

Blue Lake Siphon

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is undertaking a sustainable landscape restoration project at the Blue Lake Siphon in Eden Prairie. Work includes replacing high maintenance lawn and invasive plants with native plants and trees that are Minnesota nice friendly to birds, pollinators, and water quality. This project helps fulfill MCES's environmental and sustainability goals and guidelines for the region.

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) provides essential wastewater collection and treatment services and integrated planning to ensure sustainable water quality and water supply for the Twin Cities region, and to protect human health and the environment. This project helps fulfill MCES's environmental and sustainability goals and guidelines for the region.



Need for this work:

The site does not currently have erosion issues, but due to steep slopes, there is potential for erosion. Native vegetation, including grasses, flowering plants, shrubs, and trees, have deep root systems that will serve to stabilize soil on the slopes. Many non-native trees on the site are distressed and diseased. Non-native trees, especially "evergreens", are incompatible with the maintenance activities necessary to establish native vegetation. Converting select areas of this site to native vegetation will reduce overall maintenance cost.

Expected Benefits:

Native landscape restoration at this site will make the site more environmentally friendly. Additional benefits include:

- Establishment of Minnesota-native, drought tolerant flowers and grasses
- Reduce maintenance costs and staff time
- Creation of habitat for pollinators, birds, and wildlife

- Protection of water quality in the Minnesota River and improved groundwater infiltration

Work Includes:

- Removing diseased and distressed non-native trees
- Management of invasive, non-native brush and herbaceous weeds
- Installation of erosion control practices
- Planting native plants, shrubs, and bur oak trees
- Long-term maintenance of the site once restoration is complete

Restoration Schedule

This project will take place over several years. Please refer to the project website for more detailed schedule information.

For more information:

Para más información:

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