

Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Agenda Item

Item 5. F. – 'Landscaping for Clean Water' Report from Dakota SWCD

Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

Summary

Dakota County has provided a year-end report for its 2024 'Landscaping for Clean Water' program. You do not have to live in Dakota County to take the class, so classes are open to all residents of the LMRWD. The LMRWD asks that all applicants for its Cost Share program attend a class. The report provides a

Attachments

2024 Landscaping for Clean Water Program Summary 2025 Landscaping for Clean Water Program Flier 2025 Landscaping for Clean Water Program 2 page Flier 2025 Landscaping for Clean Water Grant Factsheet

Recommended Action

No action recommended for information only

2024

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SUMMARY



Providing landowners the skills & resources to improve water quality and provide habitat for pollinators with raingardens, native gardens, and native shoreline plantings.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER



Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District







2024 BY THE NUMBERS		
197	Individuals participated in Introduction Classes	
127	Projects designed through the Design Course	
44	Raingardens & Native Gardens & Shorelines Installed	
22	Individuals participated in the Maintenance Workshop	
23	Individuals attended the Natural Shoreline Workshop	



"The Intro class opened my eyes to so many possibilities. I left excited to take the next step with a planting at my house!"

"Thank you Dakota SWCD for a wonderful program. I appreciate the support and guidance . Can't wait to do another project next year!"

LCW Participants



The Landscaping for Clean Water program Introduction class, Design course, Maintenance workshop, and Natural Shoreline workshop, were offered both in-person and virtually in 2024.















2024

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SUMMARY



Thank you to everyone who helped to reduce pollution, improve water quality, and increase pollinator habitat on your property this year! Participation at any level - attending the Introduction to Clean Water Class, installing a project with the Design Course, picking up tips at the Maintenance Workshop, or learned how native plantings along a shoreline benefit both terrestrial and aquatic habitat, helps to spread interest and know-how to all corners of Dakota County.

Summary of the 2024 Participants by City

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Apple Valley	
Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens Installed native gardens Installed shoreline planting	27 22 3 6 1
Burnsville Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens Installed native gardens Installed shoreline planting	35 28 4 8
Eagan Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens Installed native gardens	18 10 1 2
Farmington Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens	10 6 1
Hastings Introduction class attendees Projects designed	2
Inver Grove Heights Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens	14 8 3

Installed native gardens

Lakeville Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens Installed native gardens	18 12 2 1
Mendota Heights Introduction class attendees Projects designed	2
Northfield Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens	5 4 1
Rosemount Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens	38 19 5
South Saint Paul Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed raingardens	6 3 1
West Saint Paul Introduction class attendees Projects designed Installed native gardens	8 7 2





2024 PARTNERS

Dakota County Ramsey County Cities

- Apple Valley
- Burnsville
- Eagan
- Farmington
- Hastings
- Inver Grove Heights
- Lakeville
- Saint Paul
- South St Paul
- Rosemount
- West St Paul



EIGHTEEN YEARS OF CLEAN WATER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program Participants 2007-2024 5,940

Projects Completed 2007-2024 810

CREATE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS TO KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN

DESIGN A NATIVE GARDEN

CREATE A RAINGARDEN

STABILIZE SHORELINES







Raingardens filter storm water runoff from streets and rooftops before it enters streams, ponds, and lakes, keeping waterways clean!



Native plants have long roots that reduce erosion, filter out pollutants, and discourage geese from gathering.

Join us for a FREE Landscaping for Clean Water presentation!

See dozens of beautiful, affordable garden designs, learn about the benefits they provide, and get an introduction to how you can get started on your own project.

After attending, you are eligible to attend a Design Course, where you'll receive expert 1-on-1 help to design your own project and apply for a grant of \$250 & on-site assistance.







Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER CLASSES

DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS FOR 2025

All hour-long classes will start at **6:00 p.m.** at the following locations or on Zoom:



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20thBurnsville City Hall

100 Civic Center Pkwy, Burnsville



MONDAY, MARCH 10th

Apple Valley Municipal Center 7100 147th St W, Apple Valley



MONDAY APRIL 7th

Dakota Lodge 1200 Stassen Ln, West St Paul



MONDAY, May 6TH Via Zoom



MONDAY, JUNE 2ND

Farmington Library 508 3rd St, Farmington

SCAN TO REGISTER

Classes are free, but pre-registration is requested!





Thanks to our many watershed and city partners!













From Past Participants:

"Very good class! Made the project seem very doable. With **expert help**, it makes it **much easier."**

"It was excellent! I left there with more knowledge and interest about our water. The instructor was super engaging!"





CREATE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS TO KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN

DESIGN A NATIVE GARDEN

CREATE A RAINGARDEN

STABILIZE SHORELINES



Native gardens are beautiful, save water, reduce need for fertilizer, and provide wildlife & pollinator habitat.

Raingardens filter storm water runoff from streets and rooftops before it enters streams, ponds, and lakes, keeping waterways clean! Native plants have long roots that reduce erosion, filter out pollutants, and discourage geese from gathering.

Join us for a FREE Landscaping for Clean Water presentation!

See dozens of beautiful, affordable garden designs, learn about the benefits they provide, and get an introduction to how you can get started on your own project.

After attending, you'll become eligible to attend a Design Course (where you'll receive expert assistance on designing your own project) and apply for a grant of \$250 & on-site assistance.

The Introduction to Clean Water class begins at **6 pm** and will be presented **in-person** with one class online via Zoom.

Date

Thursday, Feb 20

Monday, March 10

Monday, April 7

Tuesday, May 6

Monday, June 2

Location

Burnsville

Apple Valley

West St. Paul

Online via Zoom

Farmington

REGISTER TODAY!





Landscaping for Clean Water

Dakota County Soil and

Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER GRANT



LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER GRANT PROCESS

The Landscaping for Clean Water Grant program makes it easy for Dakota County residents to plan and install native gardens, raingardens, and native shoreline plantings.

Just follow the steps below!

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER



Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District

1.	LEARN	Attend a FREE Landscaping for Clean Water Introduction
		class to learn what you can do to improve our water
		resources and provide pollinator habitat.

2. **DESIGN**In the Design Course (online or in-person) you will plan a garden for your own yard with expert assistance. A \$25 registration fee includes a Raingarden Book, property maps, learning materials, technical assistance, & more!

3. APPLY	Submit an application for consideration to receive a \$250	
	Landscaping for Clean Water grant.	

- **4. INSTALL** Install your project per approved plan with onsite guidance from Dakota SWCD's expert staff.
- **5. RECEIVE** You will be awarded a \$250 grant from Dakota SWCD upon project completion.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER GRANT DEADLINES			
	Application	Project Completion*	
Round 1	April 30, 2025	July 11, 2025	
Round 2	June 4, 2025	August 22, 2025	
Round 3	July 16, 2025	October 3, 2025	

^{*} Grant automatically expires if the project is not completed by this date



Visit www.DAKOTASWCD.org for additional information or scan the QR Code --->





Raingarden



Native Garden



Native Shoreline Planting

18 YEARS OF CLEAN WATER ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

Workshop Participants 5,940
Projects Completed 810