



## CITY OF NORTH OAKS

**Regular Natural Resources Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 16, 2020**  
**7 PM, Via Teleconference or Other Electronic Means Only**  
**MEETING AGENDA**

Natural Resources Commission members will participate by telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021. Any person wishing to monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location may do so by calling the following Zoom meeting videoconference number: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 858 9238 6548 or by joining the meeting via the following link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85892386548>.

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Agenda**

4. **Citizen Comments** - *Individuals may address the Natural Resource Commission about any item not included on the agenda. Speakers are requested to come to the podium, state name and address for the clerk's record, and limit their remarks to three minutes. During the pandemic, when meetings are held virtually, speakers will be able to call in to the meetings to make remarks, or request that submitted comments are read by a member of Commission or the City Staff. Generally, the Commission will not take official action on items discussed during the citizen comment period, but Commissioners may refer the matter to City Staff for a future report or direct that the matter be scheduled on an upcoming agenda.*

5. **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes**

5a. Approval of Previous Month's Minutes  
[6.18.20 NRC Meeting Minutes Draft.docx](#)

6. **Business Action Items**

6a. Review of possible Goose Management Program  
[geese\\_control\\_homeowners.pdf](#)

6b. Presentation by Don Pereira, Ph.D. - Aquatic Plants (not necessarily WEEDS!)  
[NRC Aquatic Plants 16JLY20 NOC.pdf](#)

6c. Woodland Subcommittee Update and Discussion  
[Woodland Subcommittee charter and goals 202005.pdf](#)  
[6-2-2020 WS Minutes.pdf](#)

**7. Commissioner / Staff Reports -**

- *Tick Task Force Report*
- *Community Outreach: Winsor Report*
- *NOHOA/NEST Report*
- *City Report*

**8. Next Meeting: August 20, 2020**

**9. Adjourn**

**North Oaks Natural Resources Commission  
NRC Meeting Minutes  
Virtual Meeting via Teleconference or Electronic Means Only  
June 18, 2020 at 7 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Hawkins called the meeting of June 18, 2020, to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

NRC members participated **by telephone or other electronic means** pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021.

Present: Present: Chair Andrew Hawkins, Vice Chair Kate Winsor, Commissioners Bob Larson, Damien LePoutre, and David White; City Council Liaison Council Member Katy Ross; NOHOA Liaison Patricia Orud

Staff Present: Recording Secretary Debbie Breen and City Administrator Kevin Kress

A quorum was declared present.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION by White, seconded by Larson, to approve the agenda as submitted.**

**MOTION carried unanimously by roll call.**

**4. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**There were no public Comments.**

**5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES**

Review of April 16, 2020 Natural Resources Commission Minutes

**MOTION by Winsor, seconded by White, to approve the minutes as submitted.**

**MOTION carried unanimously by roll call.**

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6a. Woodland Subcommittee Update**

- LePoutre starting working on the Woodland Tree subcommittee to discuss tree ordinance and how it could be defined. They have starting working a Charter to define what to do to reach goals. Overall plan is to provide a Woodland Management plan to North Oaks using the following steps: 1) Define Vision in 20-30 years for North Oaks Woodlands, 2) understand where we are today using EAW, etc. 3) then start working on the Management plan. Goal is to propose and help City design an Ordinance to help meet these goals. Many considerations due to different ownerships including; NOHOA, North Oaks Company, as well as different environments within the City that might drive different goals. Members of this group include: Damien LePoutre from NRC, Mark Rehder as City Forester, Patricia Orud from NOHOA, Joanne Hanson from NOHOA Nest working on the Natural resource plan, and Joyce Yoshimura-Rank from Planning Commission. They will work with State Science experts and collect all current documents from NOHOA and City. They plan to work with DNR and State resources, then determine if a budget is needed for this project.

- This is a subcommittee of Natural Resources Committee as a working group, to help bring something back to the City.
- Winsor mentioned that a retired Department of Agriculture professor has helped NEST. Orud will find the name of that resident to pass along to LePoutre.
- NOHOA Liaison Orud mentioned that NEST can't officially be on the subcommittee, but is part of a cooperative and happy to be working together on this initiative.
- Any minutes from this subcommittee are requested to be forwarded to Administrator Kress, to be distributed to the NRC.
- Next meeting of the Woodlands Tree group is next Tuesday, June 23, 2020.

#### **6b. Tick Task Force April 2020 Meeting Minutes**

- Commissioner White mentioned that the Task force last met in April, with the next meeting is July 21, 2020.
- Committee is concerned that the responses seem to be low this year, and wonder if the change in platform to Polco is a contributing factor. Steady decline from 133 last year, to 55 this year.
- There was discussion about whether this is the natural result of the great work and initiatives of the TTF, or if it would be prudent to reopen the survey and put it out after the summer months when ticks are active and people are outside (instead of the winter/spring survey).
- White to check in with Brooke to see if she would like to present summary results to Council.

### **7. COMMISSIONER / STAFF REPORTS**

#### **7a. Tick Task Force Report: David White**

- No additional report.

#### **7b. Community Outreach: Winsor Report**

- A few email blasts have gone out from City and NOHOA regarding celebrating earth day, and another on Pollinators. June issue of NO news will have Celebrate Pollinators June 22-28<sup>th</sup>, and July regarding international year of plant health.
- Commissioners asked to send any pertinent information to City for Eblast and Facebook page.

#### **7c. NOHOA/ NEST Report: Patricia Orud**

- The entrance to the Mary Hill Park has been cleaned up and replanted with native plants.
- Pollinator work continues. Forest Rehder is also busy working with NOHOA regarding what trees to save.
- Weed removal is going on in the lake, swimmers itch is being treated, and carp removal is planned for later in the summer.

#### **7d. City Report: Katy Ross**

- Council member Ross City mentioned that council has approved the Nord and Anderson Wood preliminary plans.
- Next set of locking Mailboxes have been arrived and are being distributed.

- Recycling has been hard because of the volume of people being home. People are being reminded to flatten boxes. This week there were 7 trips needed instead of 5 trips to Eureka.
- Forester Rehder spoke on Operation Clearview program, and efforts to review all main thoroughfares to ensure they are cleared 5 feet in from the street and 15 feet up.
- City Staff will put Clearview reminder in Eblast and Facebook page.
- Recycling Day is coming on June 27<sup>th</sup> at Southpoint park from 8 a.m.– 12 p.m. and will include a scrap metal truck.
- Forester Rehder mentioned that the Oriental Bittersweet approvals are coming in. Brush Pick up went very well with 35 residents participating in the service. EAB letters are starting to go to those 185 properties with a high ash population primarily in the Southcenter part of the community where the environment is wetter and lower in elevation.

