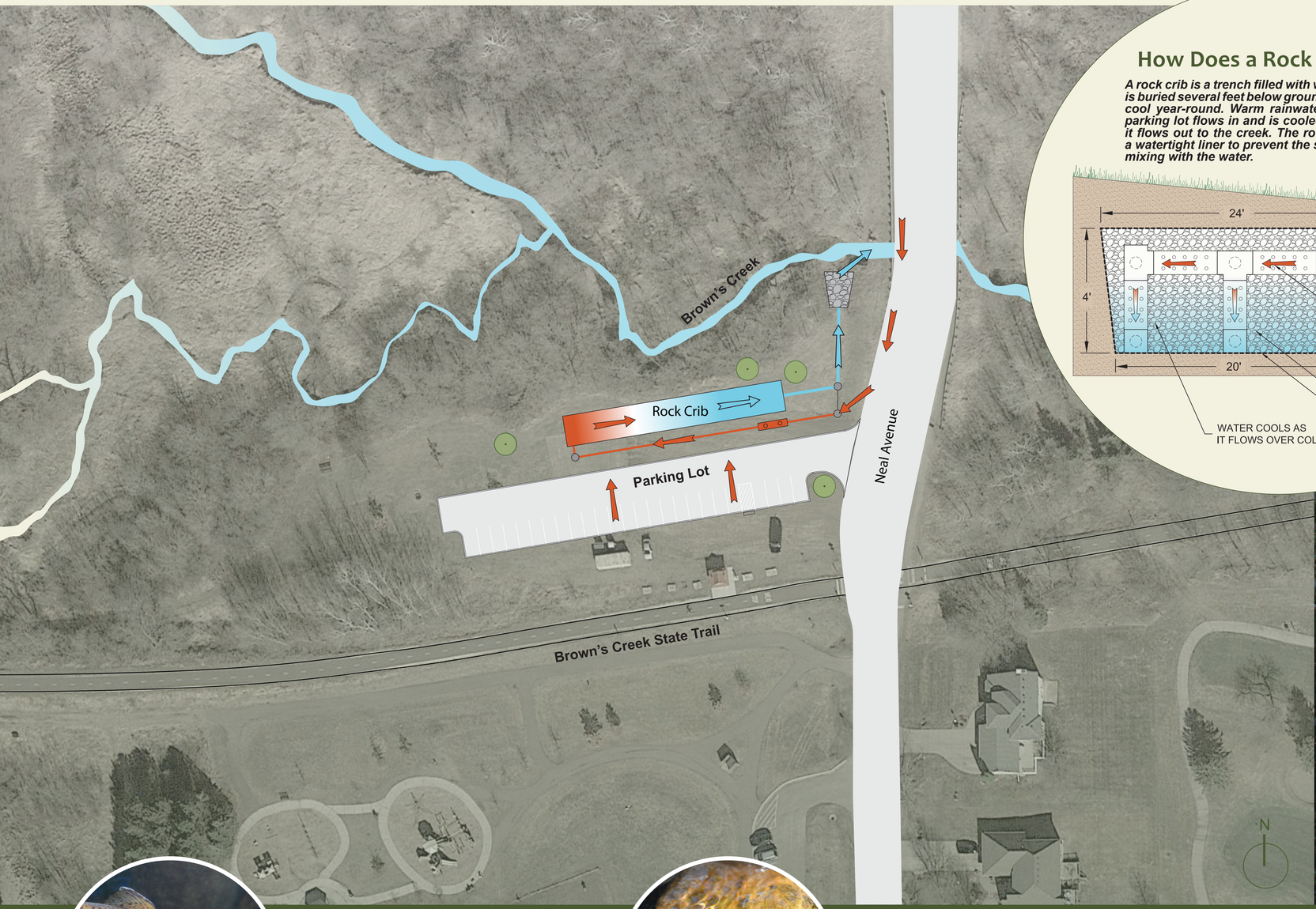
BROWN'S CREEK ROCK CRIB

Improving Trout Habitat with Cool Water



How Does a Rock Crib Work?

A rock crib is a trench filled with washed river rock that is buried several feet below ground where the soil stays cool year-round. Warm rainwater from the road and parking lot flows in and is cooled by the rocks before it flows out to the creek. The rock crib is wrapped in a watertight liner to prevent the surrounding soil from mixing with the water.

The trout and other creatures that live in Brown's Creek depend on cold water in the creek to survive. The stream temperature needs to be below 65° F all year round. During the summer, hot pavement heats up rainwater during storms. When this warm water runs off into Brown's Creek, it heats up the creek water, which hurts and can sometimes even kill the fish and insects in the stream.

The Rock Crib you are viewing was constructed to cool the rainwater flowing from Neal Avenue and the trail parking lot into Brown's Creek. By diverting the rainwater through the Rock Crib, the temperature of the water is cooled by more than 10° F, which helps keep Brown's Creek cold enough for trout and other desirable critters to thrive!

Key Benefits:

Colder Water

- Fish are healthy and able to reproduce naturally
- Insects and other creatures thrive

*Brown Trout photo by Aaron Gustafson

Less Sediment

- Cleaner, clearer stream
- More places for fish to spawn
- Insects and other creatures thrive

*photo by Jeff Syme, Metropolitan Council

For More Info Visit:
www.bcwd.org

BROWN'S CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

CITY OF Stillwater

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT