

# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES



*City of Eden Prairie*  
8080 Mitchell Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
952-949-8300

## Eden Prairie Water Quality Improvement Project

The Nine Mile Creek Watershed District has awarded the contract for the Eden Prairie Water Quality Improvement Project to Rachel Contracting. The project started in November 2007.

The Water Quality Improvement Project (Project) includes a number of tasks to improve the water quality of four Eden Prairie lakes that are within the Watershed District. These include Northwest Anderson, Southwest Anderson, Birch Island and Bryant Lakes.

The Watershed District proposed the Project as

## Northwest & Southwest Anderson Lakes

Northwest and Southwest Anderson Lakes are currently managed as a wildlife sanctuary. The water quality goal is to provide a habitat suitable for the types of fish and plants that would grow naturally within shallow lake systems. The majority of the property around the lakes, except for a small area within the City of Bloomington, is owned and maintained by Three Rivers Park District.

Vegetation surveys were conducted in 2004 and 2006 by Blue Water Science to provide information on the existing quality of the lakes and help set goals for reestablishment of higher quality lake habitat. Information on the surveys can be found on the City's website at [www.edenprairie.org](http://www.edenprairie.org).

The project includes a drawdown of the two lakes to assist in reducing invasive aquatic vegetation and restore a healthier native species mix. Periodic drawdowns are a tool that the Park

### HOURS OF OPERATION

City Code requires that contractors work within set hours to minimize disturbance to the neighborhood. These include:

Monday through Friday - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday - 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday / Holidays - No work allowed without written authorization from the City

an overall tool to improve water quality leading to Nine Mile Creek and the Minnesota River. The City reviewed the proposals and petitioned for the work in March 2004. Work has now been authorized and will continue through 2008. Each lake has a series of water quality goals and tasks proposed which are summarized below.

District has used in the past for shallow lakes such as the two Anderson Lakes. Southeast Anderson Lake is in Bloomington and will be managed separately.

### Completed in 2007

Work was started on cleaning out a pond in the northwest corner of Northwest Anderson Lake. This was not completed and has been delayed until the late fall/winter of 2008. The site has been stabilized with erosion & sediment control.

### To Be Completed in 2008

Drawdown will start in early August by removing the stop logs at the outlet of Northwest Anderson Lake. In early September, the drawdown of Northwest and Southwest Anderson Lakes will be completed using an electrical pumping system. The lake will be drawn down over the fall and will be allowed to refill naturally in the spring and summer of 2009.

## Birch Island Lake

Birch Island Lake is currently managed as wildlife habitat. However, the water level has declined approximately 8-10 feet since the mid-1980s. This reduced the amount of dilution of nutrients in the lake as well as diminishing the potential uses of the lake. The goal for the lake is to improve the water quality and restoring the historic water level, which will raise the lake's water level by approximately 8 feet.

### Completed in 2007 and early 2008

- Installation of a drainage system to capture groundwater and stormwater that is currently draining into the Highway 62 corridor to reroute it towards the lake.
- Construction of a new stormwater pond northwest of Birch Island Lake (on city property) for additional stormwater treatment.

- Expansion of an existing stormwater pond south of Birch Island Lake (Lesley Lane pond) to provide more flood protection and water quality treatment capacity.
- Removal of common buckthorn (an invasive species) from easement areas.

### To Be Completed in 2008

Restoration of easement areas impacted by construction will start during the Spring of 2008. This will include seed, sod and irrigation systems as needed. If you have a damaged irrigation system, please contact the Watershed District. Additional buckthorn treatment will likely also be required.

## Bryant Lake / Cardinal Creek Conservation Area

Bryant Lake includes a park facility and swimming area that is managed by Three Rivers Park District. The water quality within the lake has deteriorated. The goal is to restore and protect the water quality within the lake. This will include:

- Restoration of wetland along County Ditch 34 (Cardinal Creek Conservation Area). This will include a new outlet structure to raise the water level.
- Construction of a nature trail (wood chips / grassed) through the Conservation Area.
- Treatment of the lake with a single in-lake alum treatment to remove phosphorus from the water column

### **Contact Information:**

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### Completed in 2007

After frost formed (December / January) the contractor started grading in an access road from Gerard Drive (within City property) to the Conservation Area. Further work in the Conservation Area has been delayed until late fall/early winter 2008.

### To Be Completed (2008-2009)

The new trail will be completed, the new control structure will be constructed, and the wetland restoration will be started. This will include final grading and seeding of the trail by 2009.