

Shoreline Re-establishment Projects

In an effort to reduce shoreline erosion and to support pollinators / Monarch Butterflies, the Vernon Hills Park district is systematically replanting shorelines with native prairie plants. In the process our parks staff cut down and chemically treat invasive species and turf grass along stretches of shorelines along our bodies of water, the dead vegetation is cut down to soil level and removed, native seed are spread across the soil and blanketed with biodegradable seed blanket, and the results of this effort is flood tolerant and deeply rooted native prairie plants anchoring the edges of our waterways. Once established these areas will be managed through physical removal of undesirable plants and eventually periodic prescribed burns. These shoreline projects start in the fall so that the prairie seeds can go through a cold treatment over the winter because of most of the seeds require “cold stratification” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stratification_\(seeds\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stratification_(seeds)) to trigger them to germinate.