

Lake Management Protection Grant (10K Incentive) Final Report
Stricker Pond Shoreline Vegetation Restoration – LPW-023-05
City of Middleton, WI November 21, 2005

Introduction & Background:

Stricker Pond is one of four glacial kettle ponds owned and managed by the City of Middleton. Described as an “educational asset” by the late Dr. Jim Zimmerman, in the Wetland & Vegetation Design & Management Plan for Strickers Pond (1991). Strickers Pond is a natural wetland in an urban setting and the utilization of the pond for storm water retention has increased over the years further degrading water quality. Of the 537 acre watershed, 28% is impervious and 19% is directly connected to the pond which accounts for the fluctuating variable water levels over time. This \$19,100 grant project seeks to further protect, enhance and improve this significant regional natural resource through a partnership agreement with the City of Middleton, DNR, MCPSD, DOCC, FOKP, DCCL and other volunteer resources.

Project goals & Objectives:

- Improve Pond Storm Water Infiltration Capacity
- Prevent Shoreline Erosion
- Improve Aquatic & Emergent Vegetation
- Improve Wildlife Habitat – Nesting & Foraging Sites
- Prevent Spread of Invasive/Exotic Weed Species In watershed & Beyond
- Improve Pond & Upland Aesthetics
- Educate Visitors On Water Quality & Shoreline Restoration
- Create High Quality Green Space

Summary of Activities:

- Vegetation assessment conducted prior to site preparation
- Prescribed burn conducted spring 2005 at site
- Reed canary grass mowed and treated w/ herbicide application twice prior to mulching site in preparation of plantings
- Site mulched to depth of 4-6” as additional weed control measure
- Plantings completed as specified by LJ Reas Consulting and staff -August 2005
- First growing season management followed typical hand weed control measures several times to prevent weed growth & encourage native plant growth
- Publicity included local coverage of efforts by Middleton Times Tribune, and formal power point presentations to the Conservancy Lands Committee and Common Council provided by LJ Reas Consulting. The City of Middleton will also be posting the cd information on the City website for public information. The City will also be posting a plaque at project site recognizing the partners involved.
- Stricker Pond has long been recognized as one of four unique and valuable glacial kettle ponds in the area. This shoreline habitat improvement project will enhance wildlife and migratory waterfowl viewing opportunities and protect aquatic resources as well.