

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT



GREATER NORTHFIELD SUSTAINABILITY COLLABORATIVE

What is the current situation?

- Noxious Weed Ordinance
- Minnesota Statute 18.78
- Invasive plant management is not enforced

What is the goal of invasive plant management?

- Invasive plants are harmful
 - Reduce native biodiversity
 - Threat to high quality natural lands (HQNLs)
 - Reduce value of recreational land and waterways
- Goal: Create proactive policies and zoning decisions focused on revegetation and restoration

What is the goal of invasive plant management?



Wild Parsnip grows rapidly and severely modifies its habitat, leading to less biodiversity.



Siberian Squill is extremely resilient and has the potential to crowd out native wildflowers.

What is the goal of invasive plant management?



Variety in native biodiversity is critical for a thriving ecosystem.

4 Step Plan

Step 1: Acquire Partnerships and Staff

Step 2: Develop Northfield-Specific Invasive Plant Information

Step 3: Provide Education for Public Engagement

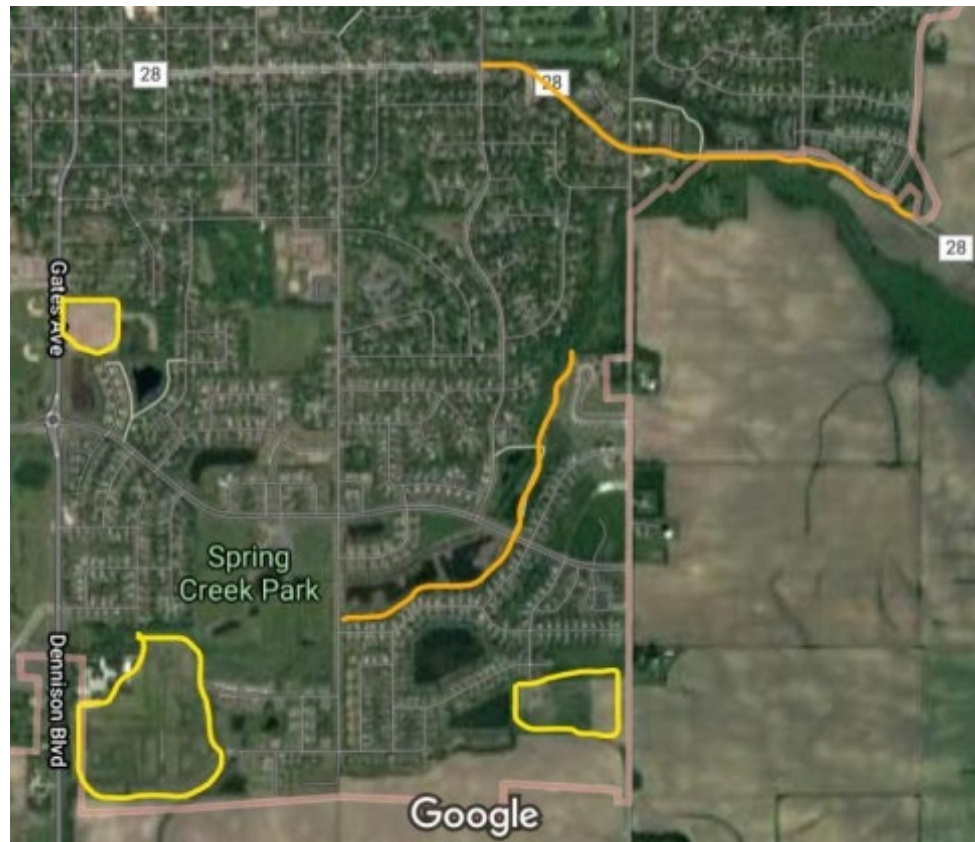
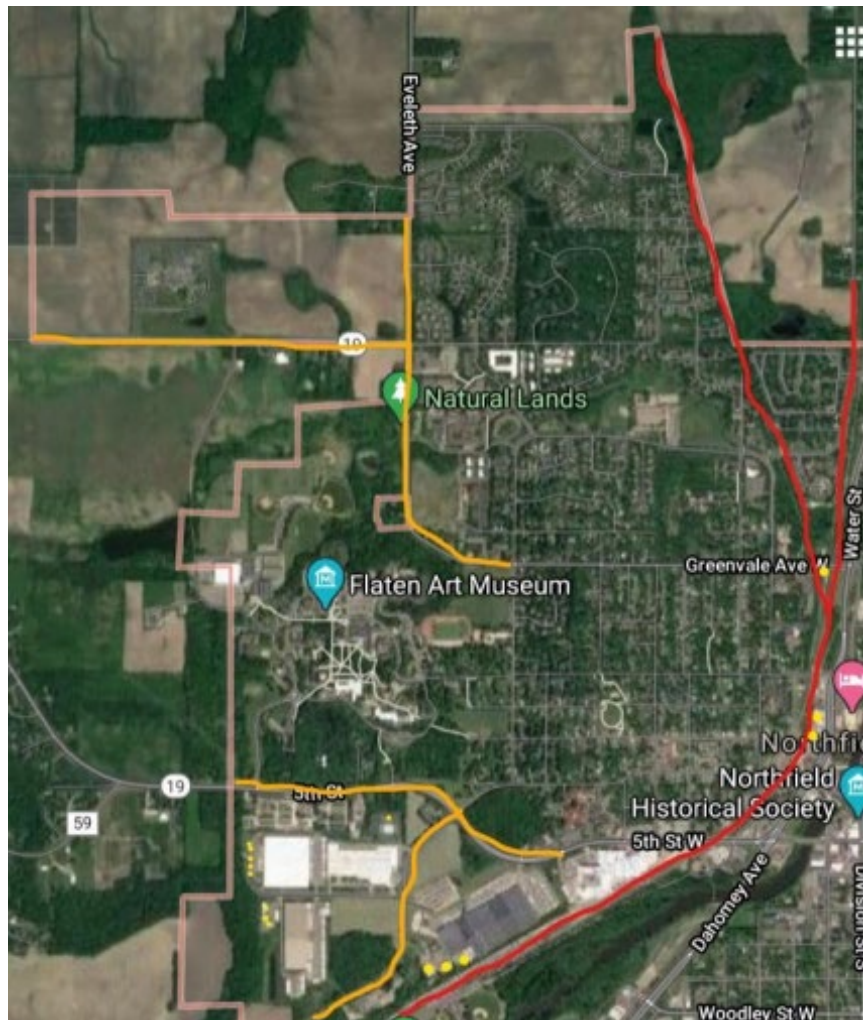
Step 4: Proactive Revegetation and Monitoring