**8. NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 7 p.m. through Virtual Means

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION by Larson, seconded by White, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.**

**MOTION carried unanimously by roll call.**

\_\_\_\_\_

Kevin Kress, City Administrator

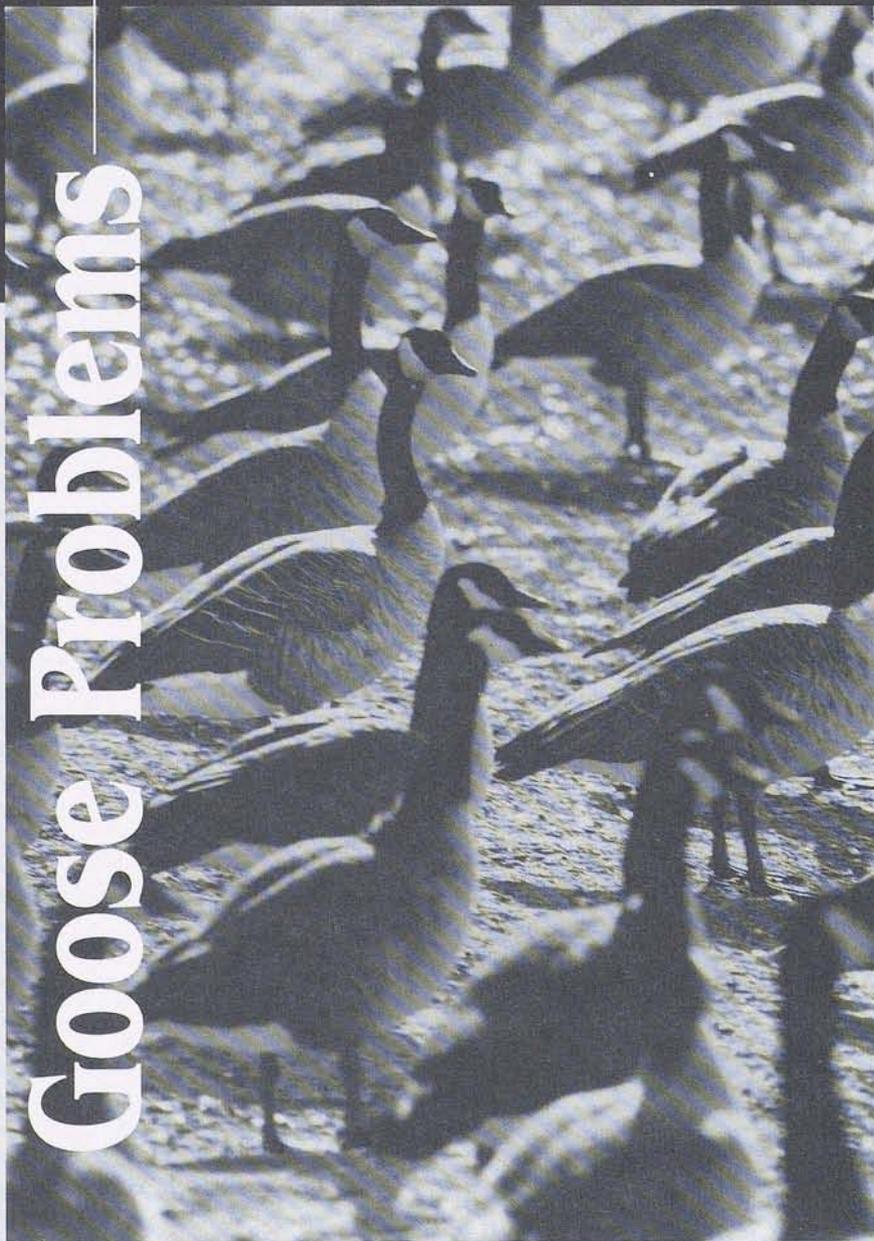
\_\_\_\_\_

Chair, Andrew Hawkins

Date approved: \_\_\_\_\_

# Homeowners' Guide to

# Goose Problems



# HOMEOWNERS' GUIDE TO GOOSE PROBLEMS

Most people enjoy seeing Canada geese. However, the big birds often wear out their welcome when they become too numerous and when yards, beaches and docks become fouled with their feces. This guide explains why problems with geese arise and how homeowners can reduce these problems.

## WHY ARE THERE SO MANY GEESE?

Canada goose populations have dramatically increased in residential and lake home areas because: 1) habitat is abundant; 2) geese have a high reproductive potential and a long life span; and 3) mortality from hunting and other predation is low.

Geese live in a particular area that meets their needs for food, reproduction and security. Together these factors provide goose *habitat*. Geese are grazers that feed primarily on short grasses such as those found in parks, lawns and golf courses. They need feeding sites with open vistas and access to lakes and marshes to escape danger. Golf courses, parks and large lawns next to ponds, marshes and lakes often provide all of these ingredients. Docks, yards and beaches provide secure "loafing" sites for preening and sunning.

Canada geese are extremely prolific. Able to reproduce at 2 or 3 years of age and living to over 10 years, a pair of adult geese raises an average of about 4 young per year. At normal reproduction and mortality, a pond or lake with 3 pairs of adult geese can multiply to nearly 50 birds within 5 years and to over 300 in just 10 years. Being social birds geese congregate in "flocks," except during the nesting season. Most birds in these flocks are related and return to the same nesting and feeding areas every year. Currently, about 25,000 geese spend the summer in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. Without hunting seasons and efforts to trap and remove geese, the goose population would likely number 100,000 or more. Without these constraints on the population, the habitat in the seven-county metro area could support an estimated 250,000 geese.

## HOW CAN I GET THE GEESE TO LEAVE?

### Hazing

The simplest method involves frightening or *hazing* geese. In some cases, repeatedly and vigorously chasing geese from the property while armed with a broom will cause the geese to relocate.

