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# Winter News

## District Updates

**2021 Annual Communication**

# NINE MILE CREEK IN 2021

2021 Annual Communication of the  
Nine Mile Creek Watershed District



The [2021 Annual Communication](#) is now available on our website! This seven page report highlights the District's activities and accomplishments of the past year. You can also take a look at the [At a Glance Infographic](#) for a summary.

Those on our mailing list will also get a free copy mailed to them. To request a mailed copy, please contact Education and Outreach Coordinator Gael at [gzembal@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:gzembal@ninemilecreek.org) or 952-204-9691.

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## State of the Waters



Join us for an evening of learning at our annual State of the Waters event.

Join us on zoom for an evening of learning at our annual State of the Waters event. Jordan Wein from WSB will present on recent work regarding goldfish and their impacts on Lake Cornelia. District staff will also share brief highlights from 2021, and where we hope to go in 2022.

#### State of the Waters

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022: 7 PM – 8 PM**

Live webinar

RSVP to get the zoom link below!

[ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/](https://ninemilecreek.org/state-of-waters/)

RSVP

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## We're hiring!

# Summer Internship



Apply by 2/21 at [ninemilecreek.org](https://ninemilecreek.org)

#### Applications due February 21, 2022

Join the Nine Mile team for the summer and develop your knowledge of watershed management, natural resources, and local government, while providing support for the District's education & outreach program and regulatory program.

Applicants should have at least a high school diploma, but those in college or with a bachelors or graduate degree may also apply.

Tasks will include assisting with education and outreach (including social media posts), performing field work and monitoring, and other tasks as assigned.

Interested applicants should send a resume, cover letter, and three references to Gael Zembal at [gzembal@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:gzembal@ninemilecreek.org) by Monday, February 21, 2022.

See the full position description on our website here: [ninemilecreek.org/summer-employment](https://ninemilecreek.org/summer-employment)

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## Cost Share Grants

**Apply now!**



Do you want to capture rainwater on your property? Are you interested in protecting a local lake? 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. Apply for a stewardship grant by Friday, March 18, 2022, for a project to prevent stormwater pollution to our lakes and Nine Mile Creek. Grants are reimbursed for up to 75% of a project's cost for materials and installation.

**Maximum grant award:**

- \$5,000 for residential projects
- \$20,000 for townhome, condominium, or lake associations
- \$50,000 for commercial, government, or nonprofit projects

**Learn More!** Visit: [www.ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants](http://www.ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants)

**Attend an information session!**

Staff will answer questions about restoration grants and stewardship grants.

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 | 6:30–7:30 PM

Meeting URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83912299029?pwd=R2lyQWZ6eFFPN29STGFkSFJyREtTQT09>

Meeting ID: 839 1229 9029

Passcode: 761217

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!

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## Project Updates

### Lynmar basin (Bristol & Mavelle Park) public hearing

#### LYNMAR BASIN



The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District will hold a public hearing to take public comments on the proposed Lynmar Basin Stormwater Retrofit project. Lynmar basin sits within Bristol and Mavelle Park in Edina.

The goals the project are to enhance the park and its natural resources, improve the water quality of Lake Edina and downstream water resources, and reduce flood risk in the South Cornelia neighborhood.

Do you want to give feedback on this proposed project? This is the last formal opportunity to share your thoughts before the watershed Board of Managers considers ordering the project. [Learn more>](#)

#### Public Hearing

**March 3, 2022 | 6:00 PM | Zoom**

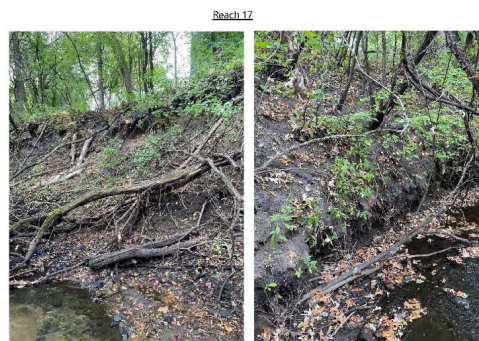
Zoom link available at: [ninemilecreek.org/lynmar](https://ninemilecreek.org/lynmar)

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### Nine Mile Creek's south fork restoration

The District contracted with Emmons and Olivier Resources (EOR) to conduct a stream assessment along 3.3 miles of the south fork of Nine Mile Creek. The south fork flows through Minnetonka, Eden Prairie, Edina, and Bloomington. This assessment helped identify areas of concern where banks were eroding, and habitat for water bugs and fish was degraded.

District staff will work with EOR in the coming months to gather more data on the south fork of the creek, and prepare an engineering report for the Board of Managers to review before ordering a project.



*Picture of a particularly eroded section, taken by EOR during baseline analysis.*

This project follows years of work to stabilize the north fork of the creek, which runs through Hopkins and Edina. With these projects, restoration work has been completed along nearly 4.5 miles of the creek. Other work has also been done on the main stem of Nine Mile Creek in the lower valley. Take a look at our [historical projects Story Map](#) to see the restoration projects we have accomplished since the founding of the watershed district in 1959.

