

Fen-Friendly Care Practices for Barony Woods Residents

Protecting the Calcareous Fen

Storm water that falls on Barony Woods 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 Mutchler Fen. Implementing the required practices will help ensure that the fen and your drinking water are protected.



Fen Management Plan for Barony Woods

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

- Performing maintenance to keep sediment and debris out of the back yard infiltration trenches (IT), in the Wicklow Lane cul-de-sac, and the four hillside rock checks (RC).
- Installing rain gutters to discharge roof runoff into infiltration trenches (IT). This applies to homes at 3167 & 3168 Franklen Lane and 821, 822, 864, & 910 Wicklow Lane.

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 dethatch 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 **Mutchler 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 Mutchler Calcareous Fen (in yellow) might seem far away, but your yards and the infiltration trenches (in red) connect your neighborhood to this valuable wetland. Rock checks (in purple) protect the wetland by preventing up hill erosion.

Help protect the fen by:

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



For further information contact:

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507-328-2440
www.rochesterstormwater.com



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