

RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT *Dialogue*

Cost-Share Grants Available to Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) Residents

There are cost-share dollars available to help residents install “best management practices” (BMPs) that help reduce stormwater runoff and control shoreline erosion. To find out if you live within the RCWD boundaries, contact the RCWD office or visit RiceCreek.org to use the interactive district map. The RCWD’s grant program is administered by the Anoka, Ramsey and Washington Conservation Districts. Grants are for 50% of the project cost up to \$5,000.

Since the Environmental Protection Agency identifies stormwater runoff as the number one cause of water pollution, reducing stormwater runoff by encouraging infiltration is key to keeping our lakes and rivers clean. Typical BMPs include: raingardens, stabilizing shorelines with native plants, restoring wetlands, controlling erosion or soaking in stormwater runoff with pervious or porous pavers. To find out more about BMPs to solve the runoff or erosion problem on your property, you can find more information in the Minnesota Stormwater Manual found online at <http://www.eorinc.com/resourceslinks.php>.

Learn more about plantings that are easy, economical, save water, control erosion and soak up excess stormwater, by visiting the Rice Creek Watershed District’s multiple award-winning outreach program, Blue Thumb-Planting for Clean Water, at BlueThumb.org. On this site, you can find how-to videos, planting blueprints, a plant selector tool, retailers, landscapers, grant information for the entire metro area, workshops and more.

You can arrange a site visit to have a professional review your property to discuss BMP options by calling Ryan Johnson at 651-266-7275.