

EnviroScape



The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District owns an enviroscape. It is an interactive display that demonstrates how water picks up pollutants as it flows downstream. The model represents a watershed that includes an assortment of land uses. This lake starts out clean, but as it rains pollution is washed downstream to pollute this lake.

Agricultural areas

Lesson: Sediment, fertilizer, and pesticides easily run off when buffers are not in place.

Industrial

Lesson: Industrial areas can be sources of pollution when they are not managed correctly. Make sure to prevent this pollution.

Residential

Lesson: Exposed soil easily washes off of construction sites, there are tools to reduce soil from being washed away. Grass clippings and organic matter introduce excess phosphorus into downstream water bodies. Sweep them up, compost them or dispose of them.

Forests

Lesson: Trees have deep roots that stabilize steep slopes. When these trees are cut down erosion is more likely. Ensure that when a tree is cut down a new one is planted!

Roads

Lesson: Roads carry an assortment of pollutants, but most common of all is in the winter when salt is put down to melt ice. This salt is introduced into local water bodies and suffocates plants and animals that are not used to high salt concentrations. Don't use salt on your property, and encourage your city to adopt best management options for snow and ice removal.

Interested in learning more?

The EnviroScape is available to rent. Please contact the Education and Communications Department to learn more about its availability. You will have to pick it up from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Office between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Monday-Friday.

You can also arrange for a presentation. Contact us for more details.

Direct questions to:

Darren Lochner
(952) 641-4524

dlochner@minnehahacreek.org

District Office:

15320 Minnetonka Blvd
Minnetonka, MN 55345

www.minnehahacreek.org