Noise-making scare devices are a type of pyrotechnics and can sometimes be used to haze geese from your property. Pyrotechnics are most applicable in rural settings. These include "bangers" and "screamers" fired from a special launcher or "cracker shells" discharged from a 12-gauge shotgun. These devices are often offensive to neighbors. Check local ordinances before purchasing or using pyrotechnic devices. Use pyrotechnics consistent with manufacturers instructions and safety precautions. These products are available from:

Margo Supplies, Ltd.      Reed-Joseph International  
403-285-9731                      800-647-5554

Stoneco, Inc.                      Sutton Ag Enterprises, Inc.  
800-833-2264                      408-422-9693

Some golf courses have had success hazing geese using highly trained border collies with skilled handlers to repeatedly chase geese from fairways and greens, forcing the birds to relocate. At homes, confined or chained dogs are not effective deterrents since geese quickly learn that the threat is limited. Free running dogs are not popular with neighbors and not allowed in most residential communities. However, dogs confined to the problem area by an electronic "invisible fence" may be useful in some situations. Careful selection and training of a dog motivated to chase geese is necessary to ensure success. "Invisible" dog fences are available from:

Invisible Fencing Pet Containment  
800-824-3647

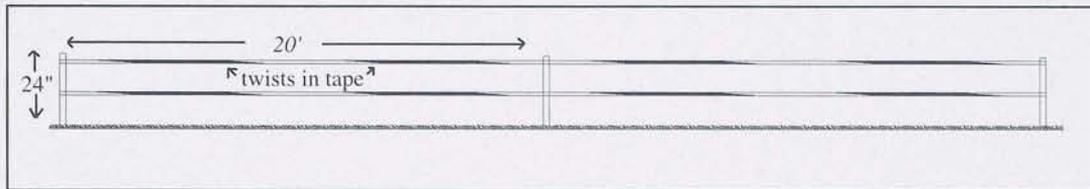


Figure 1- Bird Scare Tape fence installed using lath boards for support. Secure bird scare tape to stakes using duct tape or electrician's tape (do not tie bird scare tape).

## Bird Scare Tape

Bird scare tape or bird flash tape is a short-term or emergency strategy to reduce problems from geese walking onto your yard. Bird scare tape is most effective with small numbers of geese that have other mowed grass areas they can move to. Bird scare tape is not effective if geese are flying into your yard.

Bird scare tape is a thin shiny ribbon of mylar about 1/2 inch wide. It is silver on one side and colored, usually red, on the other. When properly used, the tape flashes in the sun and rattles in the breeze. The flashing and rattling frightens geese.

Use bird scare tape as illustrated in figures 1 & 2. Inspect and repair the tape daily. Pets, people, wind, and animals can break the tape. A broken bird scare tape "fence" is not effective. Locate the tape where it is visible to the geese. The fence should be long enough so geese cannot walk around it into the yard.

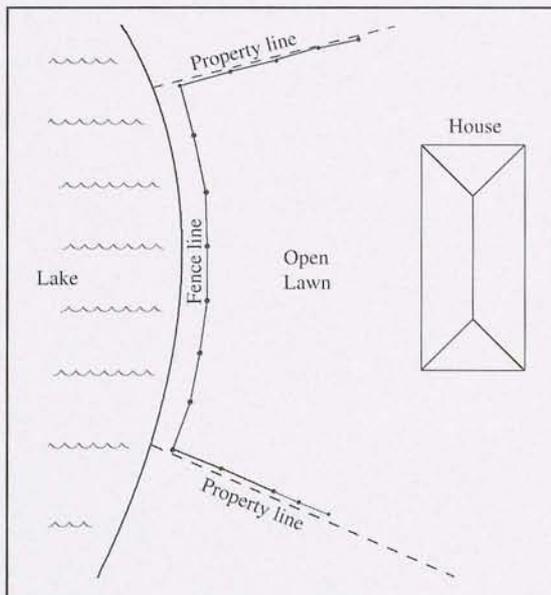


Figure 2- Suggested layout for bird scare tape, energized fencing or barrier fencing. It may be necessary to extend fence line along property line as shown to prevent geese from walking around the fence.

Bird scare tape is available from:

### Twin Cities

Lyndale Garden Ctrs.  
Wild Bird Stores  
(See Yellow Pages)

Beiswenger's Hardware  
612-633-1271

The Birdhouse  
612-439-1923

The Feed Store  
612-473-4283

Hennepin Coop  
Seed Exchange  
612-545-7702

Minnesota Greenery  
612-459-3181

Robbinsdale Farm,  
Garden and Pet  
612-533-2244

### Mail Order

MDT and Assoc.  
612-529-4355

Gurney's Seed Co.  
605-665-1930

### Outstate

Celebrations,  
Brainerd\*  
218-828-0803

Randall Valu Ctr.,  
New Ulm  
507-359-9514

Coast to Coast,  
Park Rapids  
218-732-4513

\* Ask for silver and colored ribbon

## Energized Fencing

Energized fencing can effectively and practically reduce goose grazing on your yard. It is useful in situations more severe than hazing or bird scare tape can handle. Most home owners prefer portable fencing that can be set up in 1-2 hours and quickly taken down for storage when not in use.

