

MISSION STATEMENT: "The City of Mound, through teamwork and cooperation, provides, at a reasonable cost, quality services that respond to the needs of all citizens, fostering a safe, attractive and flourishing community." "The Parks and Open Space Commission is an advisory body to the City Council. One of the Commission's functions is to hold public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council. The City Council makes all final decisions on these matters. Mound Ordinances require that certain documents and information be included in applications. The Parks and Open Space Commission may postpone consideration of an application that is incomplete and may for other reasons postpone final action on an application. For each agenda item, the Commission will receive reports prepared by the City Staff, open the hearing to the public, and discuss and act on the application."

NOTE: COMISSIONERS WILL BE CONTACTED BY STAFF PRIOR TO THE MEETINGS TO ASSESS ATTENDANCE. FAILURE TO RESPOND BY NOON ON THE DAY OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ABSENCE AND MAY RESULT IN CANCELLATION OF THE MEETING DUE TO LACK OF A QUORUM. (952-472-0603 or admin@cityofmound.com)

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

AGENDA

7:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
5341 Maywood Road, Mound, MN
Thursday, January 9, 2025

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1. Call to Order	
2. Roll Call	
3. Approval of Agenda	
4. Election of 2025 Chair and Vice-Chair	1
5. Approve minutes from 12-12-2024 Meeting	2
6. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present (No more than 3 minutes allowed per speaker)	
7. POSC Candidate Interview	6
Tentative Start 7:15 PM – Tyler Pieper	
8. Approval of Work Rules for 2025 A. Discussion on POSC Meeting Start Time – From 7:00 PM to 6:00 PM	8
9. Edgewater Park – Native Plan Garden Expansion	15
10. Reports: Staff Updates City Council Representative Commissioner Comments	45
11. Next Meeting: February 13, 2025 Tentative Discussion Items: 2025 POSC Projects and Goals Parks and Open Spaces List and Promotional Information Review. Chester Park Project – Further Discussion.	
12. Adjourn	

CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission

FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

DATE: January 9, 2025

SUBJECT: Election of 2025 Chair and Vice-Chair

BACKGROUND:

As required by the POSC work rules, on an annual basis, the POSC must elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the year from its members.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION (POSC) MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2024

The Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission met on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the Centennial Building.

Present: Chair Mark Stehlik, and Commissioners Joanna Kahn, Travis Mills, Kim Blievernicht, and City Council Representative Sherrie Pugh.
Absent: None.
Others Present: Deputy City Manager, Maggie Reisdorf and Public Works Superintendent, Dustin Koskela.
Public Present: Jenna Soule (5200 Piper Road), Nate Geyen (5201 Piper Road), Kelsey & Nick Karls (5246 Piper Road), and Tyler Pieper.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Stehlik Kahn at 7:00 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Chair Stehlik, Commissioners Mills, Blievernicht, and Kahn, and City Council Representative Pugh.
Absent: None.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Blievernicht to approve the agenda, second by Kahn; Motion carried 5-0.

4. **Approve Minutes from 11-14-24 Meeting**

Motion by Mills to approve the minutes, second by Blievernicht. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present**

NA.

6. **2025 Park Project: Chester Park – Discussion with Neighbors**

Stehlik introduced this item to the POSC. He informed that the City completed a Long-Term Financial and Capital Plan in 2024, and within that plan, Chester Park is scheduled to be updated in 2025. He stated that the POSC wants to start planning those improvements and therefore invited property owners within 350 feet to the meeting to provide comments and feedback on the project. He informed that part of the project would include, per state law, making the park accessible per ADA guidelines.

Stehlik informed that the POSC commissioners split up all of the parks in the City on an annual basis where they go visit each of their allocated parks and write up comments for staff to review. He stated that the recommendations are those that may be aesthetic improvements or bigger short-term and long-term issues that need to be addresses.

Stehlik stated that Chester Park had the characteristics of a neighborhood park that is used by local property owners and visitors to that area. He informed that the play structure on site does need to be replaced because it is getting old.

Stehlik informed that the POSC is a recommending body to the City Council. He said that their responsibility is to assess park projects and ideas and make recommendations to the City Council for review and approval.

Pugh stated that she called around and asked about the history of the name of Chester Park. She informed that for many years the City owned a dock at this location and swimming was taught. She explained that there used to be a grocery store nearby called Chester Park Grocer that people would shop at. Pugh said that she was told people would sometimes buy sandwiches and sit at the

neighboring park benches to eat. She mentioned that park was named after the Chester family and has a lot of history for that area of the City.

Mills agreed that the play structure needs to be replaced. He stated that the park gets a lot of use. He stated that the POSC wanted to invite the neighboring property owners to help decide the future vision of the park because the POSC did not want to make decisions without input.

Reisdorf confirmed that the play structure would be replaced as part of the project. She said that it is getting old. She also confirmed that there would be some ADA accessibility improvements to the site as part of the project. She said that the playground structure would be replaced and that within that space of the park a wood fiber put down instead of sand to assist with accessibility. She said that the current sand would be moved to the current beach area to help build up the sand in that space. Reisdorf explained that park play areas are required to follow stricter requirements when replaced, including spacing requirements for specific types of equipment.

Koskela added that there are “fall space” requirements for different types of equipment for safety reasons.

Kahn said that the POSC wanted to invite neighboring property owners to help decide improvements to the park space as it is a neighborhood park and impacts the neighboring properties. She said she wanted to hear more about how the neighboring community wanted the space to be used, who the space is guided for, specifically asking “is it a play area?”, “a hand out area?” or something else.

Jenna Soule, neighboring resident to the park, and owner of Al and Alma’s restaurant nearby the park, stated that she is very interested in the future of the park. She informed that it is heavily used by the community and is the perfect size for that area. Soule said that she enjoys visiting this park explaining that the bigger parks can be overwhelming at times with activity. She informed that the space gets used as a gathering point for the lake cruises that board nearby that park. She said that people enjoy sitting and waiting at the picnic tables. Soule said the park never feels overcrowded and there is always a constant flow of activity. Soule stated she is the fourth owner of Al and Almas and confirmed that there was a grocery store in the past. She explained that the park space has always been a great partnership between the business and City. She stated that the business waters and mows the grass and takes out the garbage. Soule said that the play structure doesn’t have to be huge. She said she liked the idea of different themes, including a nautical theme as the park sits so close to the lake.

Nate Geyen, resident at 5201 Piper Road, said that he is a longtime resident of Mound and more specifically that area of Mound. He explained that his parents used to own the Al and Almas business, but that he and his family are still involved with the business. He stated that he likes the current park space and how it is used in a variety of ways. He said that partnership has been a great one between the City and the business. Geyen said that it is a well-used park space.

Stehlik asked those in the audience if they would like any changes to be made to the space.

Geyen said that he would like to maintain the flow of different spaces within the park. He recommended possibly more picnic tables.

Nick Karls, a resident at 5246 Piper Road, asked if the POSC could consider making it easier for those who want to access the lake by kayak to do so. He stated that he understood that there was a history with the name for Chester Park, but asked the POSC if they would consider renaming it Jay Soule Park, a resident who recently passed away and had a huge impact on the community.

Reisdorf said that this meeting was meant as a starting point and kick off for the project. She asked if those in attendance would be willing to share their emails as a way to continue to connect in the future and share ideas.

Stehlik added that at some point different playground concepts will be brought to the POSC for review and discussion and that this would be a great opportunity for the neighbors to provide comments and insight as well.

Mills said that he likes the idea of considering a name change for the park.

Pugh stated that it would be great to get an informational sign put up with a detailed history of the park displayed.

7. Tyler Pieper – Edgewater Park – Native Garden Expansion

Tyler Pieper introduced himself to the POSC. He stated that he has presented to the POSC in the past for other projects that he has worked on. He informed that his current project proposal is at Mound's Edgewater Park. Pieper explained that the project proposal is for a native garden expansion; similar to those that he has presented in the past.

Pieper said that he has been looking into a grant called, the Good Steward Grant, with Hennepin County, that he would like to submit an application for to help fund the project. He estimated that about 75% of the project cost could be covered with grant funds. Pieper explained that the native gardens that were completed at Belmont Park have been going very well and have received positive feedback. He said that there is a real ecological benefit to the gardens and therefore is interested in doing another one at Edgewater Park.

Pieper explained that the gardens help with beautifying the park for visitors, increase critical pollinator habitat, and in this case specifically reduce hillside erosion and water run-off into Harrison Bay. Pieper explained that the project would focus on the collaboration of local vendors, volunteers and the City. He reviewed in detail the installation and maintenance plans.

Pieper presented a tentative timeline for the project, including needed approvals from the POSC and City Council for the grant submission.

Pieper estimated the plant cost to be about \$5,944. He provided a visual of the park site and the proposed layout of the plants and gardens, including what specific plants and trees would be recommended in the project. He explained the vision for the park as being a place where people can not only come to visually enjoy the gardens, but a space where people could sit at picnic tables and even host a barbeque event.

Pieper asked the POSC if they would be interested in supporting this project concept and if there was any feedback. He said that if the POSC was ok moving forward with the project, that he would want to bring a final presentation and grant proposal back to the POSC at their January meeting, where he would ask for a final recommendation to the City Council from the POSC.

Mills asked Pieper if he could adjust the current design a bit to be more open in one spot to allow for a continuous walking path, instead of it being closed off and causing people to have to walk back to get out of that garden area. Pieper agreed to make that change. Mills said he liked the tables throughout the gardens. He said he loved the concept and the idea of adding fruit trees.

Stehlik stated that he wasn't against planting plumb trees, but wondered if when the fruit became ripe, if it would cause a maintenance mess.

Pieper agreed that it could create a mess. He said that birds can get into the fruit at times as well, Pieper recommended that maybe different shrubs be placed in where he proposed the fruit trees and/or he could incorporate the fruit trees into the gardens more so that the dropped fruit would integrate more with the gardens and eliminate the mess.