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## Rosland Park Stormwater Filtration BMP Project



Construction on the Rosland Park Stormwater Filtration BMP project finished up in the early winter of 2021. The concrete structure pictured here will hold three different kinds of filtration media, which will filter out the nutrient phosphorous from stormwater before it enters Lake Cornelia. We will monitor the filtration system to see how effective it is at removing phosphorous, and which filter media filters the most from the water. With this project, we hope to improve the quality of the water entering Lake Cornelia. The system is anticipated to be turned on in the spring of 2022.

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

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## Upcoming Events

### Cost Share Grant Information Session

Wednesday, February 9, 2022: 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Zoom interactive meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83912299029?pwd=R2lyQWZ6eFFPN29STGFkSFJyREtTQT09>



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 the online information session on February 9 at 6:30 PM to hear a presentation on the program and get your questions answered.

*Stewardship Grant applications are due March 18, 2022 by 4 PM. [Apply here.](#)*

---

### State of the Waters

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022: 7 - 8 PM**

Live Zoom

Join us for an evening of learning at our annual State of the Waters event.

Jordan Wein from WSB will present on recent work regarding goldfish and their impacts on Lake Cornelia. Following his presentation, there will be time for questions. District staff will also share brief highlights from 2021, and where we hope to go in 2022.



RSVP

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022 : 7-9 PM**

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022: 7-9 PM**

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, February 2, 2022: 7-8 PM**

**Wednesday, April 6, 2022: 7-8 PM**

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

Go to [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](http://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/) for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings and zoom meeting links.

## Partner news

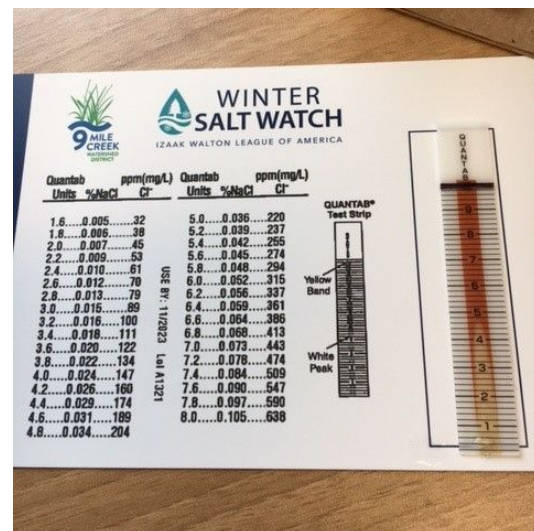


**Take a better approach to water softening**  
Many homeowners assume their water needs to be softened, but in certain cities throughout the metro, water is centrally treated before it reaches homes and businesses. Here are concrete steps you can take to reduce your salt use at home.

1. Test your waters hardness and streamline softening.
2. Upgrade your water softener.
3. Shovel first, and salt sparingly when the snow flies.

Read the full article on Clean Water MN [here](#).

## Snapshot



The Discovery Point seed lab is starting up again! We will use these butterfly weed plants to fill in bare spots in our native plant gardens, and select projects around the watershed. Our Salt Watch volunteers are still getting outside this winter and collecting samples of road runoff to test for chloride going into stormdrains.



12800 Gerard Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
P. 952-835-2078  
[ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org)  
[ninemilecreek.org](http://ninemilecreek.org)

meets the third Wednesday of  
each month at 7:00 PM on  
Zoom until further notice.



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## Think Spring

### Cost Share Grants

**Stewardship project grant application deadline March 18**



Applications for stewardship grants are due this **Friday, March 18th by 4 pm**. Stewardship grant applications are for projects like raingardens and shoreline buffers. Grants are reimbursed for up to 75% of a project's cost for materials and installation.

### Maximum grant award:

- \$5,000 for residential projects
- \$20,000 for townhome, condominium, or lake associations
- \$50,000 for commercial, government, or nonprofit projects

**Learn More!** Visit: [www.ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants](http://www.ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants)

Application here: [www.ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/applications/](http://www.ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/applications/)

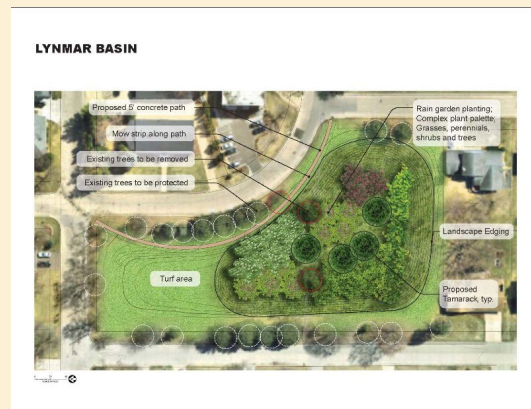
### Upcoming grant deadlines

Habitat restoration grants are for projects that restore native plant and wildlife habitat and lead to a healthier ecosystem. Examples of projects include prairie and woodland restorations. Deadlines for these types of projects are May 16th and August 11th. Learn more at: [www.ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/restoration-grants/](http://www.ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/grants/restoration-grants/)

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## Project Updates

### Lynmar Basin (Bristol & Mavelle Park) Retrofit Project



A public hearing for the Lynmar Basin Stormwater Retrofit project was held on March 3, 2022. Thank you to all the interested residents that attended. The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers will consider whether to order the project at its March 16, 2022, regular board meeting that begins at 7 PM. To attend this virtual board meeting, use the zoom link on the [March 16th meeting page](#).