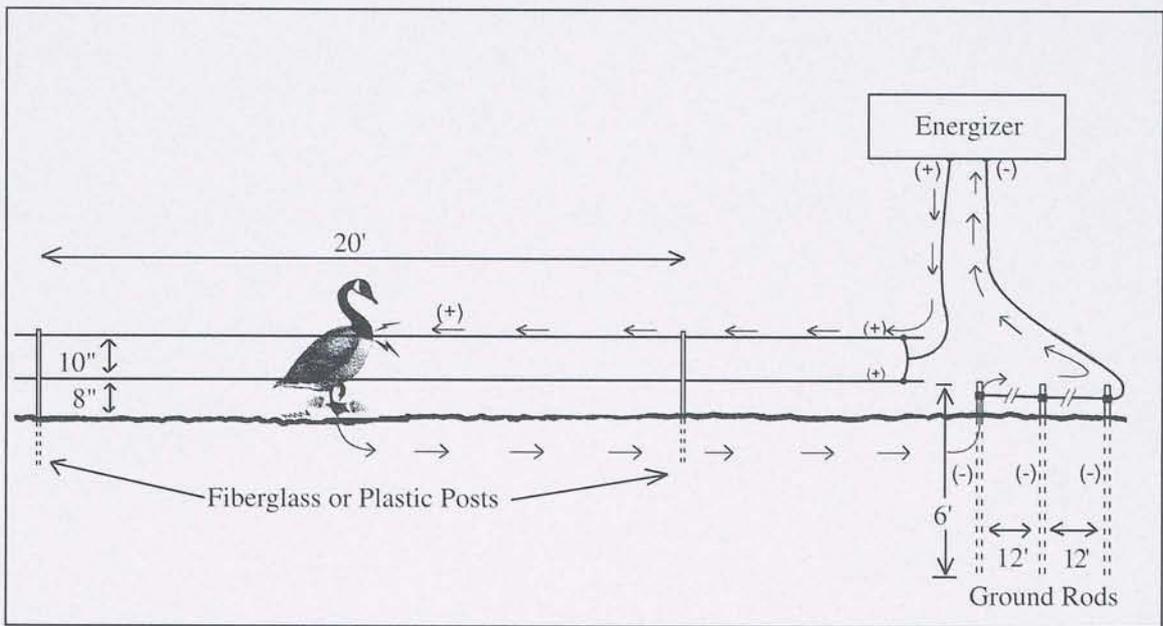


Figure 3- A two strand energized goose fence is easy to install, safe and effective at deterring geese from entering your yard.

Key components of an energized fence for geese:

(1) Energizer - The energizer is the power source for the fence. Energizers can be battery powered or 120 volt. Low impedance energizers which deliver a short electrical pulse of at least 4,000 volts once every second are safe and effective.

(2) Fence wires - Most home owners prefer the ease of using polytape. Polytape is a 1/2-inch-wide material consisting of polyethylene fibers inter-woven with conductive wires (preferably 5 or more strands of stainless steel) to carry the electrical charge. Stretch two strands 8 inches and 18 inches above the ground (see figure 3). Tighten wire to remove visible sag. Connect fence wires to the fence terminal on the energizer.

(3) Grounding system - The grounding system is a series of three 6-foot galvanized steel rods driven into the earth at 12-foot intervals. Connect the rods in sequence using steel wire and connect the series to the ground terminal on the energizer.

(4) Voltmeter - A voltmeter is a device used to measure voltage on an energized fence. A voltmeter is essential to ensure that the system is working properly and to pinpoint problems when they occur.

When a goose touches an energized fence, the electric pulse passes from the energizer through the fence wire, through the goose, into the earth, to the grounding

system, and back to the energizer (see figure 3). The result is an uncomfortable, but harmless, "shock" that geese learn to avoid.

Energized fencing must be properly constructed and maintained to be effective. Make the fence long enough so geese won't walk around it (see figure 2). Measure voltage weekly and keep fence wires clear of vegetation. Install energized-fence warning signs at least every 60 feet. Energized fencing is prohibited in some cities. If you are interested in using energized fencing for geese, check local ordinances and contact your DNR Area Wildlife Office for more information.

## Barrier Fencing

Barrier fencing is a very effective method for excluding walking geese from your yard. This method consists of placing a physical barrier that geese cannot pass through between the water and the area to be protected (see figure 2).

Barrier fences can be constructed from woven wire, chicken wire, plastic snow fence, corn cribbing, chain-link, netting, or a picket fence. An effective barrier fence for walking Canada geese uses durable material with openings no larger than 3 inches by 3 inches that is at least 30 inches high. Before you build any fence, check local ordinances at your planning and zoning office.

## Landscaping

Landscaping your shoreline to make it less attractive for Canada geese and their broods is considered the most effective long-term and environmentally sound method of reducing goose problems to individual yards and lawns. Canada geese avoid using areas where plants obstruct their view of the surrounding area. Temporary measures such as fences or repellents may be necessary to keep geese from your yard until landscaping is established.

A hedge near the water with a gate to allow access can be decorative as well as effective at reducing goose access to your lawn (see figure 4). The hedge should be 30-36 inches tall and must be thick enough to exclude geese. Check with your local nursery or greenhouse for shrubs that will work in your yard.

Leave a dense strip of naturally occurring trees and shrubs (20-30 feet wide) along the shoreline. A narrow (3-4 feet wide) S-shaped footpath can provide access to the lake. A continuous band of emergent aquatic plants such as cattails or bulrush in the water in front of your shoreline may reduce goose use of your yard (see figure 5).

An unmowed shoreline buffer of native grasses and wild flowers that grow 20-30 inches tall in a strip 20-30 feet wide along the shoreline can discourage goose visits. Native grasses generally remain standing even after winter snows have compacted most other grasses. Use a mowed S-shaped footpath (3-4 feet wide) to provide access from your yard to the shoreline.

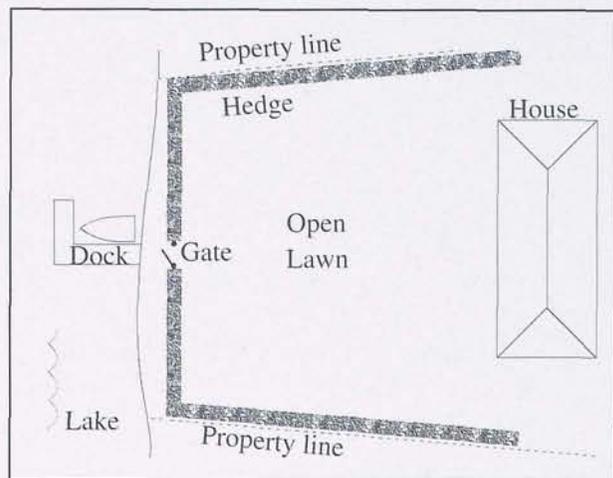


Figure 4- Use a dense hedge and a gate as a barrier to keep geese off of your lawn.

A combination of landscaping ideas may be more applicable to your yard. Suggestions for perennial plantings along moist shorelines are available from the DNR publication "Landscaping for Wildlife" available at major bookstores or the Minnesota Bookstore (800-657-3757), or the Hennepin Conservation District's booklet "Aquascaping: A Guide to Shoreline Landscaping" available by sending \$4.44 to Hennepin Conservation District, 10801 Wayzata Blvd. #240, Minnetonka, MN 55305.