Pieper estimated the total cost to the City to be about \$1,500. He said that the local partnerships between the City and volunteers keeps the costs significantly down.

Koskela said that the past projects have gone very well.

Kahn stated that she loves the pathways and Mills' idea to make it a continuous walking path. She said that her only hesitation is approving this project without the input of the neighboring properties. She said it is a neighborhood park and would be a big change for that area. She wondered if a letter could be sent to the properties inviting them to the January POSC meeting for review and feedback.

Pieper said that would be a great idea to get feedback.

8. Project Updates

Reisdorf provided project updates to the POSC including that the project planning for Lost Lake Commons Phase II would start in early 2025. She walked about planned improvements for the Depot Building at Surfside Park in 2025 that would include the replacement of the furnace, air conditioning and ceiling fans. Reisdorf said that the plan is to replace the decking and update the kitchen of the Depot Building in 2025 or 2026.

Reisdorf explained that staff is completing an inventory of park picnic tables of which will be put into a Long-Term Financial Capital Plan for staggered replacement. She also provided a link to an online interactive map, put together by the City Engineer, that lists park amenities at the parks within the City of Mound.

Kahn thanked Public Works for the holiday lights installation at Lost Lake Commons. She said that they looked perfect.

Koskela thanked Kahn for the feedback and said that it was a lot of hard work from the employees of the Public Works Department. He said they did a great job.

Mills said that he liked the color of the lights.

Mills asked if the POSC could consider again allowing for the Depot building to be used as a concession stand. He noted in the past, that it was rejected as an idea, but wondered if it could be brought up again.

Pugh like the idea of having food trucks before the Farmers Market starts.

Stehlik mentioned the City of Minneapolis renting out park pavilion spaces to businesses.

9. Reports

Staff Reports: Reisdorf thanked Chair Stehlik for his time on the POSC and wished him well. Stehlik thanked the POSC. He said that he loved participating and providing comments on the parks. He stated that it was very rewarding and enjoyed working with everyone.

City Council Representative: Pugh provided an update on the Lake Minnetonka Flats Development adjacent to Lost Lake. She said that the project got approval for a private boardwalk that would connect to a dock access site for the owners of the units. Pugh stated that the City would be hosting a volunteer appreciation event in February to recognize volunteers in the community. Pugh said that the City Council approved the final budget for 2025 at the last City Council meeting. She said that the City Council is still working to get funding from the State of Minnesota for the Water Treatment Plant. Pugh talked about a recent meeting she had with the Age Friendly Minnesota Board on age friendly initiatives.

Commission Comments: None.

10. Next Meeting: January 9, 2025

11. Adjourn

Mills moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 pm. Blievernicht seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission

FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

DATE: January 9, 2025

SUBJECT: POSC Candidate Interview

BACKGROUND:

At the end of 2024, two of the four POSC two-year seat terms ended. POSC Commissioner Kim Blievernicht confirmed that she was interested in maintaining her seat for another term. POSC Commissioner (Chair 2024) Mark Stehlik decided it was time to step down from the POSC after serving for seven (7) years).

At the December 2024 POSC meeting, staff and the other commissioners thanked Mark Stehlik for his many years of service and dedication to the City and the POSC.

There is currently one (1) vacancy on the POSC.

The term for this seat is a two-year term: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026.

Advertisement for the vacancy was posted in the local newspaper, on the City website and on social media.

The City received one (1) application for the vacant seat from resident, Tyler Pieper. The POSC will be interviewing Pieper at (tentatively) 7:15 PM as part of the regular meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025.

A Public Notice was posted at City Hall and on the City website that the City Council was invited to sit in on the interview and therefore a quorum of the City Council may be present at the meeting.

INTERVIEW PROCESS & PROCEDURE:

The interview is scheduled to be approximately 10-15 minutes. The POSC Commissioners will be provided some standard questions to ask, or they are welcome to ask one question of their own of the applicant.

Following the interview, a written ballot method of voting will be used by the POSC Commission. A blank ballot will be provided.

The POSC Commission may make a recommendation for appointment to the City Council. The City Council will take the recommendation into consideration at the January 14, 2025 City Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission

FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

DATE: January 9, 2025

SUBJECT: Annual Review of POSC Work Rules

BACKGROUND:

On an annual basis and generally at the first POSC meeting of the year, the POSC reviews the work rules and approves the work rules for the year.

ATTACHMENTS:

POSC Work Rules.

PARK AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION WORK RULES

A. ORGANIZATION

1. The Park and Open Space Commission Officers shall be:
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
2. Duties of the Officers:
 - a. Chair:
 - 1) The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Commission.
 - 2) The Chair shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide questions of order.
 - 3) The Chair shall appoint all assignment areas unless otherwise requested by a majority.
 - 4) The Chair may call special meetings, stating the purpose of such meetings and posting a notice at least 24 hours in advance of the meetings.
 - 5) The Chair shall be responsible to have the staff report on the status of previous recommendations made to the Council, stating the Park and Open Space Commission's recommendations and Council action.
 - b. Vice Chair:
 1. The Vice Chair shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chair.
3. The Mound Park and Open Space Commission acts only as an advisory group to the Council to make recommendations in the best interest of the citizens of Mound.

B. WORK RULES

1. The second Thursday shall be considered the regularly scheduled official meeting night.
2. The Chair shall have prerogative to cancel or postpone any regularly scheduled meetings.
3. All public meetings shall be held at the Centennial Building. All meetings shall be called to order at 7:00 pm and shall conclude by 9:00 p.m. unless extended by a onetime 30 minute extension to conclude at 9:30 p.m. Any business unfinished at the scheduled closing time shall be forwarded on to the City Council or taken as old business at the next regular meeting.
4. The Commission shall elect from its group, a Chair and Vice Chair, at the first meeting in January.

5. A majority of the seated members shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, the minority shall adjourn any item of business requiring official Commission action, to a specified time.
6. With prior notice to City Staff or the Chair, a member may be excused from an individual meeting for reason of illness, work or out-of-town travel.
7. In the absence of the Chair or Vice Chair, the remaining members shall elect a Temporary Chair.
8. The Chair (Vice Chair/Temporary Chair) shall call the meeting to order and announce a quorum.
9. The order of business shall be as follows unless amended by the Chair:
 - a. Call to order
 - b. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
 - c. Agenda change requests
 - d. Public hearings
 - e. Old business (permits, applications, etc.)
 - f. New business
 - g. Agenda add-ons (from "c" above).
 - h. Staff reports
 - i. Adjournment
10. The following statement shall be printed on all Agendas.

"MISSION STATEMENT: The City of Mound, through teamwork and cooperation, provides at a reasonable cost, quality services that respond to the needs of all citizens, fostering a safe, attractive, and flourishing community."

"The Parks and Open Space Commission is an advisory body to the City Council. One of the Commission's functions is to hold public hearings and make recommendations to the City Council. The City Council makes all final decisions on these matters.

Mound City Ordinances require that certain documents and information be included in applications. The Parks and Open Space Commission may postpone consideration of an application that is incomplete and may, for other reasons, postpone final action on an application.

For each Agenda item, the Commission will receive reports prepared by the City Staff, open the hearing to the public and discuss and act on the application."

11. All recommendations shall be sent to the Council by means of written minutes, and shall include the record of the division of votes on each recommendation.

12. Minutes of the meetings shall be recorded and kept by Staff.
13. All meetings shall be open to the public.
14. Any resolution or motion, except motion to adjourn, postpone, reconsider, table or call the previous questions shall be reduced to writing if requested by any member of the Commission.
15. Any resolution or motion may be withdrawn at any time before a second is made.
16. When a question is under debate, no other action shall be entertained except to table, or to call for the question, action on the question, postpone, refer to committee or amend. Motions shall take precedence in that order, and the first two shall be without debate.
17. All motions shall be carried by a majority vote of the members present, except call for questions which requires 2/3rds vote. Any member of the Commission may call for a roll call vote on any issue.
18. Motions can only be made by members recognized by the Chair, and the motions shall be initiated with the phrase, "I move that....".
19. Speaking without recognition of the Chair shall be cause for another member to call "point of order" and the member speaking out of turn must relinquish the floor.
20. "Call for question" or "previous question" is a motion and must be seconded. It is not debatable and must be voted upon immediately. A 2/3 majority is necessary to call the previous question. If the 2/3 majority is given, the motion or question on the floor must be immediately put to a vote without debate except for a motion to table.
21. "Question" is not a motion, but only an indication to the Chair that the person making statement is ready to have the motion or question put to a vote.
22. The Chair may direct that a motion be divided if requested by a member.
23. Members must limit their remarks to the subject matter being discussed and shall not be repetitious. The speaking order shall be at the discretion of the Chair, however, all members shall be allowed to speak in their turn.
24. Any member who has three (3) unexcused absences in a calendar year shall be given to the City Manager for recommendation for removal by the City Council.
25. Any member having a financial and/or personal interest in an individual action under consideration by the Commission shall identify their personal interest prior to the

discussion, remove himself/herself from the discussion and not vote on that particular matter. In addition, members shall further avoid any appearance of impropriety. Said member will have the same rights as any citizen who has an interest in any action being considered by the Parks and Open Space Commission.

When a commissioner chooses to abstain from a motion, they shall state a general reason for their abstention (i.e. lack of knowledge, conflict of interest). (Rev. 11-16-96) (Rev. 1-8-98)

26. These rules shall not be repealed or amended except by a majority vote of the Commission.

27. Any rule of order not covered by the Work Rules shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order or standard parliamentary procedure.

C. THE PROCESS OF INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS (see Exhibit A: Res. #89-139 and Exhibit B: Res. #92-136).

1. Resolution #92-136 and Resolution #89-139 have been adopted by the City Council approving a Policy on Appointments and Reappointments to Advisory Commissions.
2. The applicant is to be advised of the interview at least 10 (ten) days prior to the date of the interview.
3. A silent ballot method of voting will be used. The secretary will type the candidate(s) names on the form and the form will be sent to you in the packet.
4. After the ballots have been counted and the results announced, a formal motion is required to recommend the candidate(s) to the City Council.

