

Central Park Lake
Watershed Improvement Project
Pond and Wetland
WIRB Agreement #: 1311-004

FINAL REPORT for a Pond and Wetland

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Financial Accountability

Watershed Improvement Funds

Grant Agreement Budget Line Item	Total Funds Approved (\$)	Total Funds Expended (\$)	Available Funds (\$)
Contractual - Engineering Design and Oversight	15,000	0	15,000
Information and Education Activities	3,000	2,464.89	535.11
Grade Stabilization Structures	103,698	46,748.94	56,949.06
Totals	121,698	49,213.83	72,484.17

Contractual, Information and Education Activities, and Grade Stabilization Funding

Funding Source	Cash		In-Kind Contributions		Total	
	Approved Application Budget (\$)	Actual (\$)	Approved Application Budget (\$)	Actual (\$)	Approved Application Budget (\$)	Actual (\$)
WIRB	121,698	49,213.83			121,698	49,213.83
IDNR Fish Habitat Program	42,406	19,159.41			42,406	19,159.41
Twin Rivers Pheasants Forever	10,000	4,598.26			10,000	4,598.26
Jones County Conservation Bd.	6,758	3,065.49			6,758	3,065.49
DNR Lake Restoration	7,594	3,065.51			7,594	3,065.51
Totals	188,456	79,102.50			188,456	79,102.50

Watershed Improvement Fund contribution: Approved application budget: 65%
 Actual: 62%

Environmental Accountability

The 1.5 acre south wetland and 7 acre west pond were installed in the summer and fall of 2015. The 1.5 acre wetland is projected to capture 144 tons of sediment and 187 pounds of phosphorus annually that would have otherwise entered Central Park Lake. The 7 acre west pond is projected to capture 182 tons of sediment and 237 pounds of phosphorus annually. Collectively, these structures, in addition to other structures built within Central Park Lake’s watershed are now capturing over 375 tons of sediment and 488 pounds of phosphorus annually.

In addition to their sediment and nutrient retention qualities, the pond and wetland will provide habitat for a large diversity of wildlife. Upland native grasses and forbs are planted in the disturbed areas and around the structures which will provide nesting, bedding and feeding habitat for animals from monarch butterflies to eastern wild turkeys. Wetland plants both within and around the water will provide important food and cover for aquatic insects, frogs and salamanders, and waterfowl to name a few. Within the pond native fish species will be stocked to provide angling opportunities for the 60,000+ visitors to the park to enjoy year round.

Two kiosks have been constructed to interpret the watershed work performed at Central Park and provide recognition to our project partners.

Table 3. Summary of Practice Goals and Accomplishments

Practice or Activity	Unit	Approved Goal	Accomplishments	Percent Completion
Grade Stabilization Structures	No.	2	2	100
Educational Kiosks	No.	2	2	100

The project has been a success. Members of the public are already providing positive comments on the structures and the resulting visually clearer water flowing from their control structures.

Program Accountability

This project was phase 3 of the Central Park Lake and Watershed Restoration Project. To date, with the help of WIRB and several other technical and funding partners, 79 acres of land immediately upstream of the Lake have been permanently protected, 4 modern septic systems have been installed, 1 lagoon reclaimed, and 1 pond and 3 wetlands have been constructed. The completion of these three phases are critical steps in stabilizing the watershed and improving the water quality in Central Park Lake.

Several magazine and newsletter articles, and public tours have already been provided, walking people through the watershed and water quality plan at Central Park and how the projects are already making a positive impact. These will continue as the overall watershed and lake restoration plan progresses.

Appendix A:

Figures

Figure 1. Kiosk #1.