The goals of the project are to enhance the park and its natural resources, improve the water quality of Lake Edina and downstream water resources, and reduce flood risk. Learn more. Read the project [feasibility report](#).

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## Upcoming Events

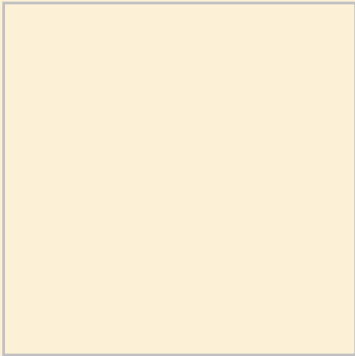
### Shallow Lakes Webinar-Save the Date!

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022: 6:30-8 PM**

Webinar

Save the date! Learn more about shallow lakes and their functions and values. What does a shallow lake look like, and why are plants so important in a shallow lake? What are the rules and regulations regarding shallow lakes?

Learn from the scientists at Barr Engineering during this webinar presented on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, from 6:30-8 PM. Mark your calendars now, and check back soon for more information and



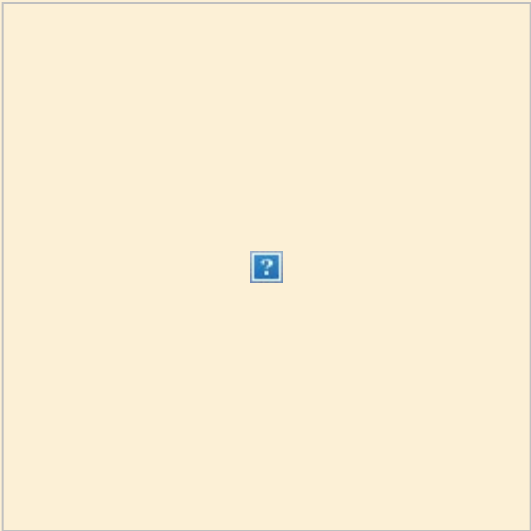
registration at: [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](https://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/).

**Jumping Worms: Stop the Spread**

**Thursday, April 14, 2022: 7 - 8 PM**

Live Zoom Webinar

In this presentation, Julia Vanatta will share what is known thus far about jumping worms. She will also share tips for managing our gardens to protect them from jumping worms and other unwanted guests. These best practices will hopefully become the new normal, protecting our gardens and natural areas from accidental introduction of invasive species.



RSVP

**MPCA Turfgrass Managment Training**

**Thursday, April 28, 2022: 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Live Webex Training



Attend this training to learn about best practices for managing turfgrass (mowing, seeding, fertilizer and pesticide application, and more). These practices will help you save time and money while protecting local lakes, rivers and habitat.

An optional certification test is offered at the end of the workshop to earn Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Level I Certification in Turfgrass Maintenance Best Practices. A list of certified individuals can be found on the MPCA's [website](#).

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Private Maintenance and Landscaping Contractors
- Property Managers
- Schools
- Park Departments

You will walk away with practical in-the-field materials you can use, such as a turf care matrix.

RSVP

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### Arrowhead Lake and Indianhead Lake Community Meeting

**April 19, 2022, 6:30-8:00 PM**

Edina Public Works: 7450 Metro Blvd. Edina

District and city staff and Barr engineers will meet with interested residents in April about the results of the Arrowhead and Indianhead Lakes Water Quality Study, which will be finalized and posted on the [project page](#) shortly.

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022: 7-9 PM**

**Thursday, April 7, 2022: 5:30-7 PM (Workshop)**

**Wednesday, April 20, 2022: 7-9 PM**

Upcoming board meetings and workshops 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, April 6, 2022: 7-8 PM**

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

Go to [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](https://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/) for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings and zoom meeting links.



**Nine Mile Creek**

**Watershed District**

12800 Gerard Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
P. 952-835-2078

[ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:ranhorn@ninemilecreek.org)

[ninemilecreek.org](https://ninemilecreek.org)

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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## Summer Updates

### Photo Contest open!

**Enter your best photos for the watershed's photo contest**



We are seeking pictures of Nine Mile Creek or anything within the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, including lakes, parks, wildlife, plants, and outdoor recreation.

Winners of the contest will have their photos published in the 2023 Nine Mile Creek Photo Calendar. The calendars are distributed free of charge throughout the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

### Official Rules:

Photos that do not meet these requirements will not be accepted.