RESOLUTION #89-139

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A POLICY ON APPOINTMENTS
AND REAPPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COMMISSIONS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Mound, Minnesota, hereby establishes the following policy:

Definitions of "Vacancy": A vacancy occurs when a term expires and the commissioner holding that term does not desire reappointment. A vacancy also occurs when a commissioner resigns his/her position prior to the term expiring.

1. When a vacancy occurs, the City Manager is directed to advertise in the City's official newspaper that there are positions to be filled on a commission(s). Such advertising shall be done in the form of a "news release".
2. Such news release shall include, but not be limited to, the number of vacancies, the length of the term, or request for letter of interest and/or resume, application deadline date, etc. The news release shall also state that prospective applicants will be required to interview with the city Council and respective commission jointly. Such interviews will be conducted as soon as possible following the application deadline. Each commission will formally recommend appointments following the joint interviews. The City Council will review those recommendations and will be responsible for making the appointments.
3. Current commission members who wish to be reappointed must indicate such and the reasons for being reappointed in writing a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to their term expiring.
4. If a member resigns during his/her term, such resignation must be in writing and submitted to the City Manager.
5. In the case of member resigning with less than ninety (90) days remaining, on his/her term, the City Council, at its discretion, may delay filling the vacancy until the term officially expires."

The foregoing resolution was moved by Councilmember Jessen and seconded by Councilmember Johnson.

The following Councilmembers voted in the affirmative: Jensen, Jessen, and Johnson.

The following Councilmembers voted in the negative: Ahrens And Smith.

Steve Smith
Mayor

Francene C. Clark
Attest: City Clerk

October 13, 1992

Exhibit B

RESOLUTION NO. 92-136

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE
PROCESS OF INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES
FOR ADVISORY COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Mound, Minnesota, hereby establishes the following policy as it pertains to the interviewing of candidates for advisory commission appointments:

Candidates for appointment to advisory commissions will be interviewed jointly by the applicable commission and the city council at a regularly scheduled commission meeting. Following the interviews and at the same meeting, the commission will establish a ranking of the candidates, listing the candidates and the number of votes they have received. The results will then be submitted to the Council at the next regular Council Meeting. The Council will then make official appointments at that Council Meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if candidates who wish to be considered for appointment cannot be present for the interviews that the commission and the city Council will base their decisions on the resumes submitted.

The foregoing resolution was moved by Councilmember Smith seconded by Councilmember Jensen.

The following councilmembers voted in the affirmative: Ahrens, Jensen, Jessen, Johnson and Smith.

The following councilmembers voted in the negative: None.

Skip Johnson
Mayor

Francene C. Clark
Attest: City Clerk

Attachment 1 - 2025 Good Steward Grant Application

Edgewater Park Pollinator Habitat

Submit your application via [Hennepin County's Supplier Portal](#) by Thursday, January 23, 2025, by 4:00 PM (CST)

Applications received after 4:00 PM (CST). on Thursday, January 23, 2025, will be rejected. The county is not responsible for delays caused by electronic delivery services. Please review the *Solicitation for Grant Applications* for additional information on how to submit your Good Steward Grant application.

Contact information

Applicant (landowner/organization/entity) name(s):	<i>City of Mound, Parks and Open Spaces Commission (POSC), and Tyler Pieper (resident)</i>
Applicant phone number:	<i>Primary Contact: Tyler Pieper 920-960-7951; Secondary Contact: Jesse Dickson & Maggie Reisdorf 952-472-0609</i>
Application email:	tpieper7951@gmail.com
Application address:	<i>5504 Church Road, Mound, MN 55364</i>
Project address, if different from applicant address:	<i>Edgewater Park Edgewater Drive/Rosedale Road Mound, MN 55364</i>
Project Name:	<i>Edgewater Park Pollinator Habitat</i>

Project description

Resource(s) impacted by proposed project (check all that apply):

- ✓ Lake, stream, and/or river (provide name(s)): *Harrisons Bay (Lake Minnetonka)*
- ✓ Waters identified on the [Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's list of impaired waters](#); provide name of impaired water and impairment(s): *Harrisons Bay (Lake Minnetonka)*

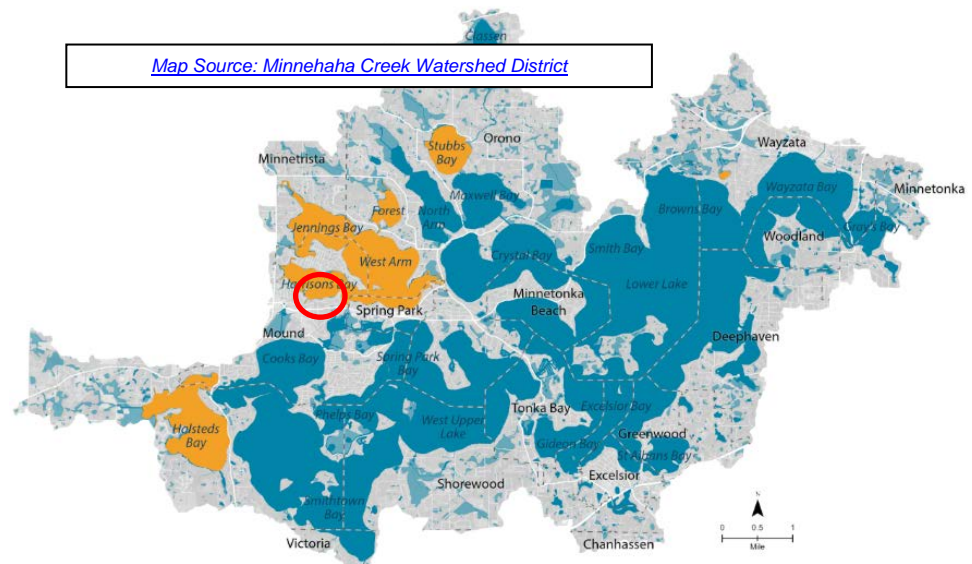
Executive summary: Provide a summary of the project, the associated water quality problems, and how the project will address or solve the problem(s) (250 words or less)

The Edgewater Pollinator Habitat project will introduce hundreds of native plants that will support insects and pollinators while improving water quality by reducing runoff. Coordinated between The City of Mound and Mound resident Tyler Pieper, the project will build upon successfully maintained native plantings already located in Belmont Park and Edgewater Park. *Benefits of the proposed project in Edgewater Park include:*

- **Water Quality:** Deep rooted plants that will help reduce stormwater runoff and address Edgewater Park's steep hillside that drains towards Lake Minnetonka's Harrisons Bay, an impaired water body.
- **Biodiversity:** Additional critical pollinator habit for the [endangered Rusty Patched Bumblebee](#), whose range overlaps with Hennepin County, will be created that will also benefit and other pollinators.
- **Climate Change:** Carbon sequestration will also be an additional benefit of the planting. Various studies of the potential for tallgrass prairie carbon storage showing that storage rates vary between [0.30](#) and [1.7 metric tons](#) per acre per year.
- **Beautification:** Edgewater Park recently lost tree coverage (due to Emerald Ash Borer) and the project will create gardens to attract visitors and neighbors to the space.

Project description: Describe the project and intended results. Include the project location(s), start and end dates, major tasks, deliverables, and project goals. If the project includes any education and outreach components, please describe. Your answer should be specific, clear, and concise. Attach supporting materials and design reports if applicable

Project Summary: The Edgewater Park Pollinator Project aims to create a thriving pollinator habitat and garden space that provides season-long blooms for insects like the endangered Rusty Patched Bumblebee, water filtration, and carbon sequestration. The proposed native vegetation will be accessed by pollinators, birds, and other wildlife, while also attracting neighbors, residents, and visitors to Edgewater Park.



Project Location:
Edgewater Park (Edgewater Drive/Rosedale Road, Mound, MN 55364)

Project Plan & Layout: See separate attachment

Project Timeline Checklist:

- **May 1 – May 10:** Mark designated garden spaces for clearing. The City of Mound requests electric/gas/utility checks and clearance.
 - ❖ Note: Plugs will be planted at a maximum 1 ft depth, minimizing electric/gas/utility interference.
- **April 1 – May 15:** Place plant/grass/shrub order via [Natural Shore Technologies](#). Tyler will contact the Natural Shore Technologies team and greenhouse leader for early notification and coordination of order.
 - ❖ Note: Any plants from the project plant list not available with Natural Shore Technologies will be purchased at [BluPrairie Native Plant Nursery](#), located in Watertown, Minnesota. Should inventory be an issue, other vendors may be considered (including but not limited to [Prairie Restorations](#) and [Prairie Moon](#)).
 - ❖ Note: Depending on availability, plants may need to be swapped with other similar plants offered by the vendor.
- **May 10 – May 21:** City of Mound uses machinery to clear garden space after final check and clearance with electric/gas/utility.
- **May 21 – July 1:** Tyler Pieper picks up all orders from vendor(s).
- **May 21 – July 8:** Install all purchased plants. City of Mound provides mulch for first-year moisture control.
 - ❖ Note: Depending on plant availability, garden sections as designated in the plan may be planted in phases throughout spring/summer 2025.
- **June 7 – First Frost:** Tyler Pieper maintains all weeding, and City of Mound provides water on regular basis (weekly or bi-weekly).
 - ❖ Note: Watering schedule subject to change and adjustment due to seasonal rainfall conditions.
- **November - December 2025:** Tyler Pieper (in coordination with City of Mound staff) provides write-up summary to local newspaper, *The Laker*, for community coverage and awareness.
 - ❖ Note: The City of Mound staff will also coordinate and share an update on appropriate channels such as City of Mound website, social media, and other applicable locations for citizen consumption.
- **Fall 2025 - Summer 2026:** Install interpretive signs for visitors. Existing signs previously installed in Belmont and Edgewater Park could be replicated or a new vendor

(<https://vackersign.com/products/nature-signs/>) can be considered, pending City Council and POSC approval. Emphasis for signs will be 1) Rusty Patched Bumblebee Overview; 2) Water Quality Benefits of Native Plants and 3) Plant Identification.

