US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Ginny Black

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
US Composting Council Board of Directors
And
Plymouth City Council

### Projects

- Demonstration Project (compost blanket)
- Wood Creek (compost blanket)
- Raingardens (engineered soil mix)
- Shoreland Restoration (compost incorporation)

### When to consider Compost.

- Poor quality soils that will not support vigorous rapid growth.
- Projects completed late in the season
- Locations that are steep or hard to reach with heavy equipment
- Areas where weed control cannot be used
- High profile areas where immediate results are needed
- May be able to get GHG credits

#### General Benefits

- Weed free source of organic matter.
- Promotes plant growth and rooting.
- Great moisture holding capabilities.
- Contains low levels of nutrients.
- Disease suppression qualities.
- Can fix poor soils, physically, and biologically.

# Storm Water Management & Erosion Control

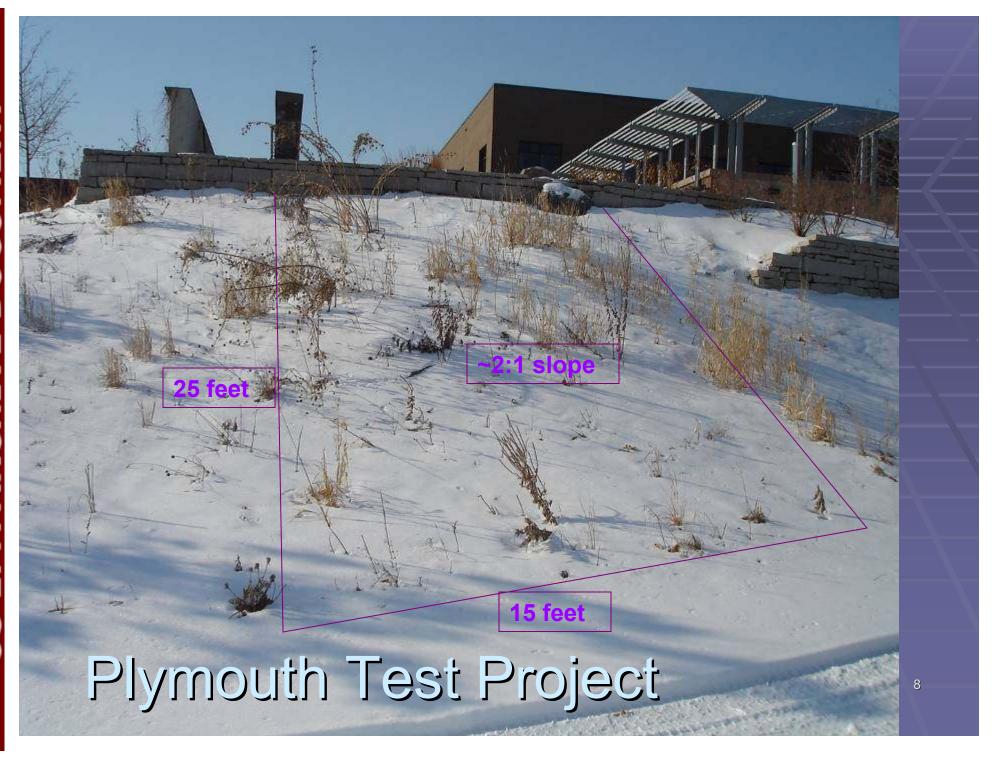
- Water retention
  - 10 lbs compost holds 8 lbs water
  - Reduces runoff/erosion

Quick Re-vegetation

## Plymouth Test Project

- Public Safety Expansion
- Native plantings
- Steep slope 2:1
- First planting very thin
- Highly eroded
- Very Public site





## Plymouth Test Project

- Test plot of yard waste compost/pond storm water dredgings
- First year no growth, no erosion
- Second year prolific black-eyed susans
- Third year, heavy fall leaf layer prevent flower growth, mainly green vegetative growth

#### Wood Creek

- Tributary stream to
   Medicine Lake, listed as
   impaired for Phosphorus
- Plated as a wooded out lot to an HOA, 1970's
- Sever erosion
- Endangered decks and homes
- Deposition of lg. alluvial fan in Medicine Lake



Picture courtesy of City of Plymouth























### Plymouth Raingardens

- Surface Water Management Plan of 2000
- Surface Water Management Fee, 2002
- Commercial Rain Gardens, 2004
- Residential with Road Reconstructions,
   2003 to present

## Plymouth Rain Garden Spec.

#### Soil Amendment

■ 70/15/15 on-site soil/compost/sandy soil mix.

#### Mulch

- shredded raw wood material from hard timber
- No individual piece shall exceed 5" in any direction.

#### Edging

 commercial grade, 4" x 1/8", Green Steel Edging by Sure Loc or approved equal

#### Drain tile

4" in diameter filter sock, connected with a 4" x 4" x 4"
 TEE to drain tile in the street or a nearby catch basin as specified on the construction plans or in the field

## Nursery Plant Stock

- Shrubs (Gallon Pots)
- Annabelle' Hydrangea
- Emerald Mount' Honeysuckle
- Viburnum "Bailey Compact" (V. trilobum)
- Perennials (4" Pots)
- Sedum 'Autumn Joy'
- Liatris 'Floristan Violet'
- Daylily 'Lemon Lollypop'

- Blue Flag Iris (Iris versicolor)
- Black-eyed Susan "Goldstrum"
- Aster 'Alma Potschke' (A. novae-angliae)
- Aster 'Purple Dome'
- Feather Reed Grass 'Karl Forester'
- Little Bluestem

















