



Comfort Lake Boat Launch - Parking Lot Island Water Quality Rain-Garden Retrofit Project

PROJECT SPECS

Date Constructed... August 2011

Number of rain-gardens ..3

Surface Area.....~640 sq ft

Natives Planted.....~70

Cost Share Funding 50% of project expenses up to \$3,000.00

Pre-Restoration Conditions

The Comfort Lake Boat Launch parking lot (located on the north shore of the lake) drains to the nearby Sunrise River. The parking lot and its three island plantings did not provide for any water quality treatment of stormwater runoff before it got into the adjacent road ditch and then into the Sunrise River.

The direct conveyance of nutrients and pollutants getting into the nearby Sunrise River contributes to:

- increased algae blooms,
- unwanted vegetation, and
- poorer quality fish and wildlife habitat.

Before Spring 2011



After Restoration

The existing above ground parking lot islands were replaced with rain-gardens. The three rain-gardens were constructed by excavating down one foot to create a low spot that the parking lot runoff now drains to. Once the polluted water gets into the rain-garden it soaks into the ground preventing the runoff from going directly to the Sunrise River. The native plantings and rain-gardens provide many benefits, including:

- Stormwater is retained on site increasing infiltration and decreasing input of nutrients and pollutants to the Sunrise River.
- Flowering plants add diversity increasing the wildlife habitat, for birds and butterflies.

The project was done as an Eagle Scout Project by Ryan Thill and constructed by Boy Scout Troop 522.



After September 2011