- **Spring 2026 – Spring 2029:** Tyler Pieper maintains regular weeding and maintenance of all plants, including weeding. No watering is required after the first year. Mulch added judiciously and sparingly by City of Mound to not inhibit [loose soil habitat for bumblebees](#). Clean-up of over-wintered dead plants will annually occur in late spring/early, following [bee friendly principles](#) laid out by Minnesota Bee expert Heather Holm.
- **Spring 2026 – ongoing:** Tyler Pieper will document and share any sightings of Rusty Patched Bumblebee (along with other documented species) to, iNaturalist, an app-based community for naturalists used for documenting biodiversity.

Preliminary Order information (\$3.00 per plant/\$25.00 per plum or serviceberry/fruit tree)

Wild Strawberry: 129	Jacob's Ladder: 84	Wild Lupine: 66	Heath Aster: 40	Columbine: 119	American Bellflower: 39	Woodland Phlox: 84
Little Blue Stem: 147	Showy Goldenrod: 112	Rough Blazing Star: 27	Purple Prairie Clover: 24	Wild Geranium: 42	Wild Ginger: 42	Prairie Phlox: 60
Canadian Wild Rye: 144	Stiff Goldenrod: 48	Bee Balm: 24	Culver's Root: 21	Zig Zag Goldenrod: 117	Canadian Anemone: 39	Butterfly Weed: 21
Blue Eyed Grass: 88	Foxglove: 56	Prairie Smoke: 51	Thimbleweed: 48	Large Leaf Aster: 63	Bottlebrush Grass: 123	Aromatic Aster: 40

- ❖ Note: Depending on plant availability, species listed above may be swapped with replacements that match similar light, moisture, and habitat considerations which were used to determine the above grid.
- ❖ Note: The amounts listed in the grid above may fluctuate during ordering in proportion to vendor price changes.

Severity of the problem: Describe the severity of the problem to be addressed by the project. Describe how the problem will be addressed by the project.

- The Rusty Patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*) was once one of the most common bumble bees encountered in Minnesota. Since the 1990s, researchers began noticing declines across the range.
 - The Rusty Patched Bumble Bee's geographic distribution has been reduced by 70-87%, and there is evidence of declines in abundance of 92-95% (*Colla and Packer 2008; Cameron et al. 2011; Hatfield et al. 2015*). Despite having essentially disappeared from a large part of its historic range, there have been consistent contemporary detections in Minnesota, primarily in the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province, but their abundance has declined.
 - In 2019, the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee was designated the State Bee (2019 Minnesota Statutes, Section 1.14652019) as a means of raising awareness of their need for conservation concern. It was federally listed as endangered in 2017 in the United States and listed as critically endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2014 (*Hatfield et al. 2015*).
 - Workers have been observed in a variety of habitats, including forests, wetlands, grasslands, roadsides, agricultural fields, and residential parks (*Colla and Packer 2008*).
- As Hennepin County residents, we have the opportunity to support the endangered Rusty Patched Bumblebee. Many of the plants chosen for this project coincide with recommendations made by governmental and academic entities operating within the Rusty Patched Bumblebee's range.

- Plants chosen for this project are sourced locally within the Rusty Patched Bumblebee's Minnesota range and consist of many of their preferred food sources.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends introducing many plant species that Rusty Patched Bumblebees seem to favor: Anise Hyssop, White Prairie Clover, Purple Prairie Clover, Joe Pye weed, Echinacea species, Monarda sp., Aster sp., Goldenrod sp., and more.
- Workers and queens require consistent forage throughout the entire growing season, beginning with spring ephemerals when they first emerge around April (Mola et al. 2021), throughout the summer to provision their brood, and into the fall to build resources to overwinter. They are generalist foragers, preferring *Monarda fistulosa* (wild bergamot), *Eutrochium maculatum* (spotted Joe Pye weed), *Veronicastrum virginicum* (Culver's root), and Agastache spp. (hyssop) in the Midwest (Wolf et al. 2022), but foraging on a wide array of flowers, including both native and non-native flowers, and crops (Simanonok et al. 2021).
- Lake Minnetonka, the defining natural feature in Mound, is compromised by impairment stemming from run-off, shoreline degradation, urbanization, and other factors. This project would take place in a slopped park setting overlooking Harrisons Bay. By planting species with deep roots, more water will be absorbed and prevented from entering the storm water system during rain events. The level of impairment and several driving factors are described below by the [Minnehaha Creek Watershed District](#):
 - Four bays in Lake Minnetonka (Halsted Bay, Jennings Bay, Stubbs Bay, and West Arm, which includes Harrisons Bay) are listed on the State's Impaired Waters list for nutrients, with average summer phosphorus concentrations greater than the state standards. External loading from the watershed and internal loading from lake sediments are contributing to these concentrations. Lake Minnetonka is the primary receiving water in the subwatershed.
 - Watershed runoff from rainfall events, or stormwater, carries nutrients and other pollutants to surface waters leading to negative impacts in lakes, streams and wetlands. Runoff also carries increased loads of pollution that negatively impact the quality of lakes, streams, and wetlands. In urban and suburban areas, stormwater picks up excess nutrients, bacteria such as E. coli, chloride from road salt, and other pollutants causing toxicity to organisms or issues with excess nutrients (eutrophication).
 - These impacts heavily influence the conditions of surface waters because a healthy hydrologic condition is critical to supporting a healthy lake, stream, or wetland. As stormwater runoff increases, the quality of lakes, streams and wetlands decreases.
 - The Lake Minnetonka subwatershed is almost fully developed with mostly single-family residential uses, but also some agriculture in the western portion of the subwatershed. These land uses increase the volume of stormwater runoff and the phosphorus loads carried by this runoff. Four bays in Lake Minnetonka and Forest Lake exceed the state standard for total phosphorus, and runoff from lawns, streets, and agriculture in the subwatershed is a significant source of excess nutrients and sediment.
- Minnesota lies at the intersection of North America's prairie, eastern broadleaf forest, and boreal forest/peatlands. All of these ecosystems are under serious threat.
 - At the time of the Public Land Survey (1847-1908), Minnesota had 18 million acres of prairie. Today only a little over 1 percent of native prairie remains.
 - The Big Woods were once a 5,000 square mile forest that covered a diagonal strip of

south-central Minnesota. The Big Woods were 100 miles long and 40 miles wide. Today, most of the Big Woods have been cleared for agriculture and urban development.

- Nearby Big Woods remnants closest to the proposed project include Wolsfeld Woods SNA and Wood Rill SNA.

Project Impact: Describe how success will be measured and what benefits are anticipated after completing the project.

- Document all Rusty Patched Bumblebee sightings using [iNaturalist](#) from 2025 – 2030. Document other species of pollinators and insects to determine catalog of supported species using the park installation for habitat or food.
- Document total square footage planted on [Homegrown National Park](#).

Our National Parks, no matter how grand in scale, are too small and separated from one another to preserve (native) species to the levels needed. Thus, the concept for Homegrown National Park, a bottom-up call-to-action to restore habitat where we live and work, and to a lesser extent where we farm and graze, extending national parks to our yards and communities.

- Doug Tallamy, founder of Homegrown National Park.

- An estimated carbon sequestration impact of the planting will be calculated by using a recent *Journal of Environmental Management* study that found that native prairie ecosystems sequester up to 1.8 metric tons of carbon per hectare annually, compared to just 0.4 metric tons for traditional turf grass lawns. The total area of the planting will be calculated, and a carbon sequestration figure will be produced.
- The success of the project will also be measured by the amount of seeds created and collected. Every year, seeds will be collected and distributed in other installations and natural areas. This will serve as evidence of the projects success and appropriate selection of species that will thrive in the local environment.

In what ways does your project help to [mitigate or adapt to climate change](#) and/or help to [reduce racial disparities](#) in Hennepin County. Climate change is likely to bring more abrupt and challenging situations, such as flash floods or extreme heat, that worsen existing disparities in health and the environment.

Native plants are an important and crucial tool to help humans combat climate change. State and private carbon omission goals (such as Minnesota's pledge for 100 percent carbon-free electricity generation by 2040) move us the direction, but we need to also focus on sequestering the carbon that is still being emitted. Building more native plant designs into urban and suburban settings will limit the carbon omitted from lawn maintenance, while also drawing and storing more carbon. By utilizing park space to install native plants, the project addresses the following:

- **Carbon Sequestration:** The [Journal of Environmental Management](#) found that native prairie ecosystems sequester up to 1.8 metric tons of carbon per hectare annually, compared to just 0.4 metric tons for traditional turf grass lawns.
- **Carbon Storage:** The [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#) (PNAS) showed native prairie plants, including flowering pollinators, grow deeper and more extensive root systems compared to turf grasses. Their penetrating roots allow them to sequester carbon more effectively than turf lawns.

- **Reduced CO2 Emissions:** One advantage of a native landscape is that it does not need to be mowed regularly. A turf-grass lawn, on the other hand, requires frequent maintenance, resulting in emissions of air pollutants from lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and weed whackers. The [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) has calculated that standard maintenance of 1000 acres of lawn will lead to the emission of 18 tons of VOCs per year, and that a gasoline-powered lawn mower pollutes as much in one hour as does driving an automobile for 20 miles.

A [study of 220 scientific articles](#) revealed the hydrologic impacts of native plants and those used in conventional landscapes, such as turf grass. As the climate warms, the impacts on bodies of water intensify. Native plants can buffer our water supply from climate change's most impactful effects, as noted below.

