



Photo courtesy of Joe Barten (Dakota SWCD)

# Landscaping for wildlife, bees and water retention

Steve Christopher | Board Conservationist

# Overview of Topics

- Government structure
- Practices
- Resources for you

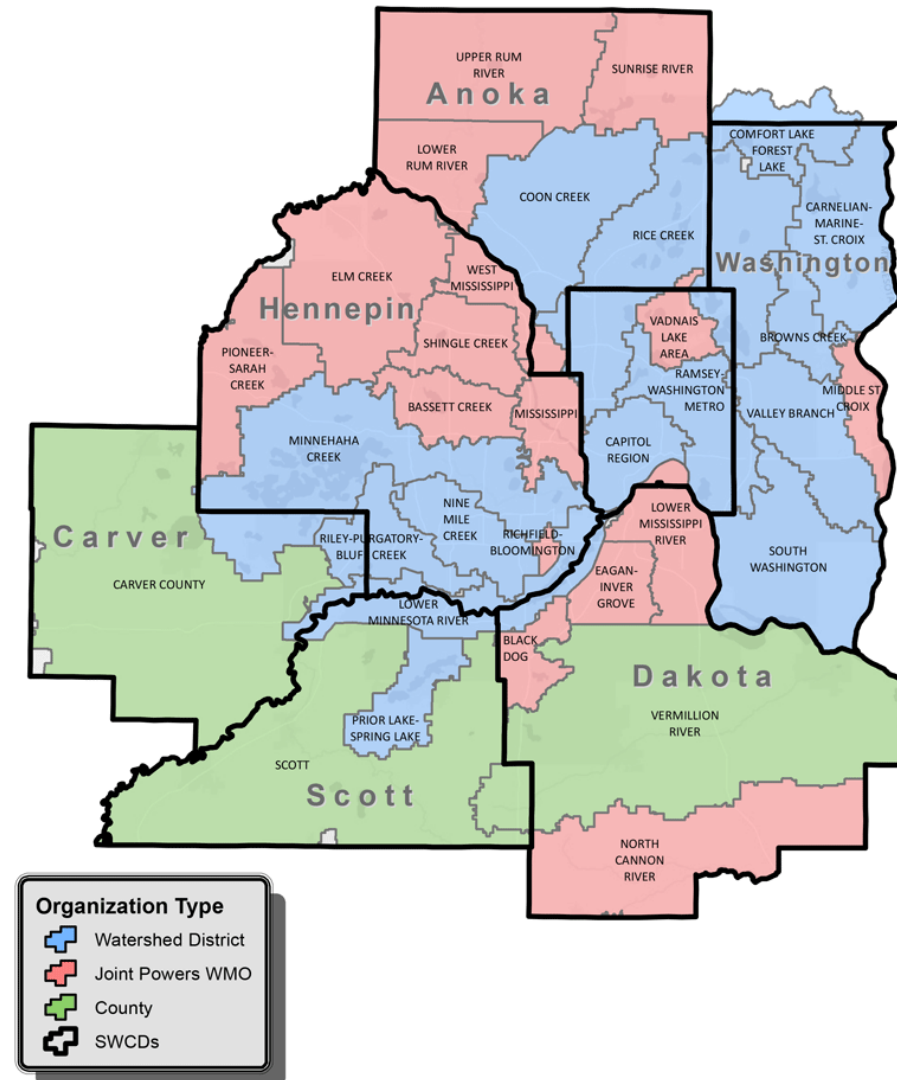


Photo courtesy of Joe Barten (Dakota SWCD)



# Metro Watersheds

- Plymouth is within the Bassett Creek WMC, Elm Creek WMC, Minnehaha Creek WD, and Shingle Creek WMC
- Cities play a large role in water resource management within the Twin Cities metro area
- Hennepin County serves as the Soil and Water Conservation District



# Raingardens



Photo courtesy of Metro Blooms



Photo courtesy of Blue Thumb

# Shoreline & Streambank Stabilizations



Photos Courtesy of Natural Shore – 2015 Sweeney Lake Restoration

# Runoff Reduction Practices

- Rain barrels
- Pervious surfaces such as pavers



Photo courtesy of Metro Blooms



Photo courtesy of MCWD

# Habitat Practices

- Native grasses and plantings
  - Staggered blooming cycles
  - Reduced need for watering
  - Less overall maintenance



Photo courtesy of Joe Barten (Dakota SWCD)



# 'Green' Yard Maintenance

- Redirect rain gutters and downspouts to your landscape
- Reuse rain for watering
- Keep garden debris in place in the fall. Butterflies and bees use it to over-winter. It also prevents wind erosion of topsoil.
- Adding compost/soil amendments will increase the water holding capacity (must be weed-free).

