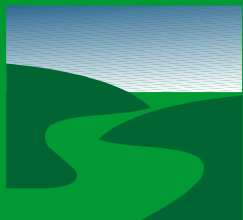


# Preserve 9 Mile Creek

[www.9milecreek.org](http://www.9milecreek.org)

Sign the Online Petition  
to Save the Creek



Visit  
our  
Website!

\*See our website for links

## Environment

By TOM MEERSMAN, Star Tribune  
Last update: February 10, 2009 - 10:59 PM  
"Skuta said that five metro-area creeks are listed as impaired because their salt levels are too high: Minnehaha Creek, Nine Mile Creek, Bevens Creek, Shingle Creek and Battle Creek. The creeks have chronic levels above the state standard of 230 parts per million – equivalent to 1 teaspoon of salt in 5 gallons of water. That may not be enough to taste, Skuta said, but it's enough to affect the bugs and plants needed by fish and waterfowl"



### Heavy Trail Salt Hopkins 2009

Our Community Officials are trying to retrofit a trail in landlocked areas where it does not fit the environment. It is not feasible to duplicate in Edina the conditions that allow communities like Minnetonka & Eden Prairie to have substantial recreational trails without impacting residents' privacy & safety!



Mature Trees impacted along trail

## Safety

- Edina School District is on record against a bike trail adjacent to any school property.
- Children in some 9 Mile Creek neighborhoods cannot play in front yards due to heavy traffic & access to strangers. A creekside trail would leave children vulnerable in back & front of homes.
- Minneapolis Trail Crimes include muggings & armed robberies. Mpls. police issued a bulletin to residents to take precautions. As a first ring suburb, Edina would be especially vulnerable to incidents along a wooded creek trail.
- A level III sex offender is moving into Hopkins at a location that provides direct access to the trail which links to Edina.

### Mpls. Police Trail Safety Notice

#### Attention Residents -Update

Dec. 17, 2008

##### 'Midtown Greenway - Hiawatha LRT Trail'

Since December 4<sup>th</sup> there have been no robberies on the Midtown Greenway and the LRT trail. The Minneapolis Police and the Park Police have been putting resources in these areas and these efforts appear to have paid off. The investigations into the six cases continue.

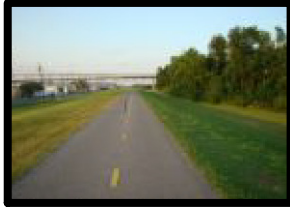
The goal of the Police Department is a safe environment for all residents. Please keep in mind the following safety recommendations that apply to everyone, not just cyclists.

##### Common sense safety recommendations

- Be aware of what is going on around you. Walking or riding while listening to iPods and MP3 players can reduce your ability to hear what is going on around you.
- If you see people that make you nervous or uncomfortable, exit the Greenway at the nearest ramp or turn around.

## Loss of Privacy/Property Values

"Regional Trails" in metro suburbs were built on existing Railroad beds or Park Lands. They are not quiet nature paths. **THEY ARE ROADS!**



- Front yards along proposed routes already face busy streets where traffic travels 40-45 mph several times daily. Posted speed limits are 30 mph.
- Homes will be "fish bowls" with no privacy for residents. A 16-foot wide trail will encroach on existing residential boundaries. Trails so near homes and wild areas will have a strong negative impact on the neighborhood and the ecosystem.
- Three Rivers Park District estimates 500,000 users on the 9 Mile Creek Regional Trail annually.

The home below will have 3 sides exposed to strangers & bypassers, once the city bulldozes a path along 9 mile creek. The city already cut down trees on one side last summer.



## Budget Issues

- While Minnesota cuts aid to communities & schools, making creation & maintenance of this trail a top priority doesn't make sense. Edina Public Schools request input on deep budget cuts. "As our District plans for the 2009-2010 school year and beyond, we are faced with significant financial challenges as a result of the economic recession."
- Three Rivers Park District proposes several very costly new Trail Bridges. One is planned over Hwy 62 between Gleason Rd & Tracy Ave, and a second is planned over Hwy 100 between West 70th St and West 77th St.
- Wooded creek trail will require additional policing, lighting, maintenance & trash removal costs 24x7.
- A 2006 survey of Edina residents returned 865 responses showing 88% satisfaction with the number of Edina parks. National Park Assn. recommends 10% city area be designated for parks - Edina has 15%.
- How can officials choose both the most environmentally damaging & most expensive route for a bike trail without adequate exploration of alternatives?



## Take Action!

**Email, Write, Call, Meet!**

### Edina City Council

\* Watch Edina City Council Meetings Online!

**Mayor James Hovland**

5539 W. 70th St., 55439.....612-874-8550

**Council Member Joni Bennett**

4003 Lynn Avenue, 55416.....952-927-0661

**Council Member Mary Brindle**

6901 Pauite Drive, 55439.....952-941-7746

**Council Member Scot Housh**

4209 Country Club Road, 55424.....763-302-7174

**Council Member Ann Swenson**

6021 Concord Avenue, 55424.....952-927-7524

**Park and Recreation Director**

John Keprios.....952-826-0430

[edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us)

**Three Rivers Park District (formerly Hennepin Parks)**

**PARK DISTRICT ADMIN HEADQUARTERS**

3000 Xenium Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55441-1299

General Information All Parks .....763-559-9000

Board of Commissioners.....763-559-6730

[ninemilecreektrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org](mailto:ninemilecreektrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org).

[commissioners@threeriversparkdistrict.org](mailto:commissioners@threeriversparkdistrict.org).

**Board Meetings - 1st & 3rd Thurs each month - 5 PM**

### Nine Mile Creek Watershed District

**Administrator** Kevin Bigalke.....952-835-2078

Edina Business Center, 7710 Computer Ave.,

Suite 135, Edina, MN

[kbigalke@ninemilecreek.org](mailto:kbigalke@ninemilecreek.org)

**Board Meetings 3rd Wed each month -7 PM**

### State Officials

Sen. Geoff Michel, [sen.geoff.michel@senate.mn](mailto:sen.geoff.michel@senate.mn),

651-296-6238

Rep Keith Downey, [rep.keith.downey@house.mn](mailto:rep.keith.downey@house.mn),

651-296-4363