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Volunteer Opportunities

Garlic Mustard bust

Tuesday, April 26, 2022: 5:30-7:30 PM | [Discovery Point](#)



No experience needed! Come learn how to remove garlic mustard, and help us clear an area of the Cardinal Creek Trail that was recently cleared of buckthorn.

This event will be in-person, and masks are recommended when indoors. Limit 20 participants.

Box dinners from Deli Double will be provided for volunteers-please fill out RSVP form so we can get an accurate count for food.

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/garlic-mustard-bust/

Valley Park Creek Cleanup

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 1-3 PM | [Hopkins' Valley Park](#)

Help pick up trash along Nine Mile Creek in Valley Park, Hopkins. Gloves, high visibility vests, bags and trash grabbers will be provided. Please fill out the form so we know how much of the equipment to bring.

This is a partnership with the City of Hopkins and

Hopkins Police Department.

RSVP here: ninemilecreek.org/valley-park-creek-cleanup/



Volunteer on your schedule: continuous opportunities

Adopt a Creek

Sections in Hopkins, Eden Prairie, and Bloomington

ninemilecreek.org/adopt-a-creek



Check out this new program! We have 6 stretches along Nine Mile Creek that need your help with trash pick up. We need volunteers to adopt these creek stretches to stop trash from flowing into the creek and harming aquatic life.

Adoptions only require one aggressive pick up in early spring before plants start to grow. Check-ins throughout the spring and summer are encouraged. We also ask that you report how many trash bags you collect.

You can see a map of the sections, as well as a sign-up form and reporting form at our website: ninemilecreek.org/adopt-a-creek

Adopt a Drain

On a street near you

mn.adopt-a-drain.org

Volunteer fifteen minutes, twice a month, for cleaner waterways and healthier communities. Storm drains flow directly to local lakes, rivers, and wetlands, acting as a conduit for trash and organic pollutants. Adopt-a-Drain asks residents to adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution.

Sign up to adopt your drain at: mn.adopt-a-drain.org



If you don't have the right tools, you can borrow some from Nine Mile Creek. We have rakes, brooms, dustpans, and garbage bags. Email Gael at gzembal@ninemilecreek.org to borrow any of these items.

Drain marking--select cities only

If your drain is within the Nine Mile Creek watershed in Bloomington, Edina, or Eden Prairie, you could also consider applying a "no dumping" sticker to remind people that it drains to the creek. These stickers can only be applied when it's over 50 degrees outside. Email Gael at gzembal@ninemilecreek.org to borrow a storm drain marking kit. All needed equipment is included in the kit.

Carp baiting

Weekly, throughout the summer



We are working with WSB to conduct carp research and management work on Normandale Lake in Bloomington. The District wants to decrease the carp population in Normandale Lake to improve its health. Carp are invasive fish that harm lake systems. This volunteer position will be 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. Once the fish are trained to aggregate in the area, WSB will net and remove the carp from the lake.

Volunteers should plan to commit a minimum of one week (Monday-Friday) and approximately 5-10 hours per week between June and August.

Email Erica at esniegowski@ninemilecreek.org to express interest and get your name on the list. We will be contacting volunteers to schedule their week in late spring.

Trash cleanups

If you have a group that wants to pick up trash, we have equipment you can borrow. We have trash grabbers, work gloves (adult and child sizes), high visibility safety vests, cones, and heavy duty trash bags. Let us know if you have a location in mind, and we can work out loaning the equipment to you.



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

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM on Zoom until further notice.



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Volunteer Opportunities

Fisheries (Carp) Management Opportunity

Volunteers needed weekly through September



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 with questions.

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mn.adopt-a-drain.org

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Volunteer spotlight

Adopt a Dock volunteers watch for invasive species

Lakeshore residents on Bryant Lake, Bush Lake, and Lake Cornelia are on the lookout for invasive species. Specifically, they are monitoring for zebra mussels, which can attach to hard surfaces, clogging pipes and cutting up people's feet.

These volunteers fasten zebra mussel detection plates to their dock, and check them once a month for mussels. So far, only Bryant Lake has zebra mussels, and we are using the volunteers data to learn about the population's spread and density.

Thanks to the hard work of all these volunteers!



Learn more about Adopt a Dock and other volunteer opportunities at ninemilecreek.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities/



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