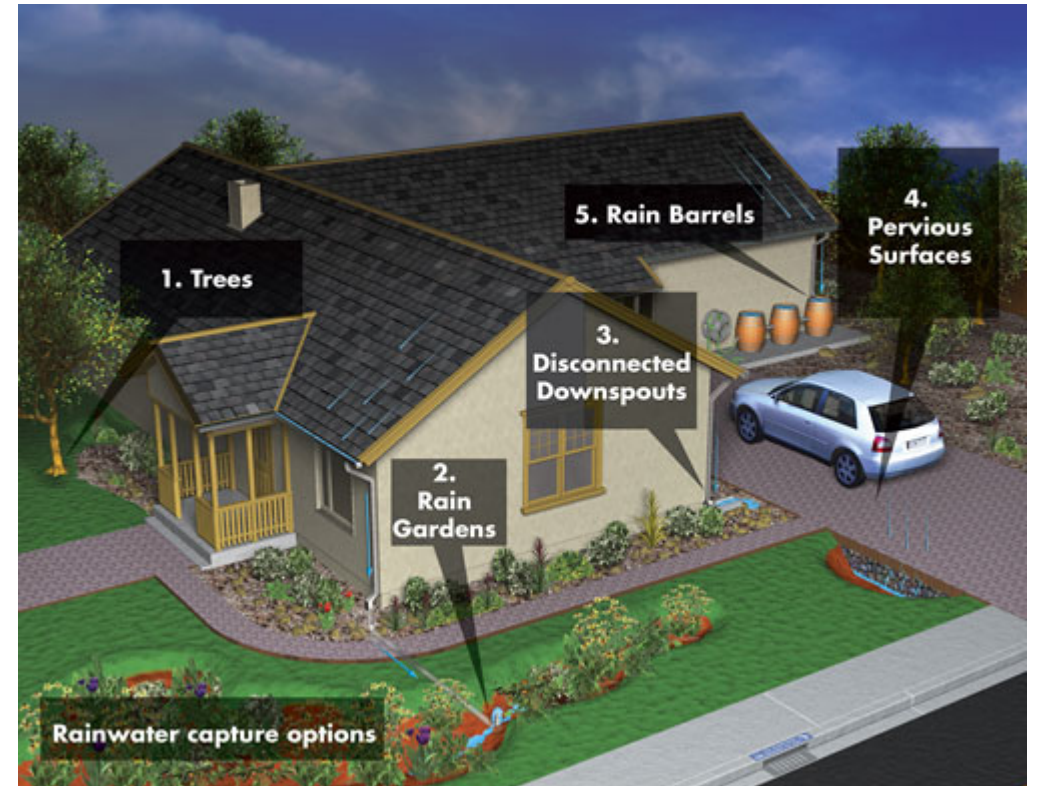


Photo courtesy of Clean Water Program

- [Living Landscapes in Minnesota – NRCS Guide](#)
- [UMN Extension Native Plants with Plant Selector](#)
- [UMN Extension Master Gardener Program](#)
- [Blue Thumb](#) – Project resources, workshops, plant selector
- [City of Rochester – Landscaping for clean water](#)
- [MPCA's Grow a healthy, no-waste lawn and garden](#)

- [Pollinator Toolbox](#)
- [Lawns to Legumes](#)
  - No timeline yet for Lawns to Legumes Individual Support (\$300.00) funding would be available, but people can subscribe for program updates
- [Urban Stormwater Management](#)
- [What's Working For Conservation](#)
- [Vegetation Establishment and Management](#)

