



Water Resource Education Program

Brown's Creek Watershed • Carnelian-Marine St. Croix Watershed
Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed • Cottage Grove • Dellwood
Forest Lake • Lake Elmo • Middle St. Croix Watershed
Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed • Rice Creek
Watershed • Stillwater • South Washington Watershed
Valley Branch Watershed • West Lakeland • Washington
Conservation District • Washington County • Willernie

EMWREP is a dynamic partnership of city, watershed and county government working to improve the quality of lakes, streams, rivers and groundwater resources in the east metro area through education and outreach.

To find workshops and events in your area, schedule a free site visit at your home or apply for cost-share \$\$ for native plantings, raingardens and shoreline projects, visit:

www.mnwcd.org/cleanwater.

Water Resources in the East Metro Region

Bound by the Wild and Scenic St. Croix River on the east and the Mighty Mississippi River on the south, the EMWREP region contains seventy major lakes, including White Bear Lake, Forest Lake, Big Marine Lake and Lake Elmo. The region is also home to five designated trout streams, including Brown's Creek and Valley Creek, and several smaller ponds, marshes and wetlands. Eight of the ten cleanest lakes in the metro area are in Washington County.

Groundwater provides 100 percent of the drinking water, and virtually all of the water for commercial, industrial and irrigation needs in the EMWREP area. The majority of the groundwater used in the area is pumped from the Prairie Du Chien and Jordan aquifers.

Common surface water pollution problems within the EMWREP area include excess nutrients, which cause algal blooms, and mercury contamination from atmospheric deposition. Also, groundwater overuse and contamination are problems in some of the east metro communities.



**Native plantings,
raingardens
and shoreline
plantings help
keep water clean**

Resources are available through the Blue Thumb program and local East Metro Water Resource Education Program partners to help you design native gardens, create raingardens and plant shorelines. Visit www.BlueThumb.org for how-to's, blueprints, retailers and more.

Are you looking for an excuse to eat, drink and be merry? If you live in one of the EMWREP partner communities, you can invite your friends and neighbors to your home for a Blue Thumb Party or request a presentation for your church, garden club or citizen group. Learn how local partners can help you to create beautiful gardens for your home that complement and enhance your existing landscaping, attract birds and butterflies and help to keep local lakes and rivers clean. Get in touch with grants, garden blue-prints, local nurseries and landscape companies, how-to guides, workshops and more!

Contact Angie Hong for more information:

651-275-1136 x.35, angie.hong@mnwcd.org

EMWREP Garden Projects to Visit

Edgewater Park Raingarden (Woodbury)

– Located near the intersection of Edgewater Drive and Lake Road in Woodbury, at the south end of Colby Lake. The raingarden is located within Edgewater Park, between the west end of the parking lot and the lake. Project was completed in 2005.

Washington County Fairgrounds

Raingardens (Baytown Township) – Located at the Washington County Fairgrounds, along the east side of Building D. Four demonstration raingardens were installed in 2006 using different styles and plant materials. Interpretive signs located near the raingardens explain the project.

Carpenter Nature Center Raingarden

(Denmark Township) – Located in front of the main visitor center (12805 St. Croix Trail South, Hastings). This raingarden was installed in 2006 using partial cost-share assistance provided by WCD. Please call ahead to arrange for a staff person to give a guided tour. (651) 437-4359.

Washington County South Service Center

Bioretention (Cottage Grove) – Bioretention cells (engineered raingardens) are installed throughout the front parking lot at the new Washington County South Service Center. The site is located at 13000 Ravine Parkway South (off of County Road 19, about one mile north of Highway 61; across from the intersection of 90th Street South and CR 19). The project was completed in 2006.

Gunnard Olson Rain Garden (Scandia) – This small raingarden was installed in 2005 to capture runoff from a small parking area and a mowed yard. The site is located at 18804 Layton Avenue North, between Layton Avenue North and Big Marine Lake.

Local Blue Thumb Contractors

Ecoscapes Sustainable Landscaping

2183 Storland Rd., Eagan MN 55122
612-965-0848 www.ecoscapes.com

Hedberg and Aquatic Addiction

8400 60th St. N, Stillwater, MN 55082
651-770-1122 www.hedbergaquaticaddiction.com

Holm & Olson Landscape

PO Box 10760, St. Paul MN 55110
651-222-0521, www.holmandolsonlandscape.com

Landscape Alternatives

25316 St. Croix Trail, Shafer MN 55074
(651) 257-4460 www.landscapealternatives.com

Landscape Direction

25730 Oakman Ave., Lindstrom MN 55045

Landscape Renovations

12515 40th Street S., Afton, MN 55001
651-796-8697 www.landscaperenovations.com

McGough & Associates, Inc.

1765 Hague Ave., St. Paul MN 55104

Mickman Brothers Inc.

14630 Highway 65, Ham Lake, MN 55303
763-434-4678 www.mickman.com

Minnesota Mulch and Soil

PO Box 270101, St. Paul MN 55127
651-330-0299, www.mnmulchandsoil.com

St. Croix Valley Landscaping

389 280th St., Osceola WI 54020
715-294-4471 www.stcroixvalleylandscaping.com

Sunrise Native Plants

P.O. Box 336, Center City MN 55012
651-257-4414 www.sunrisenativeplants.com

www.BlueThumb.org

*For how-to's, blueprints, retailers
and more