- Photos must be taken within the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District within the past 5 years.
- Photographers may submit a maximum of 15 photos.
- Photos must be:
  - **Horizontal** format/orientation
  - At least 300 dpi
  - TIF, PNG, or JPEG format (only digital photos will be accepted)
  - Unenhanced, except for standard optimization (cropping, correcting color balance, etc.)
- Photos should accurately represent the reality of the photographed scene.
- Photographers must know the names and addresses of all identifiable people in the photo.
- Photographers must submit a completed entry form and sign the grant of photo license.

**Learn More!** Visit: [ninemilecreek.org/photo-contest](https://ninemilecreek.org/photo-contest)

**Submission deadline is September 23, 2022 by 4 pm.**

You can upload photos directly with this form here: [ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/2022-photo-contest-entry-form/](https://ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/2022-photo-contest-entry-form/)

2019 Photo Calendar Cover by Aldo Abelleira

## Cost Share Grants

### Habitat restoration funding still available



The second round of funding for habitat restoration grant applications closes August 11. Visit our [Grants](#) page to find grant guidelines, information on grant match, eligible project types, and the application.

Learn more at: [ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants](https://ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants)

## Project Updates

### Volunteers needed for carp monitoring

Volunteers are needed to help monitor carp in Normandale Lake this summer. The District is working with WSB to conduct carp research and management work in Bloomington's Normandale Lake. The District wants to decrease the carp population to help improve the health of this lake. Carp are invasive fish that cause harm to lake

systems. Volunteers are responsible for baiting fish nets with corn. The corn is designed to aggregate carp to the nets, as other fish do not feed on the corn.



This volunteer project requires people to pick up a 50 pound bag of corn. Volunteers must also be able to walk a half mile to one mile, and work in soft lake bottom sediments while wearing hip waders. Check out this short YouTube video on carp baiting: [youtube.com/watch?v=31UIOgeuwxY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31UIOgeuwxY)

Materials will be provided by the District. Time commitment is approximately 1-2 hours every day for up to 5 days between July and September. Fill out this form if you are interested in participating: [Volunteer Carp Baiting](#). Email Ani at [intern@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:intern@ninemilecreek.org) with questions.

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## Rosland Park BMP project



Construction and planting has finished for the Rosland Park project in Edina. A multi-chamber filtration vault was installed at this park to help filter water going to nearby Lake Cornelia. District staff and Barr engineers are performing final checks on the pumps and filtration vaults to make sure they are working properly. Visitors to Rosland Park will see a mound by the parking lot by the playground, with plants surrounding the grated vault openings. Pipes coming out will allow us to check the water coming out of each type of filter to see which one is best at removing phosphorous, a nutrient that can cause algae blooms.

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## South fork of Nine Mile Creek restoration

This streambank restoration project will stabilize and improve stretches of Nine Mile Creek in Eden Prairie and Bloomington. The project will result in improved stream health, stabilized stream banks, and improved habitat. A stable creek channel will also benefit fish and other aquatic life in the creek.

An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) has been released for review and comment for the South Fork Nine Mile Creek Bank



Stabilization Project located in Eden Prairie and Bloomington.

The EAW is available for review online at [ninemilecreek.org/southfork](https://ninemilecreek.org/southfork) through July 28, 2022. The District will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 5:30 PM at Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Office (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie, MN, 55346) at which oral comments may be made.

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### **Holiday, Wing, and Rose chain of lakes water quality study**



Barr Engineering Company (Barr) staff presented the results of the Holiday, Wing, Rose Lakes water quality study to the public on June 22. These three lakes are located in the southwestern portion of the city of Minnetonka. Protecting and enhancing the water quality of the lakes within the Nine Mile Creek watershed is one of the primary goals of the District. Using monitoring data collected by NMCWD in recent years (2019 and 2020), the objectives of this water quality study were to assess or “diagnose” the lakes’ water quality problems, understand the cause(s) of the problems, and recommend management strategies to improve the water quality and overall health of the lakes.

At the recent public meeting, Barr shared management recommendations for improving the health of these three lakes, along with a timeline of next steps, and answered residents' questions. Read the water quality study summary on our website: [ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-lakes-study](https://ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-lakes-study).

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### **Lynmar Basin (Bristol & Mavelle Park) Retrofit Project**



### LYNMAR BASIN STORMWATER RETROFIT PROJECT - PROPOSED

Construction on the Lynmar Basin raingarden project is anticipated to begin in the fall of this year. The above rendering shows where new trees will be planted, with a mix of many different flowers on the outside where the dashed contour lines are. This raingarden will take in stormwater from streets surrounding Bristol/Mavelle Park in Edina and the plants long roots will help filter the pollution out.

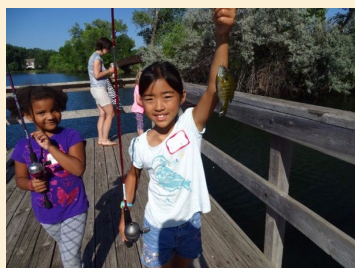
The goals of the project are to enhance the park and its natural resources, improve the water quality of Lake Edina and downstream water resources, and reduce flood risk. Read the project [feasibility report](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Family Fishing at Shady Oak Lake

**Saturday, July 16, 2022: 10 AM - 12 PM**

Shady Oak Lake Park



We are partnering with Minnesota Trout Unlimited to offer two family fishing skills programs this summer. We invite you to join us for a few hours of fun, learning, and meeting other anglers. This program will cover all the basics, including how to set up a rod, put on bait, tie on a fly, cast like a pro, and take fish off your hook. All equipment is provided. Guardians and youth over 16 years old will need to [buy a MN fishing license](#).

