



# Shore Stabilization in the Parks

The Naperville Park District is pleased to announce that it will be continuing efforts to stabilize the shorelines of retention basins throughout the park system.

## Shoreline Restoration Initiative 2008-2011

Erosion is a common problem in urban settings such as May Watts Park (see picture to the right). The problem affects the park by creating maintenance issues, poor water quality, an unappealing view and results in problems downstream in the DuPage River. The Park District is working to stabilize the shorelines of rivers, streams and retention basins throughout the park system.



## Restoration Plan Ideas

Erosion of the shoreline can be greatly reduced by the use of Best Management Practices (BMP's). The stabilization of the pond shoreline at May Watts Park is an example of using a combination of BMP's to ensure success. In the fall of 2008 the Park District completed minor grading of the shoreline to create a gentler, more stable slope and installed native seed. The deep roots of native plants help stabilize the shoreline, provide habitat for birds and butterflies and provide us with an appealing landscape. In Spring 2009, native plants were added near the water line to further stabilize this area from future erosion.

## Programmed Maintenance

Newly stabilized areas will require maintenance over the next 3-5 years to ensure the establishment of the native plants. This includes weeding, mowing, and burn management (approximately every 2-3 years). Following seeding there will be fencing and netting installed to protect the new plants from geese - as a goose's favorite food is the young shoot of a newly installed plant. Overall these improvements will improve water quality, reduce long term maintenance by minimizing erosion and visually enhance the park.



The Naperville Park District thanks you for your patience during construction. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Peggy Pelkonen at 630.848.5013 or [ppelkonen@napervilleparks.org](mailto:ppelkonen@napervilleparks.org).