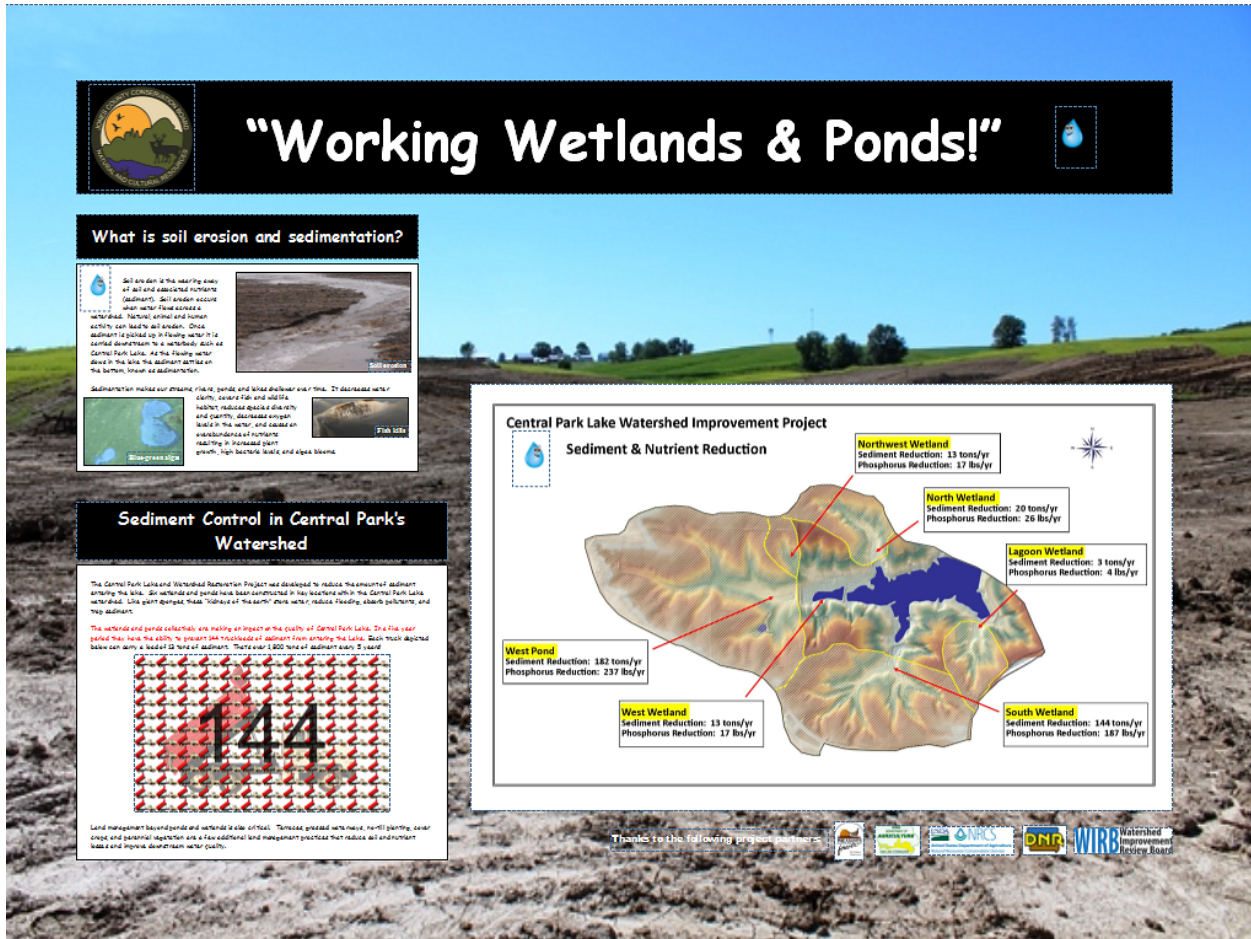


Figure 2. Kiosk #2

"A Wetland is Created!"

Central Park Lake Restoration

Central Park Lake was designed in 1965 with construction completed in 1966. By 2010 the lake had lost over 1/3rd of its original storage capacity due to sedimentation. Excess nutrients were washing into the lake attached to soil particles and animal droppings. In addition, park development was outgrowing outdated wastewater systems.


Over time, the continual input of excess nutrients caused increased bacteria levels and algae blooms. Together these stressors reduced water clarity, quality, and aesthetic appeal for fish, wildlife, and park visitors.

In an effort to reverse this trend, the Central Park Lake Restoration effort was implemented. The goal was to provide a high quality recreational resource that supports a diverse, self-sustaining and healthy fishery, and provide clean water that is safe and visually appealing for water-based outdoor recreational activities such as swimming, fishing and boating.


In 2013 new aptic systems were installed throughout the park and the outdated park lagoon in front of you was converted into a small wetland. Nearly one foot of sludge and sediment was removed from the lagoon site. This site was then regraded into a wetland which quickly attracted waterfowl, songbirds, frogs, and aquatic turtles and insects. In addition, wetland plants began to grow helping to filter and clean the water.

Why are Wetlands Important?


Wetlands are cradles of biological diversity - providing water, habitat, and food upon which countless species of plants and animals depend on for survival.



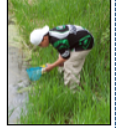
Wetlands are an important habitat for resident and migratory wildlife. 85% of birds and mammals use wetlands during their lifespan.



Wetlands are vital for water purification and storage, storm and flood protection, shoreline stabilization and erosion control, groundwater recharge and discharge, and trapping and storing excess nutrients and




Wetlands provide huge economic, cultural, educational & recreational benefits including water supply, fisheries, agricultural support, wildlife resources, cultural traditions, recreation, and tourism.




What is a wetland?

A wetland is an area of hydro soil that is saturated with surface and/or groundwater for enough of the year to host wetland plants. These plants thrive in water and wet soils, providing habitat for animal species which are entirely dependent on wetland ecology. Wetlands are considered one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on earth. Wetlands vary widely because of regional and local differences in soil, topography, climate, hydrology, water chemistry, vegetation and human impacts.

Can you think of a wetland near your home?



Thanks to the following project partners:



Appendix B: Photographic Journal

West Pond Before Construction



West Pond Shortly After Construction (partially filled)



South Wetland Before Construction



South Wetland After Construction (partially filled)



Central Park Map