This is a free event; however, participants wishing to swim at the beach after the program will need to buy a [beach entrance pass](#).

**RSVP**

### Family Fishing Bush Lake

**Saturday August 13, 2022: 20 AM - 12 PM**

Bush Lake Fishing Pier

This is the second of the family fishing series. MN Trout Unlimited will offer a free family fishing clinic. All equipment is provided. Guardians and youth over 16 years old will need to [buy a MN fishing license](#).



RSVP

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Wednesday, July 20, 2022: 7-9 PM**

**Thursday, August 4, 2022: 5:30-7 PM (Workshop)**

**Wednesday, August 17, 2022: 7-9 PM**

Upcoming board meetings and workshops will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie.

### Upcoming Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings

**Wednesday, August 3, 2022: 7-8 PM**

Upcoming CAC meetings will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie.

Go to [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](https://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/) for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings and zoom meeting links.

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## Snapshots



School raingardens was the theme of our spring! Normandale Hills Elementary students helped pull weeds, plant new flowers, and install a fence around their raingarden (they also enjoyed finding worms

and insects). Students in the Green Club at Kennedy High School dug and planted their new raingarden in one day in late May. Both of these raingardens received grant funding from the MN River Valley Audubon Chapter: find out more at [mrvac.org](http://mrvac.org).

## Around the Watershed

### Blue-green algae: when in doubt, keep out



It's summer in Minnesota, and that means hot temperatures and humidity. But, it can also mean drier conditions and blue-green algae blooms. These algae tend to grow in lakes when it's hot and dry; they look like paint spilled on the water. Some of these blooms can develop toxins that are harmful to humans and pets. It's not easy to tell by looking if a blue-green algae bloom is toxic, so when in doubt, best keep out. If you suspect a blue-green algae 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](mailto:algae.mPCA@state.mn.us), call 651-757-2822 or 800-657-3864.



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## Summer Updates

### Cost Share Grants

**Get applications in by August 11**



The second round of funding for habitat restoration grant applications closes August 11. Visit our [Grants](#) page to find grant guidelines, information on grant match, eligible project types, and the application. Projects that are approved for funding can start this fall, after an agreement is signed, or next spring!

Learn more at: [ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants](https://ninemilecreek.org/restoration-grants)

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2019 Photo Calendar Cover by Aldo Abelleira

## Upcoming Events

### Family Fishing Bush Lake

**Saturday August 13, 2022: 10 AM - 12 PM**

West Bush Lake Park, near Shelter 2 ([9401 W Bush Lake Rd, Bloomington, MN 55438](#))

MN Trout Unlimited will offer a free family fishing clinic. We invite you to join us for a few hours of fun, learning, and meeting other anglers. This program will cover all the basics, including how to set up a rod, put on bait, tie on a fly, cast like a pro, and take fish off your hook.

All equipment is provided. People over 16 years old who want to fish will need to [buy a MN fishing license](#).



RSVP

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## Project Updates

### Rosland Park BMP project



To address pollutants entering Lake Cornelia, the District installed a stormwater filtration vault in [Edina's Rosland Park](#). It filters phosphorus from stormwater entering Lake Cornelia. Phosphorous occurs naturally and is necessary for plant growth, but too much of it can lead to algae blooms. Excess phosphorus comes from human activities and changes on the landscape, among other sources. Last month, the filtration system was turned on, filtering dirty water and sending much cleaner water to Lake Cornelia.

Visitors to the filtration vault can look down through the grates on top of the vault (located near the volleyball court) to see water flowing through the system. This water comes from the pond directly to the east of Lake Cornelia. The filter removes phosphorous, and the cleaner water comes out spouts in the front of the system and then travels to Lake Cornelia.

Though the water is filtered, it is not treated for drinking. Do not drink or play in the water from these spouts or allow pets to drink the water.

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## South fork of Nine Mile Creek restoration

The proposed project on the south fork of Nine Mile Creek will use streambank restoration techniques including reconnecting the creek to the floodplain, work to limit the creek channel from deepening, installation of habitat structures in the creek for fish and other aquatic life, and planting native flowers and grasses along the streambanks.

This work will happen on five reaches of Nine Mile Creek in Eden Prairie and Bloomington.

A mandatory EAW was undertaken for this proposed project.

The District will hold a public hearing on Wednesday August 17, 2022, at 6:30 PM at Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Office (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie, MN, 55346) to receive comments on the proposed project and to determine if an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is needed for the proposed project. For more information on the project visit: [ninemilecreek.org/southfork](https://ninemilecreek.org/southfork).