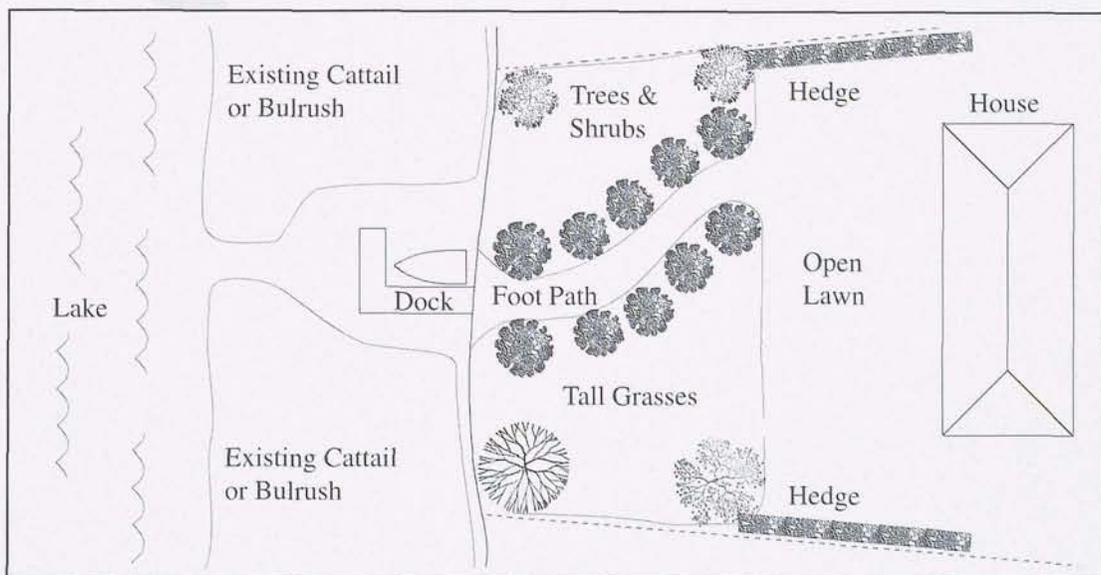


Figure 5- Examples of using landscaping to reduce the attractiveness of your lawn to geese.

The main drawback of avoidance methods discussed in this brochure is that they merely cause geese to move to another property. Increasing goose populations will eventually create a larger "demand" for habitat. This demand, often called "pressure," causes geese to become increasingly resistant to avoidance techniques.

Hunting is the most effective way to control goose populations. Special hunting seasons that target local geese have been established by the DNR. Early seasons are limited to field or upland hunting to prevent conflicts with other recreational uses of lakes. However, at the request of local government, individual lakes and wetlands may be opened.

Controlled hunting can be successful in populated areas. Local governments are encouraged to keep goose hunting open where possible. Citizens concerned with growing goose populations are encouraged to support local government efforts to limit restrictions on hunting where possible. The DNR will provide technical assistance in starting and managing hunts. For more information, contact your local DNR Area Wildlife Office.

Listings of company names and products is for the readers convenience and is not considered a comprehensive listing. The state of Minnesota neither recommends nor endorses specific products or companies.

For more information, contact:

Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
296-6157 (Metro Area) 1-800-766-6000 (MN Toll Free)  
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf  
296-5484 (Metro Area) 1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

© Copyright 1997, State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources  
Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, age, sexual orientation or disability. Discrimination inquiries should be sent to MN-DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031; or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240. This information is available in an alternative format upon request. Printed on recycled paper containing a minimum of 10% post-consumer waste and soy-based ink.

# AQUATIC PLANTS (not just WEEDS!)

**Don Pereira, Ph.D.**

**Director of Conservation Programs**

**North Oaks Company**

**don@northoaks.com**

North Oaks NRC

July 16, 2020



**NORTH OAKS**  
C O M P A N Y L L C



CITY OF

**NorthOaks**

*Building on a tradition of innovation*

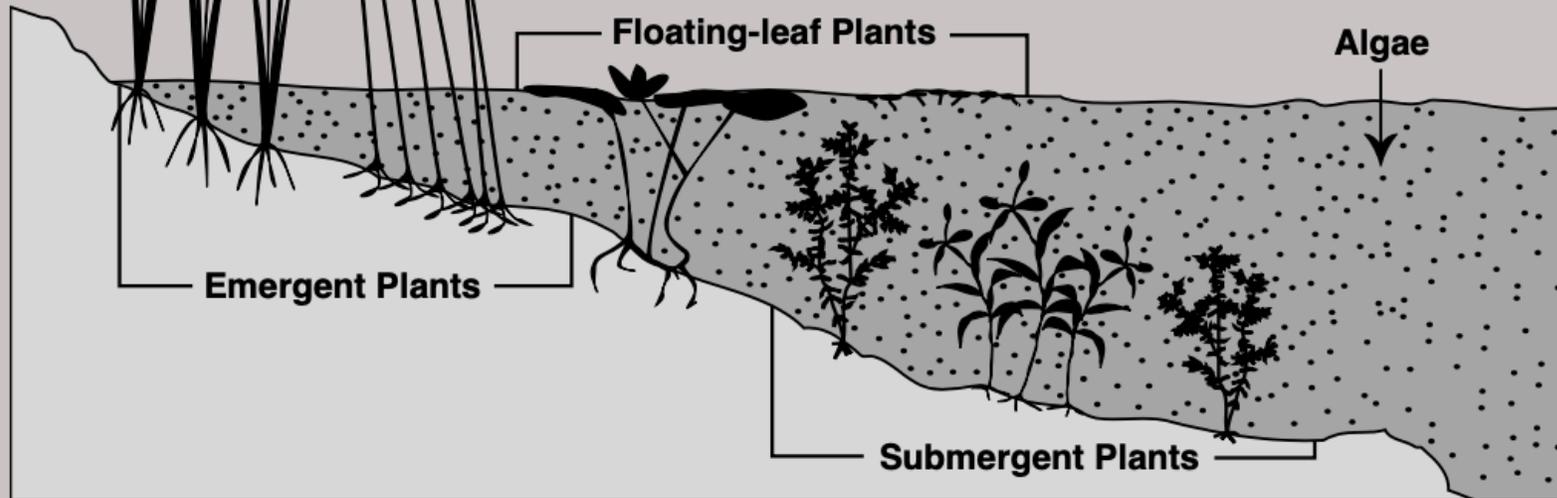
*Minnesota*



# Aquatic Plants are Key Components of Most Aquatic Ecosystems

- Tie up nutrients (phosphorus)
- Provide substrate for production of many types of organisms
- Produce oxygen
- Provide habitat, for both small fish, juvenile fish, and predator fish
- Provide food & habitat for various birds and mammals
- Buffer shorelines from erosion

