Stormwater Ponds

Landscaping
Phytoplankton take up nutrients and produce oxygen – too much phytoplankton can die off causing low oxygen.

Filamentous algae – sign of excess nutrients.

Heavy geese populations can add high levels of nutrients leading to excessive algae, plankton, and organic matter build up.

Excessive organic matter and its decomposition can create a dark anaerobic soil layer.

Decaying plant matter consumes oxygen and leads to hypoxia and anaerobic conditions. Also can lead to pond volume loss as material accumulates.

Hydrogen sulfide is produced under anaerobic conditions.
Why Add Plants to Stormwater Ponds

- Captures Pollution from Runoff
- Prevents Erosion
- Aesthetics
- Reduce Mowing
- Habitat for Pollinators, Small Fish and Amphibians
- Reduce Geese
- Reduce Excess Nutrients
Pollution from Runoff
Erosion Issues
Aesthetics
Clearly established no-mow zone, native plant buffer and rooted aquatic vegetation

Mowed to the edge with no native prairie or emergent plants

Reduce Mowing
Habitat
Reduce Geese
Reduce Excess Nutrients
Some Recommended Plants

• Blue Flag Iris – Blue flag iris (Iris versicolor) is a beautiful semi-aquatic plant. Deep green foliage and striking blue-violet flowers appear on 2- to 3-foot stalks in late spring to early summer. Leaves are narrow and sword-shaped.
Pickerel Weed

• Pickerelweed – Pontederia cordata

• Pickerelweed is a very common and widely recognized native. It is a prolific grower and can cover large areas. Pickerelweed typically grows to about 2 or 3 feet tall. Its leaves are large (up to 5 inches wide) and are usually twice as long. Leaf shapes are variable, but are usually lance-shaped. They may have either a distinctly heart-shaped face or a rounded face. The easiest way to recognize pickerelweed is by its spike of violet-blue flowers

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Cardinal Flower

- Lobelia Cardinalis
- Lobelia cardinalis is a species of flowering plant in the bellflower family Campanulaceae native to the Americas, from southeastern Canada south through the eastern and southwestern United States, Mexico and Central America to northern Colombia.
Swamp Milkweed

- Asclepias Incarnata
- Asclepias incarnata, the swamp milkweed, rose milkweed, rose milkflower, swamp silkweed, or white Indian hemp, is a herbaceous perennial plant species native to North America. It grows in damp to wet soils and also is cultivated as a garden plant for its flowers, which attract butterflies and other pollinators with nectar.
Rose Mallow

- Hibiscus Moscheutos
- Hibiscus moscheutos is a species of flowering plant in the family Malvaceae. It is a cold-hardy perennial wetland plant that can grow in large colonies.
Butterfly Weed

- Asclepsia tuberosa
- Asclepias tuberosa, the butterfly weed, is a species of milkweed native to eastern North America. It is commonly known as butterfly weed because of the butterflies that are attracted to the plant by its color and its copious production of nectar.
• Eutrochium is a North American genus of herbaceous flowering plants in the sunflower family. They are commonly referred to as Joe-Pye weeds. They are native to the United States and Canada, and have non-dissected foliage and pigmented flowers.
Arrow Arum

- Peltandra virginica is a plant of the arum family known as green arrow arum and tuckahoe. It is widely distributed in wetlands in the eastern United States.
Seaside Goldenrod

• Solidago sempervirens, the seaside goldenrod or salt-marsh goldenrod, is a plant species in the genus Solidago of the family Asteraceae. It is native to eastern North America and parts of the Caribbean.
Symphyotrichum novae-angliae, the New England aster, hairy Michaelmas-daisy, or Michaelmas daisy, is a species of flowering plant in the aster family. It is a herbaceous perennial native to almost every area in North America east of the Rocky Mountains.
Little Bluestem

- Schizachyrium scoparium, commonly known as little bluestem or beard grass, is a North American prairie grass native to most of the United States.
Black Eye Susan

- Rudbeckia hirta, commonly called black-eyed Susan, is a North American flowering plant in the sunflower family, native to Eastern and Central North America.
Sedges

- *Juncus effusus*, with the common names common rush or soft rush, is a perennial herbaceous flowering plant species in the family Juncaceae. In North America, the common name soft rush also refers to *Juncus interior*. 
Marsh Marigold

- *Caltha palustris*, known as marsh-marigold and kingcup, is a small to medium size perennial herbaceous plant of the buttercup family, native to marshes, fens, ditches and wet woodland in temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere. It flowers between April and August, dependent on altitude and latitude, but occasional flowers may occur at other times.
Summary

- Landscaping stormwater ponds has many benefits
- Not for everyone, not a fine manicured look
- Assists in keeping the pond clean and effective
- Helps reduce the geese issues
- Reduces damage by mowers
Questions

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