

## 2024 MN Watersheds Project & Program of the Year

### Preliminary Nomination Form

The Awards Committee is now accepting **Preliminary Nominations for Program or Project of the Year**. This simple, one-page **Preliminary Nomination Form** must be submitted by Sept 6, 2024. When determining the finalists, the Awards Committee will consider: clearly defined need, creative partnerships, innovative financing, resourceful solutions, success at meeting goal, and public value. Finalists, in each category will be asked to complete a full nomination form. The Preliminary Nomination form only requires a project/program description up to 250 words.

#### Award Category (check one)

Project       Program

#### MN Watersheds Region:

One       Two       Three

#### Watershed District or Watershed Management Organization:

Project/program name:

Nominator (if different from above)

Project/Program Summary (Up to 250 words).

Project/Program Contact:

*Name:*

*Phone:*

*Email:*

#### Photos (Optional)

You may include up to four (4) photos of your project or program.

Submit nomination materials to Karen Kill, [kkill@mnwcd.org](mailto:kkill@mnwcd.org) by Sept 6, 2024.









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STOP







# RAIN GARDENS

at Aldrich Arena

## What is a Rain Garden?

A rain garden is a planted low area that collects rainwater from hard surfaces like pavement and then filters out pollutants before they reach lakes, rivers, and streams.

### What happens in the rain gardens when it rains?

- As it rains, rainwater will flow into these rain gardens, which are usually shaped like shallow basins.
- Water is filtered through deep plant roots and organic matter, removing pollutants, collecting sediment, and slowing the water flow.
- After it has been filtered, the water then joins the storm sewer system via an overflow grate or through groundwater.

### Facts about these rain gardens:

- Over 9,000 perennials and grasses, over 600 shrubs, and 70 trees are planted across 13 gardens on this site.
- The combined gardens stretch over 31,000 square feet.
- Over 11 acres drain to these gardens including 8 acres of pavement or other surfaces where water cannot soak into the ground.
- Rainwater runoff is cleaned before going into Wakefield Lake.



Without these rain gardens, rainwater runoff for this site would flow untreated into Wakefield Lake.

Learn more — Stewardship Grants are available. To get more information about this site or funding for a rain garden, planting natives or permeable pavers of your town, go to [ramsey.org](http://ramsey.org).

RAMSEY COUNTY

RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO WATERSHED DISTRICT