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## Recreational Water Advisory

### Lake Cornelia, Edina



The public should avoid contact with the water in Lake Cornelia, Edina. The water contains blue-green algae at levels that may cause short-term and long-term harm including skin irritation, gastrointestinal problems, and/or liver damage. People and pets should avoid all contact with the water, scum, or algae.

Analysis of most recent water samples that the District took from Lake Cornelia on August 2, 2022, indicate blue-green algae numbers that exceed the World Health Organization (WHO) threshold for moderate probability of adverse health risks from algal toxins.

If you would like to be put on the notification list for watershed blue-green algae blooms, please contact Education and Outreach Coordinator, Gael at [gzembal@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:gzembal@ninemilecreek.org).

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](mailto:algae.mPCA@state.mn.us), call 651-757-2822 or 800-657-3864.

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Wednesday, August 17, 2022: 7-9 PM**

**Thursday, September 1, 2022: 5:30-7 PM (Workshop)**  
**Wednesday, September 21, 2022: 7-9 PM**

Upcoming board meetings and workshops will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie.

**Upcoming Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2022: 7-8 PM**

Upcoming CAC meetings will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie.

Go to [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](https://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/) for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings and zoom meeting links.



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The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District office (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie, MN, 55346).



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# District Updates

## Photo Contest

**Deadline extended to September 26th!**



We are seeking pictures of Nine Mile Creek or anything within the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District, including lakes, parks, wildlife, plants, and outdoor recreation.

Winners of the contest will have their photos published in the 2023 Nine Mile Creek Photo Calendar. The calendars are distributed free of charge throughout the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

**Official Rules:**

Photos that do not meet these requirements will not be accepted.

- Photos must be taken within the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District within the past 5 years.
- Photographers may submit a maximum of 15 photos.
- Photos must be:
  - **Horizontal** format/orientation
  - At least 300 dpi
  - TIF, PNG, or JPEG format (only digital photos are accepted)
  - Unenhanced, except for standard optimization (cropping, correcting color balance, etc.)
- Photos should accurately represent the reality of the photographed scene.
- Photographers must know the names and addresses of all identifiable people in the photo.
- Photographers must submit a completed entry form and sign the grant of photo license.

**Learn More!** Visit: [ninemilecreek.org/photo-contest](http://ninemilecreek.org/photo-contest)

**Submission deadline has been extended to September 26, 2022 by 8am.**

You can upload photos directly here: [ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/2022-photo-contest-entry-form/](http://ninemilecreek.wufoo.com/forms/2022-photo-contest-entry-form/)

2021 Photo Calendar Cover by Paul Raymaker

## Upcoming Events

### **MPCA Smart Salting for Property Managers**

**Tuesday, October 4, 2022: 9 AM - 1:30 PM**

Interactive Online

This training offers ways to take a broader look at your winter maintenance strategies to discover untapped improvement areas. Learn about the hidden costs of salt use on all surfaces, recognize sustainable and efficient maintenance practices utilized on your property, the permanent environmental impacts of chloride pollution, liability issues, and funding resources. Also access tools and strategies that may assist staff, customers, and building users to use properties safely and responsibly.



**RSVP**

### **Raingarden and Shoreline Buffer Workshop**

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022: 6:30-8 PM**

Discovery Point (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie)

Learn how raingardens and buffer plantings can capture stormwater runoff on your property, reducing water pollution and absorbing more water into the soil. [Register at minnetonkamn.gov/nrevents](https://minnetonkamn.gov/nrevents)

This event is in partnership with the City of Minnetonka and Riley



Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District.

**MPCA Smart Salting for Parking Lots and Sidewalks**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022: 8 AM - 1:30 PM**

Interactive Online

Learn how to integrate science with practical, more efficient winter maintenance practices on parking lots and sidewalks – that can help save on costs and time, while minimizing environmental impacts. Passing the optional test at the end of training earns you the MPCA Smart Salting for Parking Lots and Sidewalks Certification and a listing on the MPCA training website.



RSVP

**Project Updates**

**Lynmar Basin construction**



The Lynmar Basin, located in Bristol/Mavelle Park in Edina currently serves as a dry pond with minimal water quality benefits to the surrounding 20-acre residential watershed. This location was identified as a site to implement a stormwater best management practice to reduce pollution flowing into downstream Lake Edina. The goals of retrofitting this site with a stormwater practice are to enhance water quality treatment within the park through increased infiltration and reduce flood risk for nearby properties. Other project goals include improving natural resources and wildlife habitat, enhancing recreation opportunities within the park, and providing educational opportunities for park users.

Construction is slated to begin in mid-September 2022, when the basin will be regraded and necessary tree removal will occur, and storm sewer infrastructure will be upgraded to redirect runoff from an expanded 36-acre drainage area to the basin. By building the basin deeper and promoting greater infiltration, the project is estimated to soak in approximately 29 acre-feet of water annually and will remove about 24 pounds of annual phosphorus from the watershed. The retrofit project will be stabilized over winter and will be planted in the spring of 2023 with around 12,000 climate resilient plants and trees. These plants are better able to handle long periods of drought or rain.