- **If gardeners/homeowners are wanting to help with Citizen Science efforts of documenting pollinators and other insects, I'd recommend working with inaturalist and Bumblebeewatch.org ( download on their phone or use a desktop computer)**
  - <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
  - <https://www.bumblebeewatch.org/>
- **The U of MN Bee Lab is also a great resource to learn more on honey bees and native bees. Their website offers a lot of great information.**
  - <https://www.beelab.umn.edu/>

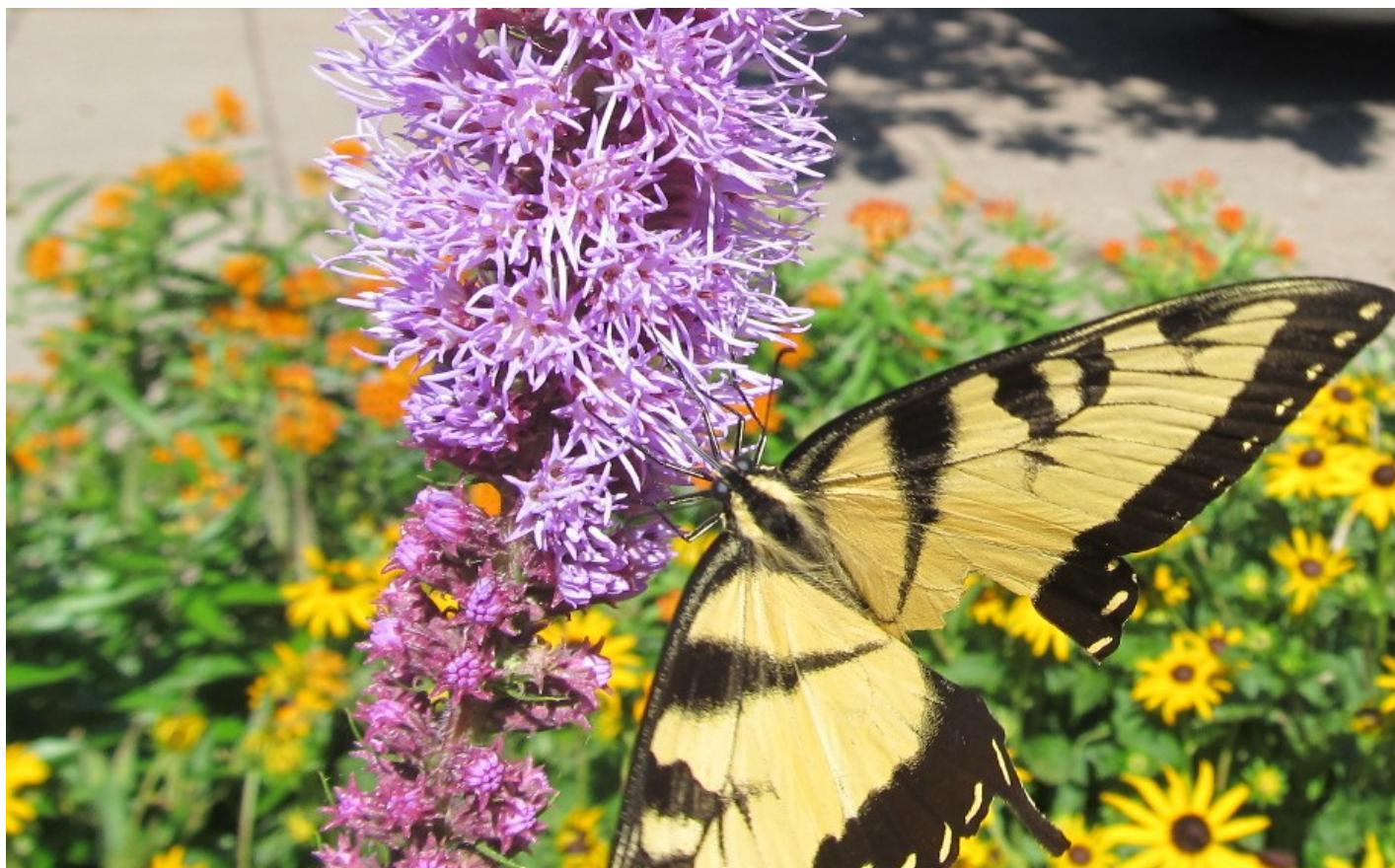


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