BROWN'S CREEK RESTORATION



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WHO



Brown's Creek Watershed District is working with the MN Department of Natural Resources and the City of Stillwater to improve habitat and water quality in Brown's Creek.

WHAT

We're starting an exciting project to help Brown's Creek! This means removing buckthorn and boxelder trees, bringing back the natural bends and curves in the stream, creating better habitat for fish and wildlife, and planting more of the plants that naturally belong there.

We'll also make it easier for people to reach the stream by building a new trail that connects to the existing Brown's Creek State Trail.

WHY



Removing buckthorn and boxelder will allow more native plants to thrive and stabilize the soil along the stream with their deep roots, making the stream cleaner and the area healthier for pollinators and wildlife. Native plants will continue to provide sufficient shade to keep the stream cool for fish.



We're making the water cleaner by restoring the creek's original path, which prevents soil from eroding, reconnects the creek to the floodplain, and restores the natural water flow in the wetlands.



Making deeper pools and narrowing the stream creates safe places for fish to hide or stay cool. Adding rocks and material from the cut trees gives fish and aquatic insects more habitat to eat, hide, and reproduce.

PROJECT TIMELINE

SPRING - SUMMER 2024

tree and shrub removal + stream restoration

This project was partially funded by the State of Minnesota through the MN Pollution Control Agency 319 Grant.



FALL 2024

weed management **SPRING 2025**

native plantings