For more information on the project, please visit: [ninemilecreek.org/lynmar/](https://ninemilecreek.org/lynmar/).

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## Non-profit raingarden maintenance trainings

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District targeted priority locations for stormwater best management practices on lands owned by nonprofits for this project. The District installed six stormwater best management practices at five sites in Bloomington and Edina.

Staff have recently been working with our nonprofit partners to teach them how to maintain the raingardens that were installed. District contractors maintained the raingardens for the



first two years as the plants were establishing, but teams from each nonprofit are taking over maintenance now. They are learning how to weed, clean out the inlets, and much more.

We have raingarden maintenance videos on our YouTube channel! A 15 minute video explains why raingardens are important, what maintenance looks like, and when you might need to reassess. Watch it on our YouTube channel here:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=65wBePj5v0U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65wBePj5v0U)

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## South fork of Nine Mile Creek restoration

The proposed project on the south fork of Nine Mile Creek will use streambank restoration techniques including reconnecting the creek to the floodplain, installation of habitat structures in the creek for fish and other aquatic life, and planting native flowers and grasses along the streambanks. This work will happen on five reaches of Nine Mile Creek in Eden Prairie and Bloomington. For more information on the project visit: [ninemilecreek.org/southfork](https://ninemilecreek.org/southfork).



At the regular Board Meeting on August 17, 2022, the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District board decided that preparing an Environmental Impact Statement was not necessary after reviewing the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). The next steps are project permitting this fall and preparing for construction in the spring of 2023 (timing of construction could change due to contractor availability and weather conditions).

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## Water Quality Study on Holiday, Wing, and Rose Lakes

The water quality study for Lake Holiday, Wing Lake, and Lake Rose in Minnetonka has been finalized. You can read the full study and a summary here: [ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-lakes-study](https://ninemilecreek.org/holiday-wing-rose-lakes-study)

The next steps are to further investigate the potential management actions outlined in the study and have a feasibility study prepared by our engineering firm, Barr Engineering Co. The



feasibility study allows our board of managers to order projects for implementation.

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### Normandale Lake carp management

WSB and Nine Mile staff, along with amazing volunteers, wrapped up a successful season of carp management on Normandale Lake in Bloomington in early September. Carp are an invasive species of fish that cause water quality problems due to their bottom feeding behavior. They stir up lake bottom sediments, reducing water clarity and releasing phosphorus. They also uproot aquatic vegetation, destroying habitat for waterfowl and aquatic communities. Stay tuned later this winter for a report on the outcomes from this years' carp management activities.



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### Cost Share Spotlight



It has been almost a year since Laura Butt's rain garden was installed, and it is blossoming! —quite literally. This 20 x 40 foot rain garden collects water from the roof and property and quickly soaks it into the ground. Within 12 hours after a storm, this rain garden is drained and has treated all the stormwater from the property. The stormdrains near Laura's house in Bloomington lead to Nine Mile Creek; her project helps keep Nine Mile Creek's waters cleaner—and her neighbors have noticed the great work!

Laura Butts— "We have had so many curious neighbors stop by during the formation of our rain garden wanting to know about our project. I had typed up some information about rain gardens and would pass them out any time someone stopped by to chat. Since completing the rain garden, I've had so many compliments on my garden. One neighbor said she was able to talk her partner into adding natives to their backyard after she could show that natives can be beautiful as well as productive. Another neighbor said she's changed the path she takes through our neighborhoods so that she can walk past my garden every night. It's been so rewarding to see how much enjoyment it's brought to our neighbors and how many people have been encouraged to add native plants to their yards as well. It brings me joy that we have so many pollinators visit our rain garden each day. We've had so much growth in this first year alone and we can't wait to see how it develops in the years to come."

This project was funded through our Stewardship Grant Program. Learn more, and how you can apply for a grant, at: [ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants](https://ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants)

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#### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Wednesday, September 17, 2022: 7-9 PM**

**Thursday, October 6, 2022: 5:30-7 PM (Workshop)**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2022: 7-9 PM**

#### Upcoming Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings

**Wednesday, October 5, 2022: 7-8 PM**

Upcoming CAC meetings will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard

Drive, Eden Prairie.

Upcoming board meetings, workshops, and CAC meetings will take place in person at Nine Mile Creek Discovery Point, 12800 Gerard Drive, Eden Prairie.

Go to [ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/](https://ninemilecreek.org/whats-happening/upcoming-events/) for up to date information on Board and CAC meetings and hybrid join options, when available.

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## Snapshot



The recent rainstorms caused a double rainbow in Bloomington; parent volunteer Beth captured this picture of the rainbow ending at Normandale Hills Elementary, showcasing some blazingstar flowers in the new raingarden.

The filtration system at Rosland Park in Edina is working, and water levels in Lake Cornelia are low enough to see the clean water plume entering the lake from the filters.

