

City Engineering- Stormwater and Sanitary Sewer Section

Pond and greenway invasive plant management

Background:

- Engineering owns and maintains approximately 1,200 acres of storm water drainage ponds and greenway corridors
- Vegetation varies- approx. 60% are prairie, many are mowed grass, some wooded, some wetland, etc
- Engineering must ensure these systems perform their primary function as storm water drainage and conveyance
- We follow **Pollinator Taskforce** recommendations to promote wildlife habitat- especially bee pollinator by reduced mowing and preventing invasive plants from spreading.

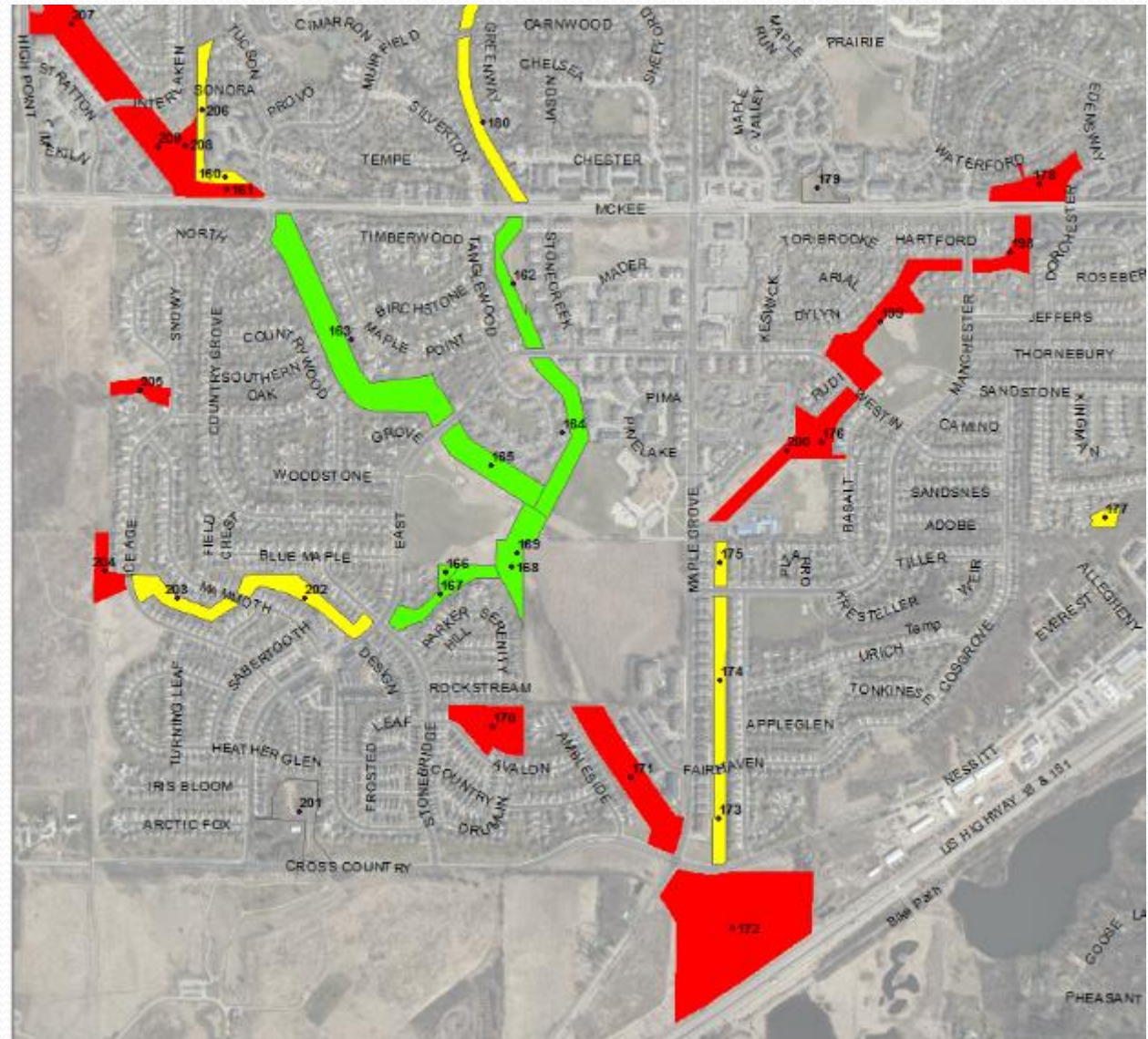
Pond and greenway map example

Legend:

Red: Prairie- no
mow

Green: Mow 1
June

Yellow: Turf-
Mow 2 x a year



Stormwater Ponds and Greenways for Pollinators



Process to determine how to manage:

1. Inventory all 1,200 acres. What is growing where?
2. Now we know what is growing. What is good and what is bad?
3. Define which invasive species to target & remove as much as possible and which areas are a priority.
4. Timing of invasive removal.
5. Communication.

Existing Prairie and Grass Meadow



Mowed grass



Unmowed (managed meadows)



Wetland Channels and Basins



How we do this...

- Volunteers will continue to be an integral part of monitoring sites, removing, and treating invasive plants.
- Operation Fresh Start will work with Engineering staff to remove invasive trees and plants , and treat with herbicide as needed.



Herbicide

- Use minimal amounts of herbicide only when other manual / mechanical methods do not work- example willows at outfall structures and Japanese knotweed
- Use a small amount of herbicide by cutting and treating rather than foliar application when possible
- Herbicide after mowing or prescribed burn is preferable

Why this is important?

It's important to keep a diversity of flowering plants for pollinator food and habitat.



Questions?

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