

Project Summary

The 840-acre Gordie Mikkelsen WMA and the Linwood Community Forest, are ranked as High Biodiversity by the MN Biological Survey, and are examples of the mosaic Anoka Sand Plain landscape, containing a diversity of native plant communities including oak woodlands, sedge meadows, wetlands and swamps. However, no remnant dry prairie remains in these site. Three grassland areas in Gordie Mikkelsen WMA had been restored to native vegetation and are maintained by the DNR. This project converts the final old field to a native dry prairie plant community. Anoka Conservation District collaborated with the MN DNR to convert 9.3 acres in Gordie Mikkelsen WMA and Linwood Community Forest dominated by smooth brome and weedy grasses to prairie. Additionally, ACD and DNR staff, community members and the Linwood Community School planted wildflower plugs in the Windswept Prairie Environmental Education Area, one of the prairie units near the school. This area will serve as a future site to collect wildflower seed, which can be used to enhance the prairies within the Mikkelsen WMA. Funding was provided by the Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program.



Planting wildflowers with the Linwood Community School.

Project Specs

Acres Treated.....11 acres
Date of treatment.....2019-2022

Project Funding

CPL Funds.....\$26,050
NWTF Match.....\$4,420
Total Project Funding.....\$30,470



Two years of herbicide broadcast treatment.



Site prep prescribed fire. Forb rich seed mix broadcasted.



Two years of establishment mowing.



Milkweed after site preparation.