



Natural Area Maintenance 2019



Overview

Many environmental projects are undertaken by Environmental Resources yearly. Often there is a native vegetation component associated with those projects and maintenance is needed until the area is well established. There are also several natural areas throughout the city that are in need of maintenance to preserve the valuable habitat that it provides for local wildlife and water quality. If an area is determined as a valuable resource, and funding can be established, maintenance plans are determined. All areas are managed by a hired contractor. Grants are frequently sought after to restore natural areas, manage existing areas, and create projects that improve stormwater quality and natural resources. Sentence to Serve crews are also utilized for dead thatch removal in spring and as needed for duties like rip rap maintenance, planting, and fence repair.

TYPE	# OF SITES	SIZE OF AREAS	CONTRACTOR
Raingardens and Small Areas	6 raingardens 3 shoreline resto. 1 pollinator garden 10 sites	1.01 acres 43,850 sq. ft.	Prairie Restorations
Prairie and Large Areas	5 native buffers 4 channel restorations 2 stormwater improvement 3 woodland 3 prairie 2 Japanese knotweed 19 sites	69 acres 2,953,368 sq. ft.	Applied Ecological Services

70 acres of natural areas managed

Practices

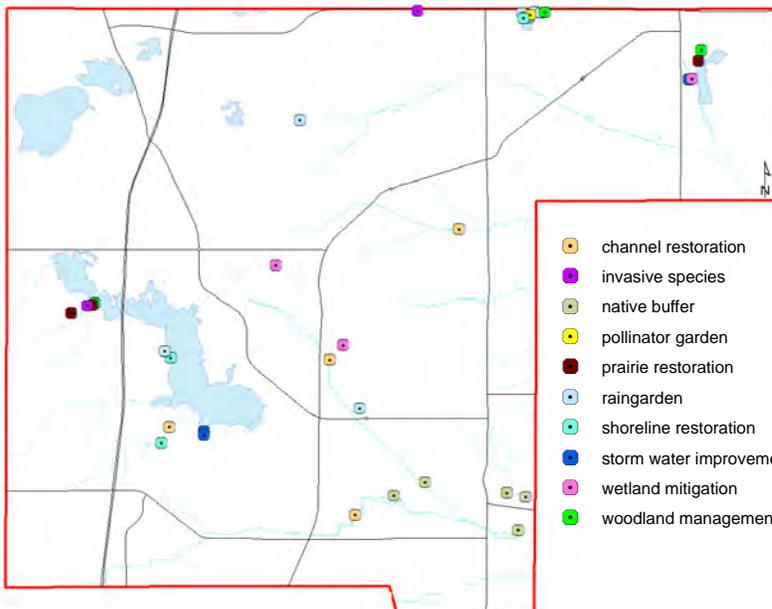
- ◆ Vegetative Stabilization
- ◆ Manage native plantings to reduce invasive species
- ◆ Mechanical or chemical methods used

Project Benefits

- ◆ Stabilization of soils
- ◆ Provide valuable habitat to native fauna
- ◆ Uphold aesthetics
- ◆ Control invasive species
- ◆ Maintain designed stormwater function

Timeline

- ◆ Most work completed during the growing season before invasive species put out their seed
- ◆ Buckthorn management mainly occurs at end, or after growing season, to not effect native species



Locations of maintenance areas



Funding
Actual Total 2019:
\$25,842



*Casperson Park Rain Garden after spray
July 18, 2019*



*After hand weeding and mulching
October 7, 2019*



*East Lake Community Park
Woodland After Goat Grazing*



*Ritter Farm Park Hill Slope
August 13, 2019*



Shady Oak Grove Wetland Mitigation



*Valley Lake Pollinator Garden
July 18 (above) September 16 (below)*



*Ritter Farm Park
Comparison of Japanese Knot-
weed before treatment in
2017 to after treatment 2019*



*Agriculture Field Area After
Maintenance - August 5, 2019*



Reassessment of Woodland Area