- **Infiltration:** Infiltration rates varied widely among native grasses and turf grasses, and between compacted and non- compacted soils. A 1996 study reported an infiltration rate of 7.5 inches per hour in native switchgrass, while a 1979 study of urban sidewalk grass reported an infiltration rate of 0.29 inches per hour. A 1970 study demonstrated that as soil becomes more compacted, which is typical of urban soils, the rate of infiltration decreases.
- **Evapotranspiration:** Evapotranspiration measurements varied widely between region and plant type. Northern semiarid grasslands had less than half the rate of evapotranspiration as turf grass, indicating that more water remained in the soil and less was lost via evapotranspiration.
- **Interception:** In John Weaver's 1968 study of the Midwestern prairie, he measured interception by different types of grasses, cereal, and forage crops. Native grasses such as little and big bluestem intercepted 47-81 percent of precipitation.
- **Runoff:** Studies show that surface runoff varied, from 3.6 inches per year in native grassland, to 1.3 inches per year in compact lawn turf. These numbers are not conclusive, however, since varying conditions such as the slope of the land, and the type of soil texture could strongly influence the amount of runoff.
- **Water Conservation:** Native plants conserve water because, once established, they do not need additional watering. Although it depends on climate, soil, and grass type, on average, turf lawns require about one inch of water per week during the summer. This means that in the Midwest watering an acre turf lawn for 12 weeks uses 325,848 gallons of water. Watering a half-acre turf grass lawn during the summer months requires 162,924 gallons of water. This is equivalent to filling a 30-foot round, 4-foot deep, swimming pool almost 4.5 times during the summer. Since native plants, once established, do not need additional watering during the summer months, they could be a tool for meeting local water conservation needs, especially in communities with water usage restrictions.

Staff, partners, and volunteers: List and provide contact information for any partners, staff, and volunteers who will be involved with project implementation. Include a brief description of their background, qualifications, and their expected contributions for the project.

- Tyler Pieper – Lead volunteer/planner. He has coordinated projects of a similar nature for the City of Mound in the past and has specialized in native plant installations around the community for more than seven years.
- City of Mound – Parks and Open Spaces Commission, City of Mound crew workers, and Mound City Council.
- Other volunteers for planting sessions in year 1
 - Laurie Pieper – native plant gardener
 - David Pieper – native plant gardener
 - Justin Michels – native plant gardener
 - Claire Pieper – native plant enthusiast

- Mound Community Garden members – a solicitation email calling for volunteers would be sent in 2025 prior to planting season.

Budget: Provide a budget for the project including total costs broken down by tasks and the amount requested through this Good Steward grant application. Describe how the costs were estimated. In addition, provide the following breakdown:

- Total project cost: \$7,000.00
- Good Steward grant request: \$5,250.00
- Other match funding sources: \$1,750 provided by City of Mound

1,898 plants + 6 plum trees + 4 serviceberry trees	\$3.00 per plant/\$25 per tree	\$5,944.00
Signage budget	Individual species corrugated signs (\$14 per sign) and install with emphasis on Rusty Patched Bumblebee and Water Filtration abilities of deep-rooted plants.	\$250.00
Plant Replacement	Plant/tree replacement from disease, deer/rabbit, or unforeseen issues for first three years.	\$500.00
Miscellaneous Fees	Extra costs associated with City of Mound costs/materials, sales tax (not included in plant estimate), and other considerations (such as increased plant prices). Any extra funds would be applied to replacement plants or additions to the original planting.	\$546.00
Total Cost		\$7,000.00

Local commitment: Describe the decision-making process used to select the project. That is, why was this project chosen over other solutions? List if and where the proposed project is identified as a priority by a local, state, and/or federal government agency that manages natural resources, such as in a state-approved watershed management plan or a local comprehensive plan.

- Successful previous native plant installations coordinated with the City of Mound and Tyler Pieper served as the template for this project. The work undertaken on previous installations succeeded thanks to cost saving and prioritized spending. As in previous projects, nearly all funds associated with the Edgewater Park installation are going directly towards the purchase of native plants, with installation and preparation accomplished through volunteer efforts.
- The POSC and Tyler Pieper worked collaboratively on the proposal through a series of meetings, which included community input from neighbors of Edgewater Park (see Supplemental Attachment -Edgewater Park Letter). For a native planting to last long-term, neighbor and resident support is critical.
- The new Edgewater Pollinator Habitat, and indeed all of these installation projects, will reduce excess nutrients and reduce storm water runoff into [Harrisons Bay, which is impaired](#).
- Hennepin County is a stronghold for the endangered Rusty Patched Bumblebee. Plants were chosen specifically because of their history and documentation in the county, specifically referencing the National Wildlife Federation's [Native Plants Finder tool](#). By using plants historically found in Hennepin County (which includes buying from vendors who reinforce local

sourcing), we ensure that the Rusty Patched Bumblebee and other important pollinators have plant species they are best suited to use.

- This grant recognizes that regionally/locally focused plantings depend on vendors willing to promote ecologically sound practices. In order to support this homegrown effort, vendors (including Natural Shore Technologies and BluPrairie Native Plant Nursery) will be prioritized that reside within a 20-mile radius from the installation location.

Additional Impairment Resources:

- Minnesota's 2024 Impaired Waters List (wq-iw1-81) Approved by U.S. EPA - April 2024:
 - <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/wq-iw1-81.xlsx>
- Harrisons Bay Association:
 - <https://harrisonsbay.org/water-quality>

Additional Bumblebee and Pollinator Resources:

- Native plant finder sorted by county (National Wildlife Foundation)
 - <https://nativeplantfinder.nwf.org/Plants/Flowers-and-Grasses>
- Creating habitat for Rusty Patched Bumblebees (Hennepin County)
 - <https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/residents/conservation/land-protection-restoration/pollinator-habitat-flyer.pdf>
- Natural Shore Technologies – Protecting Minnesota's Rusty Patched Bumblebee
 - <https://www.naturalshore.com/on-the-hunt-for-rusty/>

Provide a short summary of any other information that may be pertinent to the project and the county evaluation process of your application. This information may serve as a tiebreaker during the evaluation process.

- **Prior demonstrations of success**
 - This project will thrive thanks to similar, but much smaller, coordinated efforts undertaken by the POSC, City of Mound, and Tyler Pieper during the previous five years. During this time, the partners successfully planned, planted, and maintained a series of three native installations (two phases in Belmont Park and one in Edgewater Park). *See supplemental attachments.*
 - At these two parks, interpretive signs were installed as well, showing some of the native plants used and explaining the garden's benefits. Along with signage designating habitat or plants, signage and information about the Rusty Patched Bumblebee will be installed.
- **Volunteer expertise**
 - Tyler Pieper also oversaw five phases of native plant gardens at the Bethel Church Community Garden.
 - The City of Mound employees, residents, and volunteers will apply their skill and leverage lessons from their successful plantings to scale-up with this proposed new native plant expansion in Edgewater Park.
- **Increasing urban habitat for pollinators**
 - Along with the benefit of a standardized process and routine set of actions, the project will build upon a multi-year ecological goal of expanding and growing towards connecting the Mound native plantings. While isolated native plantings are indeed

beneficial, they are like wildlife islands. These islands are limited in size and due to their fragmented nature and are more dangerous and difficult for animals to utilize. This reduces the genetic diversity of populations.

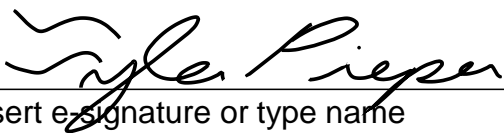
- Fragmented populations are less stable than those in conserved continuous habitats and are at increased risk of decline. While roads and infrastructure make direct connection impossible, growing native plantings and extending their reach is impactful. For instance, the majority of bumblebees travel less than a mile during their entire life span. Native bees overall have limited foraging ranges, 200 yards to one mile (<https://neighborhoodgreening.org/saving-our-bees-by-heather-holm/>). As plantings grow and thrive, genetic diversity and biodiversity can be protected.

- **Other considerations**

- Tyler Pieper will contact the Mound Fire Department to inquire about a once-every-three year burn rotation, and will coordinate with the Fire Dept. to coordinate this activity safely. Burning of native plantings ensures vigorous growth and reduces die-off from accumulating plant materials that limit new seed growth. For more information and insight, review the following: <https://www.threeriversparks.org/blog/prairie-burns-protecting-precious-habitat-fire>
- Should Tyler Pieper leave the area, pass away or become unable to maintain the project after installation, the City of Mound will become lead of this grant and its associated outcomes.

Terms and conditions

As part of the application process, you will be asked to provide your tax identification number or social security number. These numbers will be made available to federal and state tax authorities and state personnel involved in the payment of county obligations, including delinquent tax liabilities. The purpose of this application is to authorize the collection of the information necessary to make a preliminary eligibility determination. This application is not a binding contract on either party. By signing this application, the landowner(s) agrees to grant Hennepin County representatives permission to visit the parcel and to provide other ownership and title documents requested by Hennepin County during this determination.


Insert e-signature or type name

January 22, 2025
Date



Edgewater Park

Native Garden Expansion Proposal

2025 - 2026
Install Plan

Why Continue the Expansion?

Purpose: Continue the native plant expansion into Edgewater Park to beautify the park for visitors, increase critical pollinator habitat, and reduce hillside erosion and water run-off into Harrisons Bay, a designated impaired water body by the [Minnesota Pollution Control](#).

Plants to match conditions: Previous installs on a smaller scale thrived in a full-sun, dry soil setting, and accordingly, similar plants will be employed to maximize growth and assimilation into the site, while minimizing replacements. Dry/shady plants will be planted under existing tree coverage.



Installation Plan

- *Clearing Site by City Crew: End of May 2024*
- *Planting and Seeding: June 2025*
- *Apply Mulch & Water: June 2025*
 - *From this plan, this would be the only item of cost for the City to handle.*
- *Weekly Weeding/Maintenance: 2025 – 2026*
- *Signage Installation: Fall 2025 or Spring 2026*
- *Management and Reporting: 2026 – 2030.*
 - *Written story for local newspaper, The Laker, announcement via City of Mound website, and other sources.*



Edgewater Garden Expansion

Plant Order Plan:

Tyler Pieper will supply the City of Mound with an order for approximately \$5,944 worth of plants and shrubs from [Natural Shoreline Technologies](#) after approval of overall project. If Natural Shore cannot fulfill the entire dollar amount for plants and shrubs, [BluPrairie Native Plant Nursery](#) will serve as a secondary vendor, as they carry local native plants at a similar price.