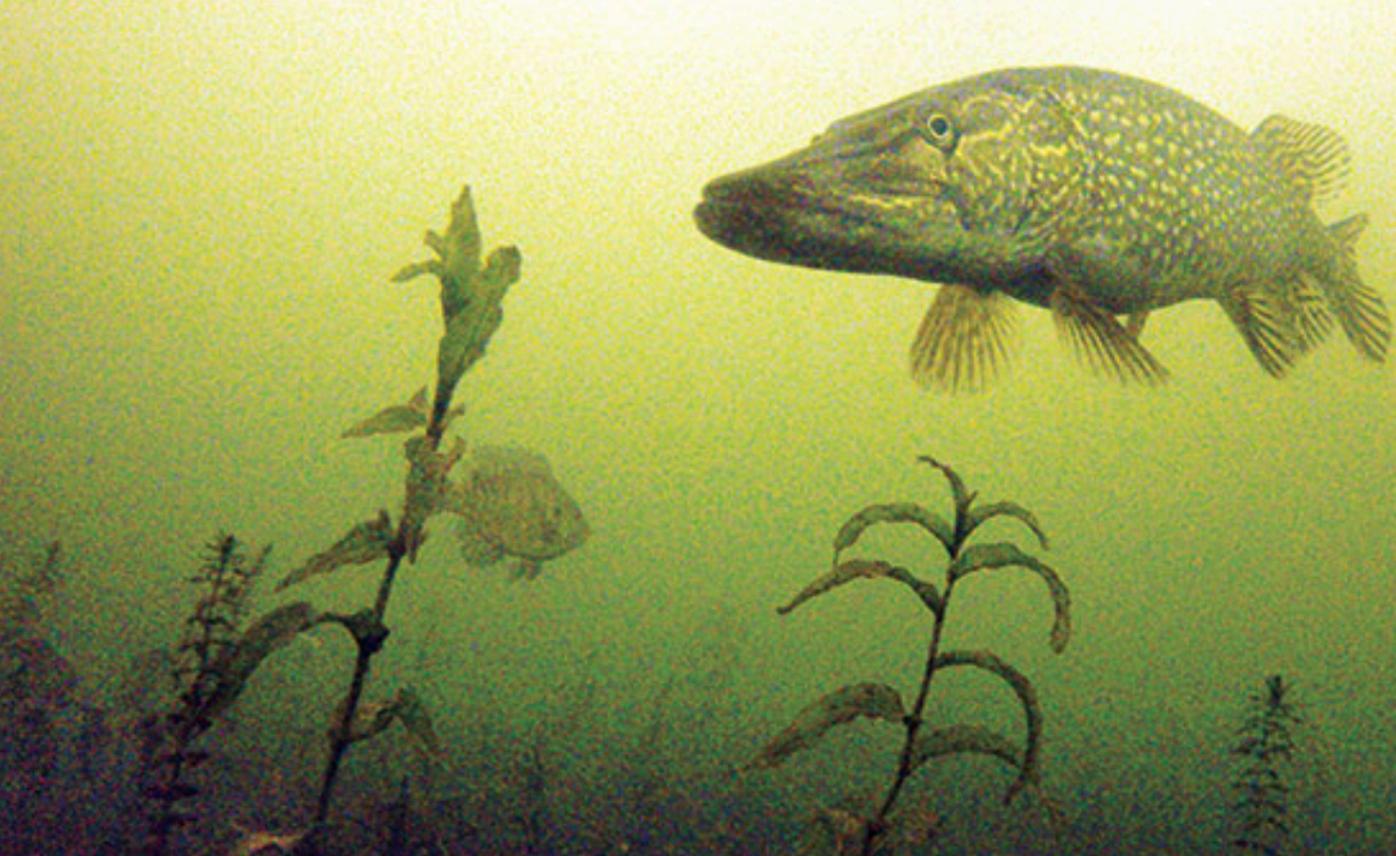
Biologists refer to aquatic plants as *emergent*, *submergent*, and *floating-leaf* vegetation. Emergent vegetation protrudes above the water's surface; submergent vegetation stays underwater; and floating-leaf plants rest on the water surface.



- MN DNR, Section of Fisheries, 2009

## “The Waters Edge”







## Curly-leaf Pondweed

Stays viable  
under the ice.  
Dense patches  
usually senesce  
in the summer.



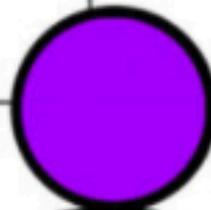
## Eurasian Milfoil

Sparse stem densities on the lake bottom but dense canopy at the surface.



