



# Upper Prior Lake - Targeted Retrofits & Enhancements



## Clean Water Funds: 2011

Clean Water Grant	\$189,511
Leveraged Funds*	\$61,964
Total Project Budget	\$251,475

\* Leveraged Funds include required 25% local match

### Targeted Water:

Upper Prior Lake

### Project Sponsor:

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District

### Partners:

City of Prior Lake, Scott County SWCD, and 2 private landowners

### Grant Period:

January 2011 - December 2012

### Project Contact:

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## Project Narrative

Prior Lake has long been a regional recreation destination including swimming, boating and fishing. The lake gets year-round use from anglers pursuing bass, panfish and walleye. The undulating landscape and the lake itself are important groundwater recharge features for regional water resources including the Savage Fen, Eagle Creek water supply aquifers and the Minnesota River. The management of water quality in Prior Lake is top priority for the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District (PLSLWD) and other local partners.

Both Spring and Upper Prior Lakes have poor water quality and are listed as impaired due to excessive nutrients. Lower Prior Lake is currently not listed as impaired. Reducing stormwater runoff volume and nutrient loading will help prevent this lake from further degradation. To this end, the PLSLWD in partnership with the City of Prior Lake and the Scott County SWCD conducted a study that identified retrofit stormwater management practices.

This project proposes water storage and infiltration of stormwater runoff with the construction of 39 new rain gardens, a pervious pavement area, and modification of outlet control structures for 11 City ponds. The City of Prior Lake has scheduled regular maintenance of these ponds in 2011 and this is the prime opportunity to collaborate with the City to complete these enhancements.

## Actual Outcomes

In coordination with the "Anoka Directed Clean Water Fund Grant", all 11 City ponds were retrofitted, removing 60 pounds of phosphorus per year from directly entering the lake. Instead of 39 small rain gardens and a small permeable pavement project, three large regional rain gardens were installed (one pictured below), removing an additional 6 pounds of phosphorus.