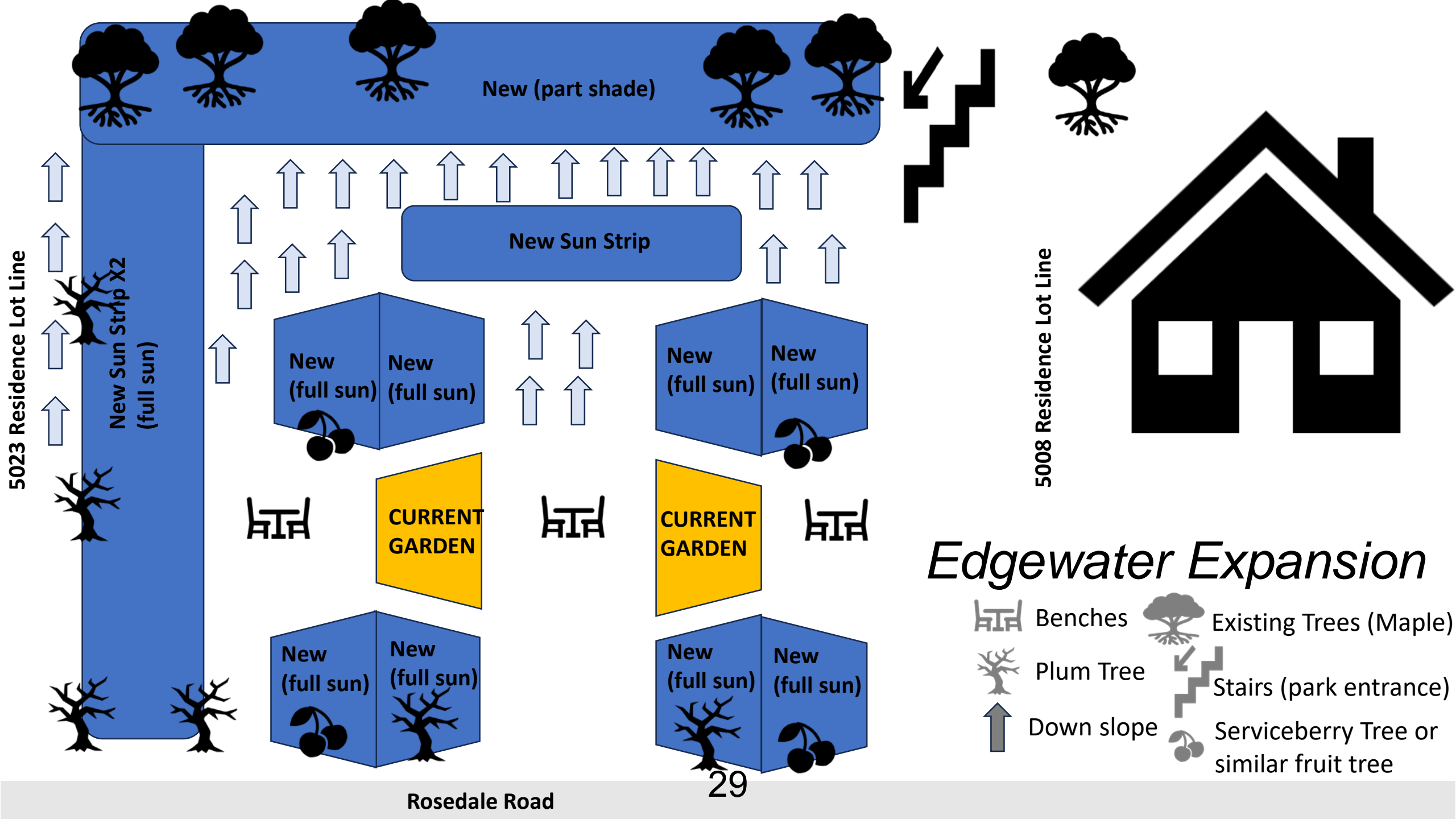
Estimated Costs:

- Plants = \$3.00 per plant (approximately)
- 1,898 plants for approximately \$5,944



Edgewater Park



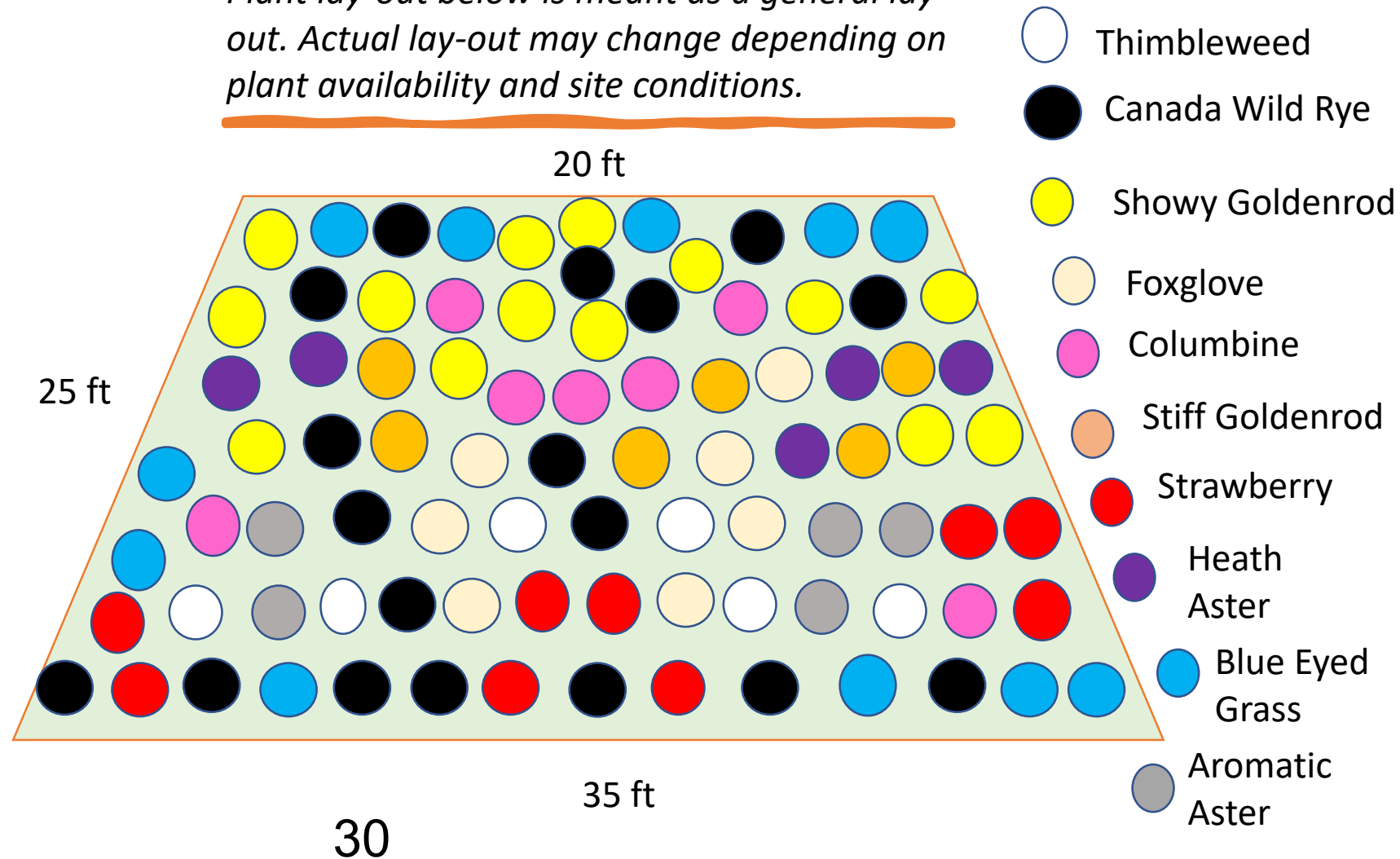




New Garden (full sun)

90 Plants per garden (x8 gardens)

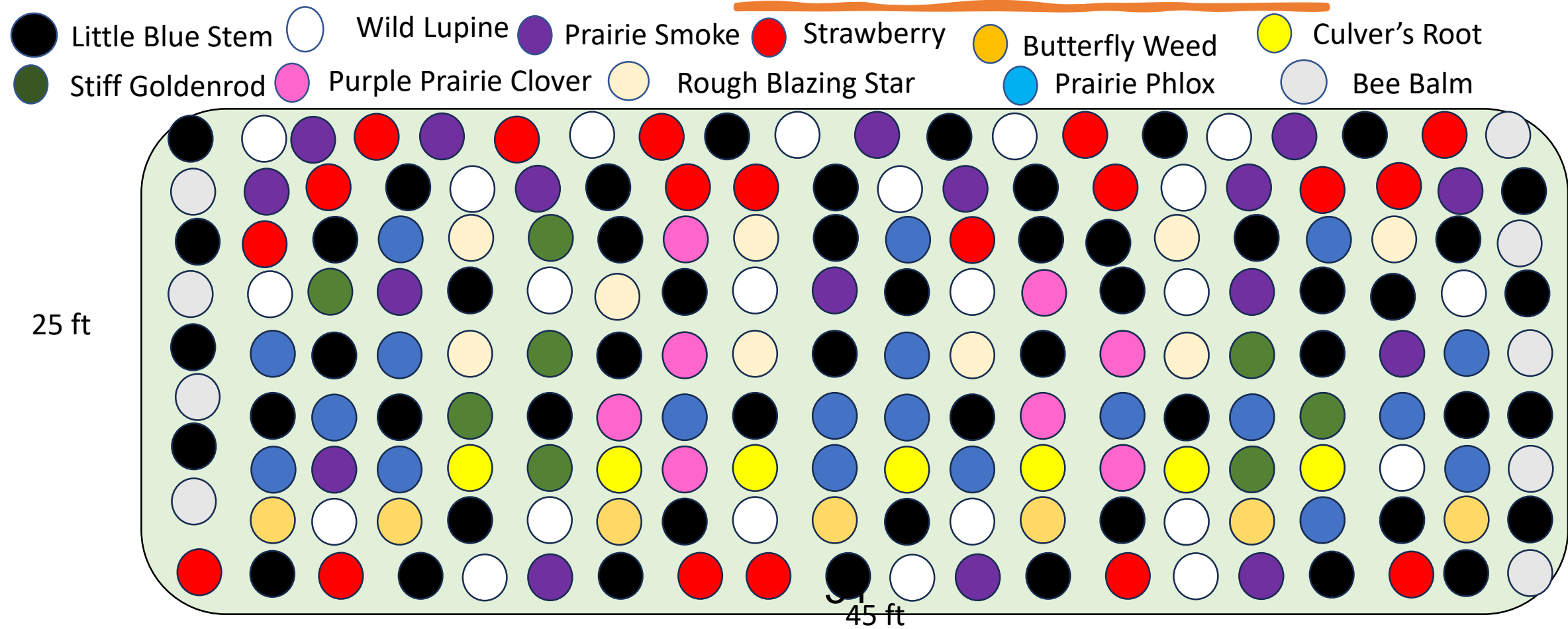
Plant lay-out below is meant as a general lay-out. Actual lay-out may change depending on plant availability and site conditions.