**Rooted Plants**

**Suspended Algae**



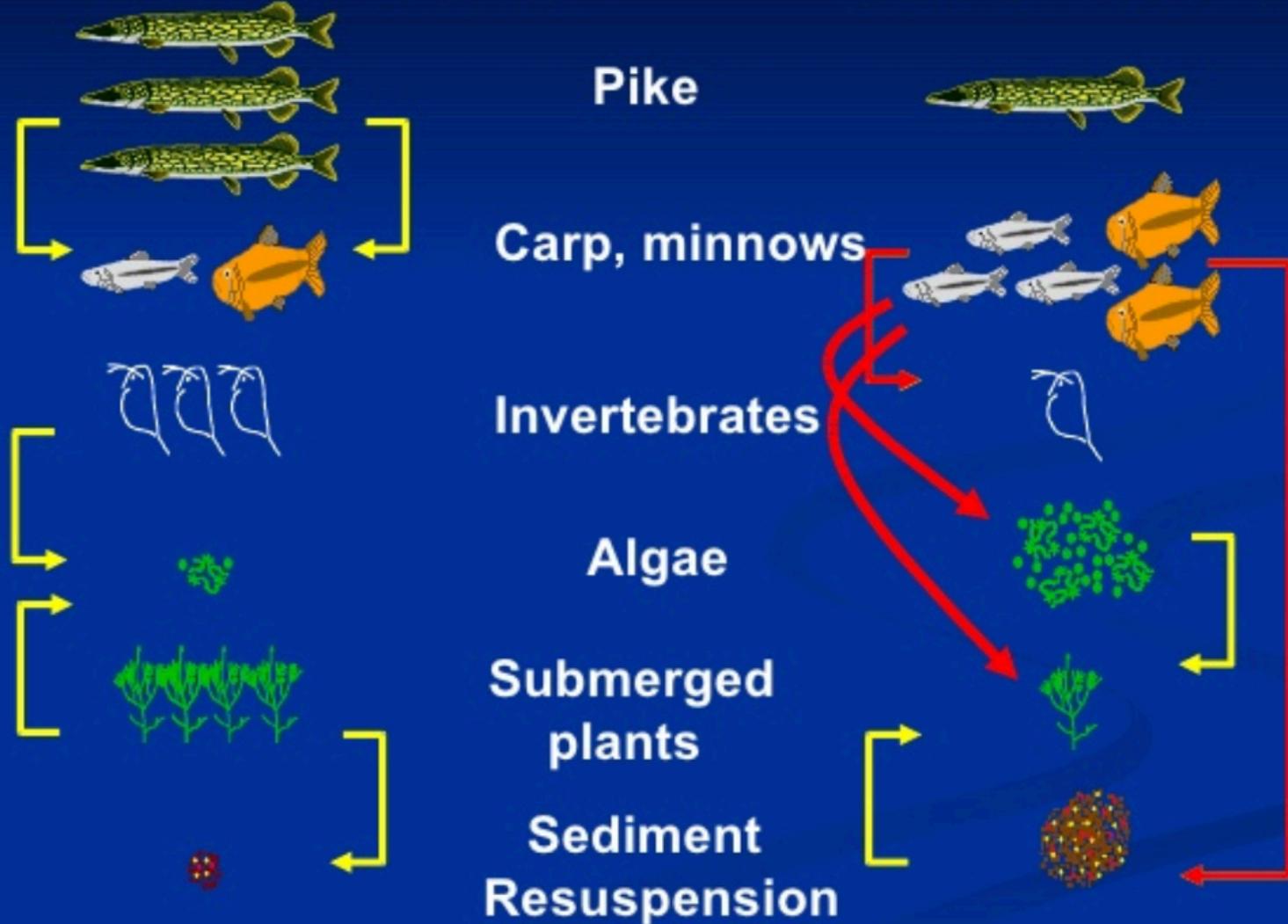
**Clear**

**Turbid**

# Trophic Cascades

Clear-water state

Turbid-water state





*Cladocerans, or water fleas “vacuum” the algae from lake water. When they are abundant, the water is more clear. If conditions are unfavorable, i.e. zooplanktivorous fish abundant, refuge absent, the lake water remains turbid from algae.*



Rooted aquatic plants thrive in clear water, and provide habitat for production of waterfowl food.



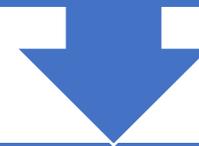
If you were a duck, which of these shallow lakes would you prefer to land on for a badly needed bite to eat and a break from your long migration?

# AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT IN MINNESOTA

Allows reasonable access to the  
water for lakeshore property owners

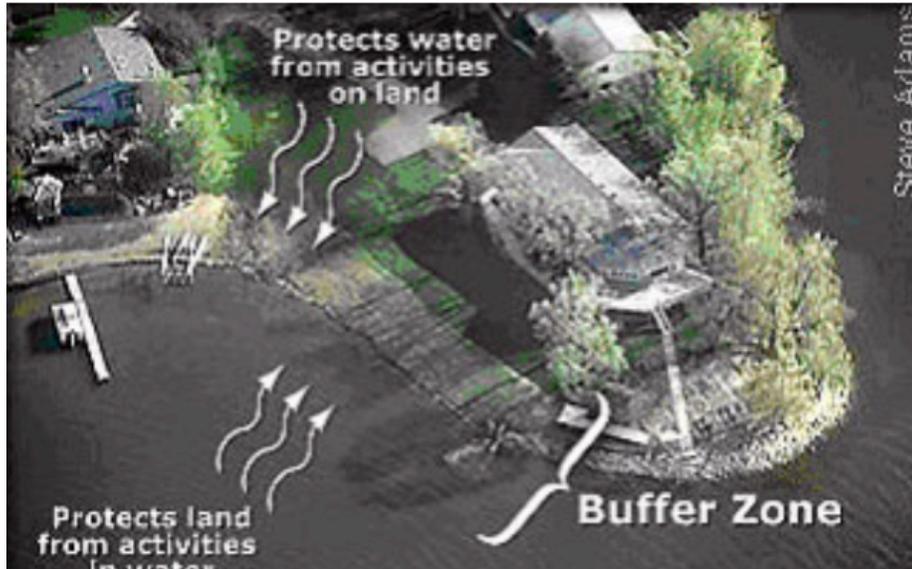


Stricter control of emergent  
vegetation



Does not allow changes to the  
bottom contour of the lake

## Restore Your Shore (RYS)



*Restore Your Shore* is a powerful tool for shoreland owners and professionals to use in implementing shoreland restoration and protection projects.

- <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/rys/index.html>



# City of North Oaks NRC Woodland Management subcommittee charter

## Goals

The Woodland Subcommittee (WS hereafter) will develop and provide a Woodland Management Plan (WMP here after) to the City of North Oaks which outlines objectives to better understand, preserve, and improve woodlands for the foreseeable future. This WMP will help the city define actions and regulations in view of a 20-year environmental goal.

## 3-step Process

**Vision:** The WS will define a vision for the North Oaks environment climax<sup>1</sup> or “future forest”: what should and/or could be an ideal condition for our woodland in a timeframe of 20 years if good actions are implemented. This vision will be built on North Oaks geographic bioclimatic characteristics and potentials and it will take into account its unique concept as envisioned by North Oaks founders, that is an area where citizens can live comfortably within a natural environment that preserves the wooded and wildlife-rich setting that is North Oaks. The woodland and its trees are an important part of its natural environment. This vision should be in full compliance with the Natural Resources Comprehensive Plan being developed by the North Oaks Homeowners Association (NOHOA). In ideal conditions this vision should be fully shared by the City, NOHOA, and the citizens they represent.

**Inventory:** The WS will develop a good understanding of the North Oaks woodland and of the natural resources it supports. The North Oaks forest canopy is unique and has a similar canopy coverage percentage as many wooded nature preserves, even if it cannot be considered as such. The North Oaks woodland also cannot be considered urban, a setting distinguished by boulevard trees, small parks, and fragmented natural areas. The WS will therefore document today’s woodland conditions in North Oaks, through an inventory, environmental study, and/or through examining existing information and performing further document gathering.

