



Go Blue! Diamond Lake Community Makeover



Clean Water Funds: 2010

Clean Water Grant	\$224,224
Leveraged Funds*	\$374,100
Total Project Budget	\$598,324

* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

Targeted Water:
Diamond Lake

Project Sponsor:
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Partners:
Friends of Diamond Lake, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, Hedberg Landscape and Masonry Supplies, Hale Page Diamond Lake Community Association, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, and Metro Blooms

Grant Period:
January 2010 - December 2011

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Project Narrative

In South Minneapolis, the water quality of Diamond Lake has suffered in recent decades. In fact, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's (MCWD) analysis of water testing results designated the water quality grade as "F". This is largely a result of water that rolls off roofs, yards, and streets in the 690-acre Diamond Lake watershed and ends up in the lake - bringing pollutants, debris and dirt with it.

Concerned citizens worked with the statewide nonprofit Minnesota Waters (through the MCWD Watershed Association Initiative Program) to form the Friends of Diamond Lake. The lake association completed a lake management plan which includes a goal to champion projects by home owners to reduce storm-water runoff. The Friends of Diamond Lake got word that Hedberg Landscape and Masonry Supplies was looking for a neighborhood interested in doing an environmental "community makeover" project and asked the MCWD to partner with them in applying for Clean Water Fund grant money.

The resulting Go Blue! Diamond Lake Community Makeover Project is a program that provides property owners with up to 50 percent cost share for a variety of storm-water mitigation projects, including installation of raingardens, permeable pavers, rain barrels, trees and rainwater capture and reuse systems. Thirty-four individual households, Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board have all participated by installing one or more of these practices on their properties and have provided over 1,600 volunteer hours. The results are 25 raingardens, 14 permeable pavement systems, 22 rain barrels, 3 RainXchange capture and reuse systems, and 4 additional tree plantings. Once completed, the Go Blue! Project aims to reduce direct storm-water runoff to Diamond Lake by 1.5 million gallons each year.



Go Blue! Diamond Lake Community Makeover



Rain garden construction



A completed project



Sign at location of a Go Blue! Project