Step 1: Acquire Partnerships and Staff

- Businesses
 - Nurseries and flower shops
- Community and volunteer groups
 - Provides resources, funding, equipment, time efficiency, labor, and information networks
 - Cannon Valley Noxious Weed Collaborative Group
 - Already gathering information and implementing eradication across Rice County and Dakota County
- Colleges
 - Student-led research and volunteering opportunities
 - Equipment and knowledge from staff

Step 2: Develop Northfield-Specific Invasive Plant Maps and Database

- Identify plants for priority
 - Public conversations and opinions from experts
 - Partner with colleges or community organizations to survey and compile invasive info
 - Prioritize plants based on potential threats to economic, ecological and human health
- Identify areas to protect
 - Ruderal sites (disturbed places near built-up areas, industrial facilities, and dumps), railway sites, road margins are the biggest vectors for alien plant invasion
 - HQNLs
- Homeowner surveys



Ruderal sites

Step 3: Provide Further Education for Public Engagement

- Utilize proactive control strategies
 - [Mobile app](#)
- Information workshops, flyers and pamphlets for public
 - Cleaning mowing/spraying equipment
 - Minimizing soil disturbance
 - Monitor new plantings for invasives
- Draft programs as part of K-12 curriculum aimed at identification and removal methods
 - Community service opportunities

Step 4: Proactive Revegetation and Monitoring

- Proactive, not retroactive
- Revegetation of native plants is a restoration strategy
 - Helps prevent invasive plants
- Shut down pathways which invasives are introduced via nurseries
- Mobilize a volunteer base for management projects
 - Utilize public input throughout
- Use Ecologically Based Invasive Plant Management (EBIPM) to implement policies and make zoning decisions

Timeline

- Years 1-3: Partnerships
- Years 3-5: Prioritize plants & areas
- Years 5-10: Public engagement
- Years 10-20: Proactive revegetation, monitoring, EBIPM

Projected Results

- Revegetation and restoration of native biodiversity
 - Proactive policies and zoning decisions
 - Increased data and mapping of invasive species
- Improved recreational value of land and waterways
- Protected HQNLs

Presenters and Contributors

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