



Demonstration Sites

Carmel City Hall (One Civic Square, Carmel)

Rain Garden: Staff from the Hamilton County SWCD, City of Carmel, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service teamed up to install a 200-square-foot rain garden/bioswale just east of City Hall in May 2010.

Carmel Urban Forestry Property (located where Cool Creek passes under 126th Street, Carmel)

Rain Garden: In Spring 2009, the City of Carmel Urban Forestry Dept. planted a 150-square-foot rain garden in the small grassy area where Cool Creek passes under 126th Street. The rain garden is positioned to capture stormwater as it runs through a swale from the road to the creek.

Cool Creek Park (2000-1 E. 151st Street, Carmel)

Year-round greenhouse: This site showcases native landscaping, backyard ponds, and native tree/shrub plantings.

Ellen Bosman (homeowner in Centennial neighborhood, Westfield)*

Rain Garden: Ellen planted a 125-square-foot rain garden in Spring 2009.

Windbreak: A wet area of the yard will be planted with water-tolerant native evergreens and shrubs in 2010.

Native shrub plantings: Ellen's property borders a forested area, so she has started planting native, wildlife-friendly shrubs to begin "edge feathering."

Native Prairie Plantings: In 2008, she used native prairie plants to fill in a large portion of her backyard, which reduced her mowing and maintenance while attracting native wildlife.

Fairgreen Trace Subdivision (north side of 116th Street just west of Rangeline Road, Carmel)

Invasive Species Removal: The neighborhood removed invasive shrubs from all wooded common areas.

Native tree/shrub plantings: They then planted native trees/shrubs where invasives were removed.

Pond edge enhancements: They planted aquatic plugs in both retention ponds in 2008 and also installed native trees and shrubs along the banks. They then replaced the remaining turf grass on the banks with a native seed mix in Spring 2009.

Fishers Town Hall (retention pond located just northwest of Fishers Town Hall on Municipal Dr.)

Pond edge enhancements: Hoosier Aquatic Management, Inc. installed six different types of pond edge enhancements to stop erosion, filter water, and serve as an educational demonstration to HOAs in Spring 2009.

Forest Park Aquatic Center (1077 Cicero Road, Noblesville)

Rain Garden: A parking lot rain garden was constructed at the aquatic center to intercept stormwater runoff. Several native grasses and forbs were planted by volunteers on May 20, 2009.

Geist Christian Church (northwest quadrant of 126th Street and Promise Road, Fishers)

Wildlife Houses: The group has constructed and mounted several different houses for wildlife, including bats, bluebirds, owls, and purple martins.

Native Prairie Planting: The church planted three acres of native warm-season grasses and wildflowers with the help of Central Indiana Pheasants Forever and the Hamilton County Urban Conservation Association to reduce mowing and create wildlife habitat in late Spring 2009.

Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds (2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville)

Rain Garden: A 1000-square-foot rain garden was planted in May 2008 near the newly constructed Llama Barn. This garden was designed to intercept all the water running off of the new building, which explains why it is several times larger than a typical residential rain garden.

Lake Forest Subdivision (north side of 116th Street just west of Hazel Dell Parkway, Carmel)

Pond edge enhancements: In 2002, the neighborhood planted a 3-foot wide pond shoreline buffer of native grasses/forbs to stop erosion, deter geese, and improve water quality.

Arboretum: In a 5-acre, wooded common area, the neighborhood has removed invasive species, planted new, native trees and shrubs, and created a wonderful wildlife habitat.

Matt Newell (homeowner in Breakwater neighborhood, Fishers)*

Prairie Planting: Matt installed a 500-square-foot native prairie patch in his backyard. He used small plant plugs to create this area in May 2010.

Reforestation Planting: Also in May 2010, Matt installed 130 tree and shrub seedlings to “reforest” a portion of his backyard.

Rain Gardens: Matt installed two rain gardens, each capturing water from three downspouts! These gardens are unique in that they are both in shady locations.

Other BYC Practices: Matt has also built a compost bin system, started using a rain barrel, and begun practicing natural lawn care (using compost tea and/or compost over most of his property). He has removed an invasive Asian bush honeysuckle and is beginning to add new tree plantings as most of his mature trees are currently ash threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer.

Morse Park & Beach (19777 Morse Park Lane, Noblesville)

Rain Garden: In May 2010, the SWCD, Morse Waterways Association, and Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Dept., along with ten great volunteers planted a 150-square-foot rain garden at Morse Park & Beach. The garden is located just south of the fenced-in beach area in an existing swale. Special thanks go to Native Plants Unlimited for donating a flat of plants for this site!

Noblesville Fire Station #5 (10170 E. 191st St., Noblesville)

Pond edge enhancements: Volunteers planted the shoreline with aquatic emergent plants in May 2009.

One-fourth of the shoreline was planted to a native prairie mix in Spring 2009 and the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ of the shoreline will be planted in the Spring of 2010 by Hoosier Aquatic Management, Inc.

Prairie planting: One-half acre of lawn was no-till drill planted with native prairie seed in November 2009.

Noblesville Soccer Club (8600 E. 196th Street, Noblesville)

Rain Garden: Volunteers planted a 260-square-foot rain garden near a storm inlet at the Noblesville Soccer Club on May 5, 2009. Eight different plant species were selected for their wildlife benefits.

Pat Donohue (homeowner in Sunblest Farms neighborhood, Fishers)*

Rain Garden: In May of 2010, Pat installed a 120-square-foot rain garden in her backyard.

Bird/Butterfly Garden: At the same time, Pat also installed a small (20-square-foot) wildflower garden to provide pollinator habitat.

Ridgefield Subdivision (southwest quadrant of 131st Street and Promise Road, Fishers)

Prairie planting: Six acres of previously mowed common area was converted to native prairie in 2006. They have completed their first maintenance mow on one-third of the prairie and it is regenerating well.

Pond edge enhancements: The entire pond banks are planted to native species.

Weston Place Subdivision (west side of Shelbourne Road just south of 116th Street, Carmel)

Pond edge enhancements: Part of the shoreline of the pond on Weston Drive near Pickens Court was planted with aquatic emergent plugs in 2008 and more was planted in 2009, making this a great site to see the growth of pond edge enhancements. In 2009, the neighborhood also planted an upland seeded buffer around part of the pond located on Weston Drive near 106th Street.

* The sites marked with an asterisk (*) are private residences, so please contact Shaena to make arrangements to visit.