are reimbursed for up to 50% of a project's cost for materials and installation.

Maximum grant award:

- \$3,000 for residential projects
- \$5,000 for townhome, condominium, or lake associations
- \$10,000 for commercial, government, or nonprofit projects

Learn More! Visit: www.ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants

Attend an information session!

Staff will answer questions about restoration grants and stewardship grants.

Date/Time: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 | 6:30–7:30 PM

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86401303135?pwd=Uk05dGRqVjU3Q0dacStLMW5CeUphdz09>

Now is a great time to start planning a project for spring of 2022! Stewardship grant applications for projects like raingardens and shoreline buffers are due in March every year. Overwhelmed by the idea of starting a native garden? Check out [this article](#) from the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for some good tips!

Grant application deadline October 21, 2021. [Apply here](#)

One of our grantees was recently in the news! Learn more about the Oric Avenue restoration project in Minnetonka! [Sun Sailor article](#)

Project Updates

New story map featuring historical District projects



This story map explains the motives and environmental benefits behind each of the projects

completed since the formation of the Watershed District in 1959.
Check out all our story maps here: ninemilecreek.org/story-map/

Explore

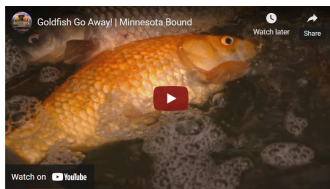
Rosland Park filtration project

Contractors will start work on the Rosland Park project at the end of September, and will mostly be finished by the end of November. Crews will be constructing an above ground filtration system, which will have three different “vaults” inside. These vaults will each have a different, innovative filtration media to filter water from Swimming Pool Pond. After the water is filtered, the cleaner water is released into Lake Cornelia. We will test each of the filtration medias to see which works best to filter out phosphorous, a pollutant that causes algae blooms. We anticipate that the system will be up and running in the spring of 2022 to begin sending cleaner water to Lake Cornelia.



Learn more about this project here: [Rosland Park Filtration Project Update Presentation: June 2021](#)
Full project details available at: [Lake Cornelia & Lake Edina Project Page](#).

Goldfish studies



Our work with [WSB](#) to study and manage goldfish in Lake Cornelia was recently featured on the Minnesota Bound channel!

Click the picture to watch the video (starting at around 1:20), or find the video [here](#).

As part of the larger [Lake Cornelia/Lake Edina improvement project](#), the District has contracted with WSB to conduct studies on the goldfish population in Lake Cornelia.

This includes electrofishing, installing monitoring tags in the fish, removing fish using baited nets, and analyzing the data on fish movements. The analysis will show us if we need to ramp up removal efforts in Lake Cornelia, and which methods are most effective. We will post updated information when it is available on the project page: [Lake Cornelia & Lake Edina Improvement Project](#).

Lynmar Basin/Bristol & Mavelle Park concept plan

LYNMAR BASIN



In implementing this project, our goals are to remove pollutants from the water flowing to Lake Edina and lower the risk of flooding in the streets around the park. Other project goals include improving wildlife habitat, improving recreation within the park, and providing educational opportunities for park users.

The Nine Mile Creek Board of Managers and Edina City Council will be considering an updated concept plan in September. The concept plan consists of digging out the existing basin to lower the bottom and allow more space to store flood water. There will be native plantings, including new trees, as well as a new five foot concrete path along the border for walking. Turf area will be left for recreation activities like playing catching and having picnics.

Learn more at the Better Together Edina [website](#), or the Nine Mile Creek [project page](#).

Upcoming Events

MPCA Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Tuesday, September 21, 2021: 8 AM – 1:30 PM

Live Interactive Training

Topics:

- Environmental, infrastructure, and vegetation impacts of salt
- Sustainable winter maintenance strategies
- Equipment calibration
- Application rates
- De-icing and anti-icing
- Customer and staff educational resources
- and more!