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## District Updates

### Now hiring

**Seeking applications for Regulatory Program Manager**



The Regulatory Program Manager is responsible for overseeing the permitting program for the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. The permitting program's purpose is to protect water and natural resources

from degradation related to land use change. The individual will lead a team made up of staff and consultants in administering the permitting program. The individual will also work to identify and build partnerships among stakeholders to improve regulatory coordination, review and improve regulatory processes, and work to achieve natural resource protection beyond regulation alone.

Applications are due November 4, 2022.

Find job description, qualifications, and application instructions at [ninemilecreek.org/hiring-regulatory-program-manager/](https://ninemilecreek.org/hiring-regulatory-program-manager/)

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## Upcoming Events

### Raingarden and Shoreline Buffer Workshop

**Tuesday, October 25, 2022: 6:30-8 PM**

Discovery Point (12800 Gerard Dr, Eden Prairie)



Learn how raingardens and buffer plantings can capture stormwater runoff on your property, reducing water pollution and absorbing more water into the soil. [Register at minnetonkamn.gov/nrevents](https://minnetonkamn.gov/nrevents)

This event is in partnership with the City of Minnetonka and Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District.

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### Restoring your Shoreline (partner event)

**Wednesday, November 10, 2022: 7 PM**

Virtual, hosted by Wild Ones

Wild Ones Prairie Edge has monthly meetings about topics of interest to gardeners and native plant enthusiasts. Join Natural Shore Technologies Maintenance Coordinators Tracy and Martina as they share their shoreline restoration process- together we can restore and maintain the Minnesota shoreline miles we love.



Learn more: [www.wildonesprairieedge.org/meetings.html](https://www.wildonesprairieedge.org/meetings.html)

**Click on the following Zoom link at 7 pm, Wednesday, November 9th to join the meeting:**

<https://wildones-org.zoom.us/j/89967016868?pwd=SmRuM2tCRG9FZVNwdG5icFNmekphQT09>

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### MPCA Smart Salting for Parking Lots and Sidewalks \*class full\*

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022: 8 AM - 1:30 PM**

Interactive Online

Learn how to integrate science with practical, more efficient winter maintenance practices on parking lots and sidewalks – that can help save on costs and time, while minimizing environmental impacts. Passing the optional test at the end of training earns you the MPCA Smart Salting for Parking Lots and Sidewalks

Certification and a listing on the MPCA training website.



## Cost Share Grants



Winter is a great time to plan out a raingarden, shoreline buffer, or habitat restoration project for next summer. Watch this 30-minute information session to learn about grants available through the Nine Mile Creek Watershed District to fund projects that protect local water resources. The video also goes through how to apply for a grant and answers common questions. The information session is available for viewing at: [ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants/](https://ninemilecreek.org/stewardship-grants/)

## Project Updates

### Lynmar Basin construction



The Lynmar Basin, located in Bristol/Mavelle Park in Edina currently serves as a dry pond with minimal water quality benefits to the surrounding 20-acre residential watershed. This location was identified as a site to implement a stormwater best management practice to reduce pollution flowing into downstream Lake Edina. The goals of retrofitting this site with a stormwater practice are to enhance water quality treatment within the park through increased infiltration and reduce flood risk for nearby properties. Other project goals include improving natural resources and wildlife habitat, enhancing recreation opportunities within the park, and providing educational opportunities for park users.

Construction is currently underway on the project. The basin has been regraded with upgrades to the storm sewer infrastructure occurring, as well. With these changes, an expanded area of 36 acres will drain to the basin. By building the basin deeper and promoting greater infiltration, the project is estimated to soak in approximately 29 acre-feet of water annually and will remove about 24 pounds of annual phosphorus from the watershed. The project will be stabilized over winter and will be planted in the spring of 2023 with around 12,000 climate resilient plants and trees. These plants are better able to handle long periods of drought or rain. For more information on the project, visit: [ninemilecreek.org/lynmar](https://ninemilecreek.org/lynmar).

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Thursday, November 3, 2022: 5:30-7 PM (Workshop)**

**Wednesday, November 16, 2022: 7-9 PM**

### Upcoming Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings

**Wednesday, December 7, 2022: 7-8 PM**

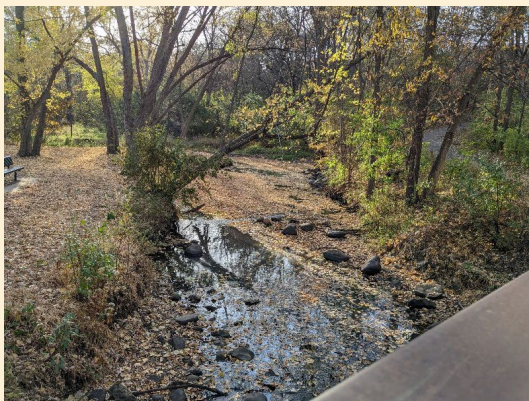
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## Snapshot



While out visiting Nine Mile Creek, MN GreenCorps Member Alissa snapped this photo showing how low the creek can get in drought situations like we've had this year. Staff were also lucky enough to witness a Great Horned Owl on a successful hunt in the backyard of our office.

---



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