

# Fen-Friendly Care Practices for Stonehedge Residents

## Protecting the Calcareous Fen

Storm water that falls on Stonehedge becomes groundwater that sustains the nearby fen. You can help protect this fen by following the Fen Management Plan (FMP) that DNR has already approved for your neighborhood. The FMP requirements were prepared specifically to address your neighborhood design and the Stonehedge Fen. Implementing the required practices will help ensure that the fen and your drinking water are protected.



## Fen Management Plan for Stonehedge

Property owners and developers are required to meet the minimum responsibilities outlined in the FMP, which are:

- Minimizing soil erosion during home construction.
- Performing necessary maintenance on infiltration trenches to remove sediment and debris.



## Lawn Care Tips

There are simple ways beyond the FMP to help protect the fen:

- Mulch flower beds, shrubs, and trees to encourage rain to soak into the ground rather than runoff.
- Increase native plants and reduce turf on your landscape.
- Maintain a healthy lawn by mowing grass to a height of 2-3". Seed thin or bare spots in the spring and fall. Aerate and de thatch in the fall.
- Use phosphorus-free fertilizers and apply them in the fall.
- Install a raingarden to treat storm water before it runs off the landscape.
- Capture roof runoff in a rain barrel.



# Did you know that you have a unique and rare ecosystem nearby?



You live in close proximity to the **Stonehedge Calcareous Fen** and your help is needed to protect it! Your actions, for better or worse, have an impact on this rare wetland. You can help keep your drinking water clean, replenish ground water supplies, and sustain wildlife and plant habitats in this valuable ecosystem.

The Stonehedge Calcareous Fen (in yellow) might seem far away, but your yards, the infiltration trenches (in red), and storm sewers connect your neighborhood to this valuable wetland.



Help protect the fen by:

- Maintaining the infiltration trenches
- Reducing chemical use and runoff from your property
- Keeping the streets clean
- Enjoying the fragile ecosystem from a distance

## For further information contact:

City of Rochester Public Works Department  
Storm Water Management  
201 4th Street SE, Room 108  
Rochester, MN 55904  
507-328-2440  
[www.rochesterstormwater.com](http://www.rochesterstormwater.com)



**Would you like to help control invasive plants in the fen? Call Rochester Public Works to learn more!**