

Clearwater Lake Community Runoff Mini-Grant, 2018

Table 3: Community Involvement

Community involvement met and exceeded the project goals.

- All grant Participants provided volunteers to work multiple projects.
- 5 of the 7 projects provided volunteers to work on ALL projects.
- Multiple projects invited outside help to volunteer on the day of their project installation. This reached to people that do not live on Clearwater Lake
- A notice was sent to 14 area lake associations about our Education Seminar. There is no way to know how many of these associations passed the information on to their members. However, 3 lakes were represented at the public Education Seminar held on June 2. They told us they were notified of the event through their lake associations.
- The Nelsons were educated on the purpose of the projects and were enthusiastic about allowing willow cutting on their property.
- The Clearwater Camp expanded their Eco week around our project. This pulled in extended communities through the volunteer network of Clearwater Camp.
- An Eagle Scout candidate took ownership of one portion of the Clearwater Camp project as his service project. He organized, taught and directed his scout troop to complete the project and learn about willow wattle and native plantings.
- Park Estates volunteered their community gazebo for our Education Seminar. The facility worked perfectly and was in a great location to allow live examples along the shoreline. The grant educational activities resulted in participation by residents of a townhome association with 16 families.
- With the involvement of the camp, we reached all age levels including elementary and middle school with ECO week, high school with the Eagle Scout project, all ages of properties owners and even grandparents helping out at installs.

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Table 3: Evaluation

Our project exceeded almost all our grant goals. With the initial loss of 3 properties from the grant, we started out a little behind. However, with the incorporation of the Clearwater Camp project into ECO week and the addition of an Eagle Scout service project we did more than just prevent runoff and erosion. We educated the next generation about good lake stewardship and simple constructive steps that can be done by lake shore owners and of all ages.

Our Education Seminar was such a success that Park Estates residents followed up the presentation by learning hands on at our willow cutting and installation workshops. With the information and education they received they implemented a 200+ foot willow wattle installation and planting on their own. This made them an unofficial 8th project site and we were happy to use some of our own administrative funds to help them purchase plants. They have expressed how happy they are to have had the education available to help them improve the estate and help the lake.

With such a large project, the need for all participants to help on multiple projects was very important. Our participants were fantastic. We had a large turnout for every event and great cross project support.