



U of M Regional Infiltration Basin

Date: 2006
Location: St. Paul Campus, MN
Client(s): University of Minnesota (U of M)



Summary

In 2000, the Capitol Region Watershed District in cooperation with the U of M, conducted a study of the Sarita wetland watershed, which contained recommendations for improving water quality. The most significant improvement was development of a large regional infiltration basin.

An old sheep pasture located on the agricultural grounds represented a historically low lying area that was receiving limited stormwater input, yet exhibited excellent infiltration. EOR optimized this site to infiltrate increased stormwater inputs that were to be diverted from entering the Sarita wetland and directed to the basin.

The new basin resulted in the significant reduction in stormwater volume and pollutant loading, improved downstream stormsewer capacity, and decreased the flooding potential.

Client Benefits

- Improved water quality of downstream wetlands
- Reduced stormwater volume and peak flow rates
- Reduced strain on U of M's existing under-sized stormsewer system, reducing the need for a costly upgrade and expansion thereof
- Wildlife habitat creation