Sun Strip Garden Layout

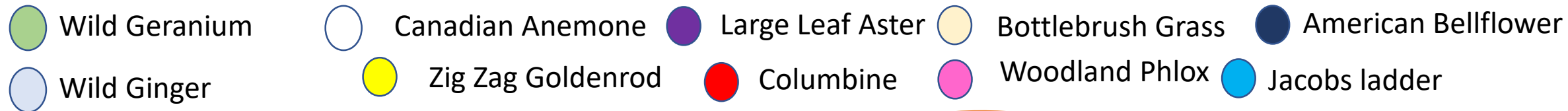
(180 Plants x3 gardens)

Plant lay-out below is meant as a general lay-out. Actual lay-out may change depending on plant availability and site conditions.

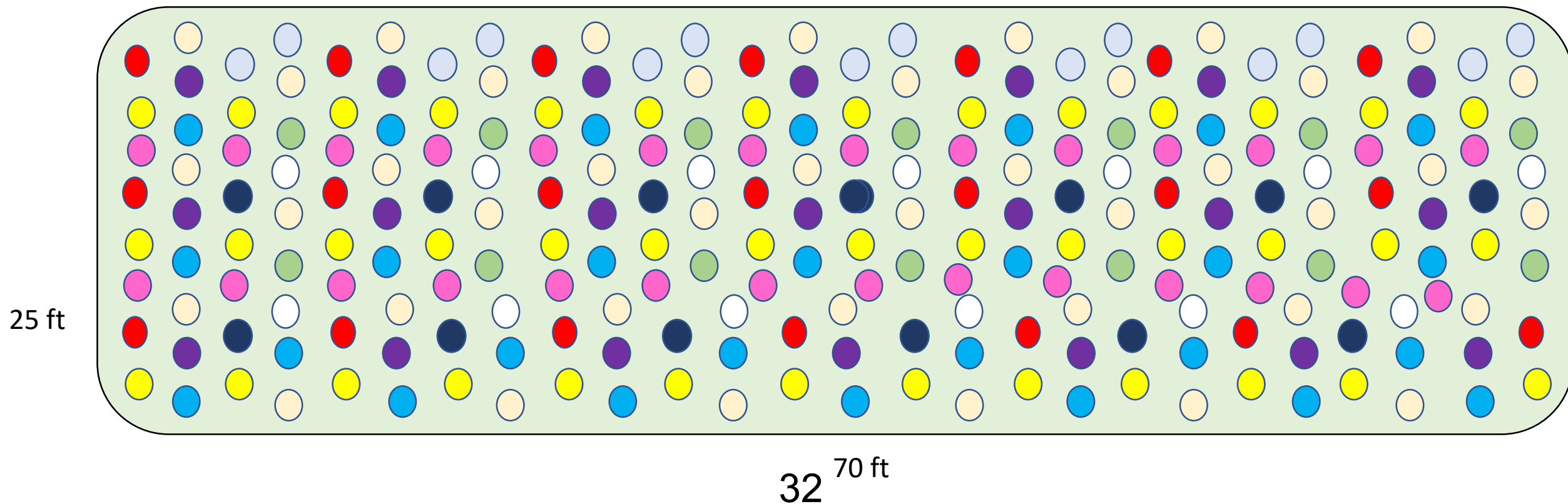


Shade Strip Garden Layout

240 plants total (x3 gardens)



Plant lay-out below is meant as a general lay-out. Actual lay-out may change depending on plant availability and site conditions.



Plant Selection...part I



- [Wild Native Lupine \(*Lupinus perennis*\)](#): 1 – 3 ft (May - June)

- Wild Lupine is the only host plant for the Karner Blue butterfly caterpillar. Habitat loss has led to the decline in plants, and put the Karner Blue on the endangered species list.



- [Little Blue Stem \(*Schizachyrium scoparium*\)](#): 1-3 ft (August – September)

- A pretty grass, Little Bluestem is another iconic species of prairies that once covered much of Minnesota. It is a host plant for several native butterflies and is popular in the garden trade as well as restoration projects.



- [Prairie Smoke \(*Geum friflorum*\)](#): 6-16 inches (April – June)

- Prairie Smoke is one of the first prairie flowers to bloom in the spring, a sign that the growing season has begun in Minnesota.



- [Prairie Phlox \(*Phlox pilosa*\)](#): 1-2 ft (May - June)

- Prairie Phlox adds a splash of shocking pink to prairies each June. It also does well in a garden, in sunny, sandy soil.

- [Stiff Goldenrod \(*Solidago rigida*\)](#): 1 – 5 ft (August – September)

- This species thrives in part-sun to full sun. The genus of “goldenrod” is actually one of the most beneficial plant species for insects, and has been regarded as a “keystone” species.



Plant Selection...part II



- [Thimbleweed \(*Anemone cylindrica*\)](#): 1-2 feet (June – August)
 - If available, the other species of Anemone native to Minnesota, *Anemone virginiana*, could be employed in the shade garden section.



- [Rough Blazing Star \(*Liatris aspera*\)](#): 1-3 ft (July - August)
 - There are 5 species of Blazing Star native to Minnesota and one relatively easy way to tell similar species apart is by the floral bracts. Rough Blazing Star has round bracts with fringed edges that curl or fold in, and its flower heads have little or no stalk.



- [Purple Prairie Clover \(*Dalea purpea*\)](#): 10-20 inches (May – July)
 - Purple Prairie Clover typically grows in clumps. When not flowering it looks similar to White Prairie Clover (*Dalea candida*), which is less clump-forming and has broader leaflets. It is a great plant for pollinators and does well in a sunny home garden in average to dry soil.



- [Blue Eyed Grass \(*Sisyrinchium montanum*\)](#): 5-20 inches (May-June)
 - A small early season flower that maintains a small size while still being quite showy.

- [Showy Goldenrod \(*Solidago flexicaulis*\)](#): 1 – 3 ft (August – September)
 - This species thrives in part-sun to full sun as long. The genus of “goldenrod” is actually one of the most beneficial plant species for insects, and has been regarded as a “keystone” species.



Plant Selection...part III



- [Wild Strawberry \(*Fragaria virginiana*\): 6 inches \(April – June\)](#)

- It is a hardy plant that grows in a wide variety of sun/shade and soil conditions. Wild strawberry spreads rapidly by ground runners. Yes, you can eat it! The birds will love this.



- [Culver's Root \(*Veronicastrum virginicum*\): 3-6 ft \(June - August\)](#)

- Culver's Root has white flower spikes that add a unique color and texture to any garden. Culver's Root can handle some shade and moist soil, making it a valuable flower for hard-to-grow areas. The spent flower heads turn brown and look really nice among fall prairie grasses like Little Bluestem and Prairie Dropseed.



- [Bee Balm \(*Monarda fistulosa*\): 10-20 inches \(May – July\)](#)

- Well-known native wildflower and a favorite of hummingbirds, butterflies, and long-tongued native bees. Forms dense stand when left to spread. Native species is light purple in color, with other varieties exhibiting darker purples and reds. Lovely when planted in large drifts in areas with space. Can be susceptible to powdery mildew, and does best in locations with plenty of sun and some air movement through the area



- [American Bellflower \(*Campanulastrum americanum*\): 2-6 ft \(July - September\)](#)

- The flowers are more saucer-shaped than bell-shaped as the other *Campanula* species are, so should not be confused with the others, Creeping Bellflower (*Campanula rapunculoide*) in particular.

- [Butterfly Weed \(*Asclepias tuberosa*\): 6 inches \(April – June\)](#)

- A host plant for Monarch butterfly caterpillars, the flower is a favorite for many other butterflies as well. It makes a fantastic garden plant with a long bloom season.



Plant Selection...part IV



- [Canadian Wild Ginger \(*Asarum canadense*\)](#): 1 ft (April - May)
 - This is a wonderful ground cover that works well in the deepest shade sections. There are a few colonies growing on the Dakota Bike Trail, demonstrating its connection to the 55364 zip code.



- [Large-Leaf Aster \(*Erybia macrophylla*\)](#): 1-2 ft (August – September)
 - Usually just a few plants in the colony will send up flower stalks. Large-leaf aster is found in deciduous forests and open woods. Commonly seen in large clusters in Lake Maria State Park. New shoots were eaten like salad by the native peoples.



- [Foxglove \(*Penstemon digitalis*\)](#): 2- 5 ft (May - June)
 - Part shade/sun. I have found this to be a great one for the early June weeks when there is typically not a whole lot in bloom. This would be for the sunnier parts of the space.