Format: Interactive online – instructors teach class live using WebEx, participants interact with instructors and class using chats, polls, and live class discussion.

Cost: Free to attendees. RPBCWD and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency *with* Clean Water Funds is covering the cost to offer this class.

At the end of training, there will be a voluntary certification test to become MPCA Smart Salting Certified for Property Managers.

RSVP here

Grant Information Session

Tuesday, September 28, 2021: 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Zoom interactive meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86401303135?pwd=Uk05dGRqVjU3Q0dacStLMW5CeUphdz09>



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. A few examples include: raingardens, shoreline buffers, permeable pavers, native restoration, and more!

Do you have questions or want to learn more? Attend this online Cost Share Grant Information Session to hear a presentation on the program and get your questions answered.

Habitat Restoration Grant applications are due October, 21, 2021 by 4 PM. [Apply here](#)

Community Meeting for study on Holiday, Wing, Rose Lakes

Wednesday, September 29, 2021: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Minnetonka Community Center*

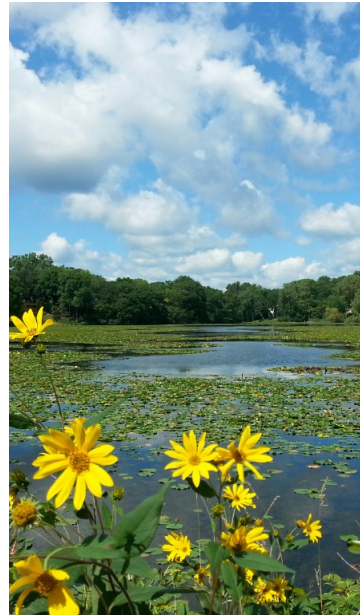
The District is hosting an in-person community meeting at the Minnetonka Community Center to discuss the upcoming water quality study planned for the Lake Holiday, Wing Lake, and Lake Rose chain in Minnetonka.

*As of this newsletter we are planning to be in person. Masks are requested to keep staff and attendees safe. We will monitor the COVID cases, and move to fully online if needed. We will email all registrants if this occurs--please RSVP below to receive updates.

RSVP required at ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-

[community-meeting/](#)

Can't make the meeting, or want to share your input online? [Take this survey](#) for those living in the area of these three lakes. The survey will be open until the beginning of October.



MPCA Smart Salting Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Tuesday, November 9, 2021: 9 AM - 2: 30 PM

Live Interactive Training



Topics:

- Environmental, infrastructure, and vegetation impacts of salt
- Sustainable winter maintenance strategies
- Equipment calibration
- Application rates
- De-icing and anti-icing
- Customer and staff educational resources
- and more!

Format: Interactive online – instructors teach class live using WebEx, participants interact with instructors and class using chats, polls, and live class discussion.

Cost: Free to attendees. NMCWD and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency *with* Clean Water Funds is covering the cost to offer this class.

At the end of training, there will be a voluntary certification test to become [MPCA Smart Salting Certified for Property Managers](#).

RSVP here

Upcoming Board Meetings

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 : 7-9 PM

Wednesday, October 26, 2021: 7-9 PM *note new meeting day*

Upcoming board meetings will take place via Zoom until further notice. The Board of Managers meets every third Wednesday of the month.

Upcoming Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings**Wednesday, October 6, 2021: 7-8 PM****Wednesday, December 1, 2021: 7-8 PM**

Upcoming CAC meetings will take place via Zoom until further notice.

Go to ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/ for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings.

Snapshot



Now is the time to collect common milkweed seeds! The seeds are easier to separate from the fluff when the pods are still slightly green. Check out [this video from Monarch Watch](#) on how to easily remove the seeds. Also, don't forget to come say hi at the Bloomington Farmer's Market on September 25th.

**Nine Mile Creek
Watershed District**12800 Gerard Drive
Eden Prairie, MN 55346
P. 952-835-2078ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org
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The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM on Zoom until further notice.



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