The Gervais Lake Shoreland Project is a collaboration among the Gervais Lake Association, Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, Greater St. Paul Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Expo Middle School, Centerpoint School, and the Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota. The cooperators are committed to the conservation of water quality and biodiversity. Funding provided by the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities Area.

For more information about the Gervais Lake Shoreland Project, including demonstration sites, bulletins, videos, posters and volunteer opportunities, contact:

University of Minnesota, Department of Entomology
612-624-6254

Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District
651-704-2089

Gervais Lake Association

Visit the:
Center for Urban Ecology & Sustainability website at www.ent.agri.umn.edu/cues/cues.htm

For aquatic vegetation information, contact the DNR office nearest you or Ecological Services Section, MN DNR:
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul MN 55155-4025
651-296-2835 (metro area) or 1-800-766-6000

www.dnr.state.mn.us./waters/shoreland/

Also, to request bulletins on landscaping, low input lawn care, sustainable management, and integrated pest management (IPM), contact:
Minnesota Extension Service at 612-625-8173
www.extension.umn.edu

Gervais Lake SHORELAND REVEGETATION PROJECT

OBJECTIVES

- *Provide education through real-life examples of shoreland revegetation.*
- *Monitor sites and collect data over the long-term in order to assess water quality and habitat improvements.*

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Project *Demonstration* SITES

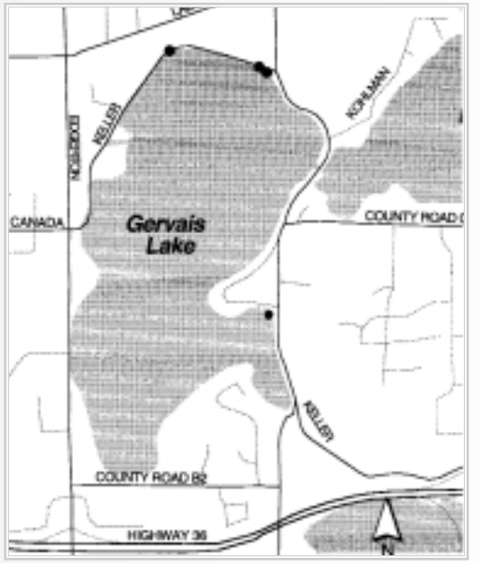
The demonstration sites were originally turf grass and needed regular mowing, fertilizing, and herbicide treatments. In summer of 1998, portions of turf grass were planted with native prairie vegetation based on a landscape design. Shoreline areas were converted from sand beach to wet meadow and emergent plant habitats.

Restoration TIMEFRAME

April–June 1998 Turf grass was killed using a herbicide and hardwood mulch was spread to reduce competition from weeds. Wave breaks and plywood fencing were constructed in the water to reduce wave disturbance on plant establishment and survival. Several community groups helped plant approximately 3500 native plant seedlings and shrubs. The planted area was hand weeded and watered during the first season.

1999 Perennial plants will begin to mature and flower in the second year. Mulch will decompose and plants will begin to fill in spaces. Weeds become less and less evident. Shoreline aquatic vegetation will begin to spread.

2000 and Beyond A mature prairie will become established attracting birds, and beneficial insects. Aquatic plants will stabilize the shoreline and provide habitat for fish, water birds, and aquatic insects. Hand weeding and watering are no longer necessary.



Visit the Gervais Lake demonstration sites.

Why embrace SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Sustainability means reducing chemical inputs and restoring native vegetation to our lawns and shorelands. Native vegetation protects water quality and fish habitat, controls erosion, conserves native plant and animal diversity, and gives us beauty, privacy and a low maintenance landscape. We can create landscapes in our back yards which are sustainable by using native plants.