- [Zig zag Goldenrod\(*Solidago flexicaulis*\)](#): 1 -3 ft (August - October)
 - Zig-zag Goldenrod is one of the easier Solidago species to ID. The woodland habitat, broad, coarsely toothed leaves and erect clusters make it pretty unique. It does very well in a shade garden, though its spreading nature may take some care to keep in line. Like most goldenrods, it is a pollinator magnet

- [Wild Geranium \(*Geranium maculatum*\)](#): 1-3 ft (May - June)
 - Wild Geranium makes a wonderful part-sun/shade garden plant. It is easily distinguished from the other 3 Geranium species in Minnesota by its comparatively large flowers, 3/4 inch or more in diameter, where the others are under 1/2 inch.



Plant Selection...part V



- [Canadian Anemone \(*Anemone canadensis*\): 1 – 2 ft \(May – July\)](#)

- Canada Anemone can form sizable colonies via spreading rhizomes. It's found in wet ditches, on shorelines, moist prairies and meadows all across the state starting in late spring.



- [Native Columbine \(*Aquilegia canadensis*\): 1-3 ft \(May - July\)](#)

- Columbine, also called Red or American Columbine, is one of the first plants to provide nectar in the spring for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Columbine is the larval host plant of the Columbine Duskywing. The colorful flowers are red flowing into yellow. Besides being an early bloomer, Columbine will tolerate a large range of soil and sun types, so you'll have success with it in full sun as well as shade. *(description from prairiemoon.com)*



- [Jacob's Ladder \(*Polemonium reptans*\): 10-20 inches \(May – July\)](#)

- Jacob's ladder is a lovely spring wildflower with light blue bell-shaped flowers. The leaves are compound with the leaflets having a flattened appearance to look like the rungs of a ladder. It prefers shade but will grow in partial to full sun if it receives adequate moisture.



- [Armotic Aster \(*Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*\): 1 – 2 ft inches \(September – November\)](#)

- This is one of the last flowers to bloom in late summer through fall. There is no floral scent, but the leaves give off a pleasant aroma when crushed, and is where the common name comes from.

- [Showy Goldenrod \(*Solidago flexicaulis*\): 1 – 3 ft \(August – September\)](#)

- This species thrives in part-sun to full sun. The genus of “goldenrod” is actually one of the most beneficial plant species for insects, and has been regarded as a “keystone” species.



Fruiting Tree/Shrub



- [American Plum Tree \(*Prunus americana*\)](#): 10 – 25 ft (April - May)
 - A shrub or small tree, Wild Plum is common throughout our prairie and central hardwoods regions. This provides food for hundreds of butterfly caterpillars. Within 3 years, shrubs will produce delicious fruit for wildlife and park visitors.



- [Smooth Serviceberry \(*Amelanchier laevis*\)](#): 6 – 45 ft (April - May)
 - The sweet and juicy blue-black berries taste like a cross between a strawberry and a blueberry, with a hint of almond.



- [American Highbush Cranberry \(*Viburnum opulus* var. *americanum*\)](#): 8 – 15 ft (May - June)
 - Highbush cranberry is a good choice for the edges of either a woodland or a sunny garden. It seems to find its sweet spot where an open area meets tall trees.

Replacement Plant Selection (if necessary)...part I

- [Sprengel's Sedge \(*Carex sprengelii*\): 1 – 2 ft \(June – July \)](#)

- A common woodland sedge, *Carex sprengelii* is found throughout Minnesota. It is a cool-season sedge, blooming in early spring and may bloom again in fall.

- [Jack in the Pulpit \(*Arisaema triphyllum*\): 1-3 ft \(April – June\)](#)

- While Jack-in-the-pulpit has both male and female plants, they can change gender from year to year, apparently in response to successful (or failed) reproduction the previous year.

- [Rattlesnake Master \(*Eryngium yuccifolium*\): 2 -5 ft \(July - August\)](#)

- To any sense of observation, this one is a no-brainer as Rattlesnake Master is a unique plant—at first encounter it is startlingly different than most native plant forms. It also makes an excellent garden specimen as a durable perennial in most soil types with adequate sun

- [Canada Wild Rye \(*Elymus canadensis*\): 2 -4 ft inches \(June - August\)](#)

- Canada wild rye is a cool-season, short-lived bunchgrass. Thick, bristly spikes appear in mid-summer often nodding with a bluish-green tint. All parts of the plant turn tan in the fall.

- [Heath Aster \(*Symphyotrichum ericoides*\): 1 – 3 ft \(August – October\)](#)

- This species thrives in part-sun to full sun. It is great for rough/sandy soils which match the proposed project site at Edgewater Park.



Replacement Plant Selection (if necessary)...part II

- [June Grass \(*Koeleria macrantha*\): 1 – 2 ft \(June – July \)](#)

- June Grass is one of the first prairie grasses to bloom, the pale, narrow panicles readily visible in June, and is where the common name originates.

- [Early Meadow Rue \(*Thalictrum dioicum*\): 8 – 30 inches \(April – June\)](#)

- Early Meadow Rue is similar to Tall Meadow Rue (*Thalictrum dasycarpum*), but the latter is a much taller plant (to 6 feet), has leaflets with only 2 or 3 lobes, and doesn't start blooming until about the time Early Meadow Rue goes to seed in June.

- [Whorled Milkweed \(*Asclepias verticillata*\): 1- 2 ft \(July - September\)](#)

- To any sense of observation, this one is a no-brainer as Rattlesnake Master is a unique plant—at first encounter it is startlingly different than most native plant forms. It also makes an excellent garden specimen as a durable perennial in most soil types with adequate sun

- [Poke Milkweed \(*Asclepias exaltata*\): 3 -5 ft inches \(June - August\)](#)

- Monarchs love it, and it is a popular plant for their caterpillars. This is one of the few shade-based milkweeds.

Note: Other replacements may be chosen, depending on availability and pricing from Natural Shore Technologies, BluPrairie Native Plant Nursery, and other native vendor(s) used.



Prior Demonstrations of Smaller-Scale Success

Belmont Garden 2021 Install

Collaboration between the Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission, Mound City Council, and Tyler Pieper (and additional volunteers).

Summary: This was the first installation project coordinated between the City of Mound and Tyler Pieper. It took place in [Belmont Park](#), with planning occurring during winter 2021 and installation completed summer 2021. Weeding and maintenance overseen by Tyler Pieper since year 1, and no watering has been required since 2022.

Full Project Plan: See *"Garden Plan - Belmont Park 2021 – Supplemental Attachment 1."*



Project Coverage: https://www.hometownsource.com/laker_pioneer/community/native-plants-to-bloom-in-belmont-park/article_36e8f9ee-7f7b-11ec-8932-2fdb9de1b964.html41

Prior Demonstrations of Smaller-Scale Success

Edgewater Garden 2022 Install

Second collaboration between the Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission, Mound City Council, and Tyler Pieper (and additional volunteers).

Summary: Located in Edgewater Park, planning occurred during later winter 2022 and installation completed summer 2022. Weeding and maintenance overseen by Tyler Pieper since year 1, and no watering has been required at the site since 2023.

Full Project Plan: See “Garden Plan - Edgewater Park 2022 – Supplemental Attachment 2.”



Pictures above taken from 2024, along with signage installed in 2023.

Prior Demonstrations of Smaller-Scale Success

Belmont Garden 2024 Install

Third collaboration between the Mound Parks and Open Spaces Commission, Mound City Council, and Tyler Pieper (and additional volunteers). It was installed adjacent to existing three-year old native gardens.

Summary: Coordinated between the City of Mound and Tyler Pieper this was the second native planting located in [Belmont Park](#), with planning occurring during winter 2024 and installation completed summer 2024. Weeding and maintenance overseen by Tyler Pieper for next three years, and no watering will be required after 2024.

Full Project Plan: See “Garden Plan - Belmont Park 2024 – Supplemental Attachment 3.”



Left: City of Mound crew clears the site. Middle: Planting after install. Right: Portion of a first year planting (right side) growing next to third year growth.



CITY OF MOUND
2415 Wilshire Blvd
Mound, MN 55364

TO: Parks and Open Spaces Commission

FROM: Maggie Reisdorf, Deputy City Manager

DATE: January 9, 2025

SUBJECT: General Project Updates

BACKGROUND:

Lost Lake Commons:

The POSC will start discussing Phase II of this project in early 2025. The City Engineer will bring this back to the POSC when they are ready to move forward with the design work elements of this phase.

Wayfinding Signage:

This will be part of the discussion with the Phase II Lost Lake Commons review.

Surfside Park: Depot Building

The City is planning some updates to the Depot Building at Surfside Park. This will include the replacement of the furnace, air conditioning, ceiling fans, and eventually the outside decking and inside kitchen area.

Staff is working on getting updated quotes for the furnace, air conditioning and ceiling fans.

Park Picnic Tables:

Per the request of the POSC, staff is doing an inventory of the City's park picnic tables as a way to put together a long-term capital replacement plan that staggers the replacement of the benches with low maintenance benches. Many of the current park benches are wooden and breaking down.

See inventory below.

Staff will start the process of scheduling the gradual replacement of picnic tables annually until all are replaced. Old picnic tables will be replaced with aluminum tables that are low maintenance.

Avalon - 1 wood
Scherven - 2 wood
Doone - 2 wood
Dundee - 2 wood
Chester - 2 wood
Swenson - 5 wood
Tyrone - 1 wood
Avon - 4 wood
Carlson - 2 wood
Seton - 1 wood
Edgewater - 1 wood
Centerview - 2 wood
City hall - 1 wood
Veterans Park - 1 wood
Surfside - 4 wood, 13 aluminum
Highland - 2 wood
Ridgewood - 1 wood
Rex-Alwin - 1 rubber dipped
Philbrook - 3 wood
Three Points - 2 wood, 1 metal
Wychwood - 1 wood
Canary - 1 plastic molded
Belmont - 1 wood
Parks shop (extra in for maintenance) - 4 wood tables

Totals - 45 wooden 13 Aluminum 3 other

RECOMMENDATION:

Informational Only.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.