---

<sup>1</sup> Climax Environment is an ecological community in which populations of plants or animals remain somewhat stable and exist in balance with each other and their environment. A climax community is sometimes considered the final stage of succession, remaining relatively unchanged until balance is lost or destroyed by an event such as fire or human interference. In the case of North Oaks woodland, human habitat is to be taken into consideration together with trees, plants, and wildlife.

***Woodland Management Plan:*** The WS will then develop a WMP to move from today's woodland towards that shared vision. This plan will take into account the specifics of North Oak's woodland inventory and vision: a woodland that is between a natural preserve and an urban forest allowing for a healthy cohabitation between nature and urban dwellings. The WMP will involve the sustainability of a healthy forest for future generations consistent with the vision of the community. With this WMP the WS will provide guidance to City staff and the NOHOA and define a clear, attainable vision for the future of the forest. The WMP will include proposals for adapted ordinances, policies, grant requests, and development of education/awareness plans for the management of our trees and tree understory. This Plan will have to be supported by NOHOA, considered a joint effort, and will be proposed to the City Council via the North Oaks Natural Resources Committee (NONRC).

These 3 steps will use resources and experts from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the University of Minnesota (UofM), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and other organizations as needed.

## **Considerations**

The Woodland Management Plan must consider different types of land, ownership, and stewardship commitments when defining rights and obligations. The Woodland Plan may define different goals, action plans, and/or rights and obligations depending on the type of land and development stage:

- North Oaks is designated as an emerging suburb (not a suburb)
- North Oaks land is owned either by the residents, by NOHOA, by commercial entities, or by the North Oaks Company. The City of North Oaks does not own any land
- North Oaks is designated as a State Game Refuge
- The North Oaks Company (NOC) still owns land that is part of the City of North Oaks, but NOC is not considered a homeowner and is not bound by NOHOA rules
- Some areas are "conservation areas" with ownership and status to be well understood
- Some parts of North Oaks have been handed over to the Minnesota Land Trust
- Some parts of North Oaks have specific deeds and rules such as the Village Center, the Pines, and Rapp Farm
- Rights and obligations must be defined for land before development, when asking for permits, and inspected after development to ensure compliance in regard to trees
- The Architectural Supervisory Committee (ASC) of NOHOA reviews tree cuts and plantings as part of their permit process

The Woodland Management Plan must utilize both the City of North Oaks and NOHOA specific organizations, with careful definition of each other's responsibilities and capacities. Proposed ordinances will take into account existing City and/or NOHOA ordinances and consider capacities for enforcement and grants from both the entities.

Whilst the Woodland Management Plan will need some time to develop, the WS will propose short term and/or temporary ordinances related to tree conservation policies with replanting and management components, to prevent adverse decisions or actions that will decrease the quality of our woodland in regard to our goal (i.e., clear cuts, unnecessary destruction of heritage trees, development of invasive species).

Input for the WS plan will include:

- North Oaks Natural Resources Comprehensive Plan, developed by NOHOA with support of residents and the City
- Woodland Management Plan templates as proposed by MN DNR/UofM
- MN Land Trust reports and environmental goals
- Lists of native trees, grasslands, and undercover plants
- List of invasive species
- Previous "city forestry plans" if any
- Neighboring city's woodland/forest plans (Wayzata, Arden Hills, Shoreview, White Bear Lake, Roseville)
- Environmental Assessment Worksheets and any other environmental inventory
- Ecological maps and descriptions to support the development of our vision

## Woodland Subcommittee Minutes

June 2, 2020

7:00 P.M.

### Meeting goal:

- Last review and final version of the WS charter
- New Members
- Existing documentation and information, and need for experts
- Next actions

**Present:** Jon Cotner (NOHOA in charge of writing the Natural Environment Plan), Chair Damien Lepoutre (NRC commissioner), Patricia Orud (NOHOA NEST Co-Chair), Mark Rehder (City Forester).

### Review of WS Charter:

The charter latest draft was reviewed, with some new changes, and approved by all. It is therefore adopted, will drive the work of the WS, and will be provided and shared with the NRC during next meeting.

### New Members:

Members of the City of North Oaks Planning Commission have expressed interest to participate to the work of the WS. The WS members are appreciative of the planning commission interest in our woodland and trees as the planning commission has to include trees and woodland considerations in its development review process.

Joyce Yoshimura-Rank was unanimously accepted as new member. She has been very active in North Oaks for 25 years and she will bring historical information and an ecological viewpoint.

It was reminded that Andrew Hawkins, Chair of the North Oaks City Natural Resources Commission, is always invited to our meetings for information. He will participate to some subcommittee work and meetings in case it is considered important.

No other members were proposed, and it was decided that experts will be called to participate to the work and meetings of the WS when needed and as invited experts and not members.

### Documents and Experts:

Mark Rehder and Jon Cotner have collected and put in a shared folder many documents related to North Oaks environment and woodlands; the most comprehensive being the 1999 EAW. A draft of the NOHOA Natural Environment Plan has also been made available to the WS.

Public organizations and experts have been considered to help the WS: USDA/FS, VLAWMO, MNDNR, MN Land Trust.

Mark Rehder contacted some experts at DNR, including Tom Kroll, forester, who has expertise in forest management plans and can help us use their template. This expert may also help us define NO ecological domain(s): soil/geology, ecological subsections, woodland characteristics of these subdivisions.

Jeff Wilder is our DNR forester contact for woodland assistance and could also help us.  
Mark Rehder also has contact with private consultant that could also be asked for if budget permits and if needed.

No contacts with USDA FS nor UoM yet.

Vlawmo is an important partner for North Oaks in environment related topics and should be involved.

We already have documentation on MN Land Trust and their policy for NO land under trust but will need to be contacted very probably.

We may need some expertise from lawyers later on to better understand different responsibilities for the different areas of North Oaks.

**Next steps:**

Damien Lepoutre to confirm to Joyce Yoshimura-Rank her membership.

Damien Lepoutre to present the WS Charter to the June NO NRC meeting.

All to review the shared documents as possible. To ease this work and make information gathering more efficient:

- Mark Rehder to look through the city comprehensive plan (draft) to pull useful information for the WS
- Jon Cotner and Patricia Orud to look through the other documents to pull the useful information for the WS

Patricia Orud and Mark Rehder to look for adapted contact at UoM.

Damien Lepoutre to talk to NRC for Vlawmo expertise.

**Next meeting:**

Damien will send a doodle to check if meetings can take place during working hours instead of evenings.

Tom Kroll to be invited to our next meeting