

Protect the Spring First: Choose the Lowest-Risk Management Methods

Frederick-Miller Spring is a unique drinking water resource.

People collect and drink untreated spring water from this shallow groundwater source year-round. Because the water flows directly from the aquifer, preventing contamination/safety should be the highest priority.

Minnesota's own guidance recommends minimizing herbicide exposure near water.

The Minnesota DNR Environmental Risk Assessment (Triclopyr):

- Documents **developmental and reproductive effects in mammals** in toxicity studies.
- Notes **negative impacts on non-target species**, including mammals and plants.
- States triclopyr can **persist in soil and surface water**, increasing long-term exposure under certain conditions.
- Recommends:
 - **Reducing contact with water resources**
 - **Using the minimum effective application rates**
 - **Reducing the number of applications**

Knowing this Scientific uncertainty is a reason for caution.

The National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) states that the EPA has classified triclopyr as **"unable to be classified as to human carcinogenicity."**

However:

- Animal studies found **weak evidence of mammary (breast) tumors in female rats.**
- A peer-reviewed review noted that **dose-related mammary tumors in rats and mice were considered "marginal" rather than completely dismissed**, suggesting the findings may warrant further review.

Key point: We cannot say triclopyr definitely causes cancer, but we also cannot say there is zero risk. Since this area provides drinking water to the public, it makes sense to choose safer methods when possible rather than introduce a chemical where people may be exposed.

Mechanical Buckthorn Removal Works

A Proven, Chemical-Free Solution

Goal: Share real-world examples showing that buckthorn and other invasive species can be effectively managed through mechanical and organic methods without herbicides.

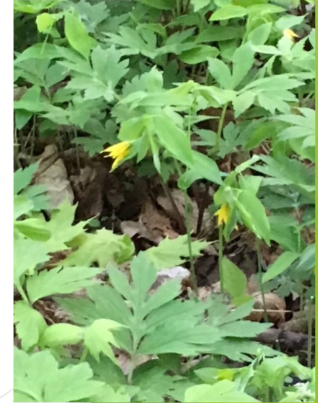
Benefits of Manual & High-Cut Removal

- Protects water sources, wetlands, and groundwater.
- Prevents chemical exposure to wildlife, pollinators, and people.
- Reduces soil disturbance and erosion.
- Supports native plant restoration and biodiversity.
- Encourages community stewardship through volunteer involvement.

Results!



Early Meadow Rue
Native to RBS



Bellwort and V. Waterleaf

Proven Success in Local Parks

Management and eradication of invasive species without chemical herbicides is **feasible, realistic, and already being successfully implemented** in Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) natural areas, including:

- Roberts Bird Sanctuary
- William Berry Woods
- Lake Harriet
- Cedar Area 10
- Along all of Minnehaha creek

These successful restoration projects demonstrate that mechanical and organic methods can effectively control invasive species while protecting sensitive ecosystems and our valuable water resources.



The following photos document the progress of volunteer-led **cut-stump (manual) buckthorn removal** at Frederick-Miller Spring. This work demonstrates that mechanical management can be an effective alternative in this sensitive area.

According to a professional gardener who reviewed the site, the treated buckthorn is dying as expected. The remaining step is for volunteers to remove the dead stumps, completing the restoration process.

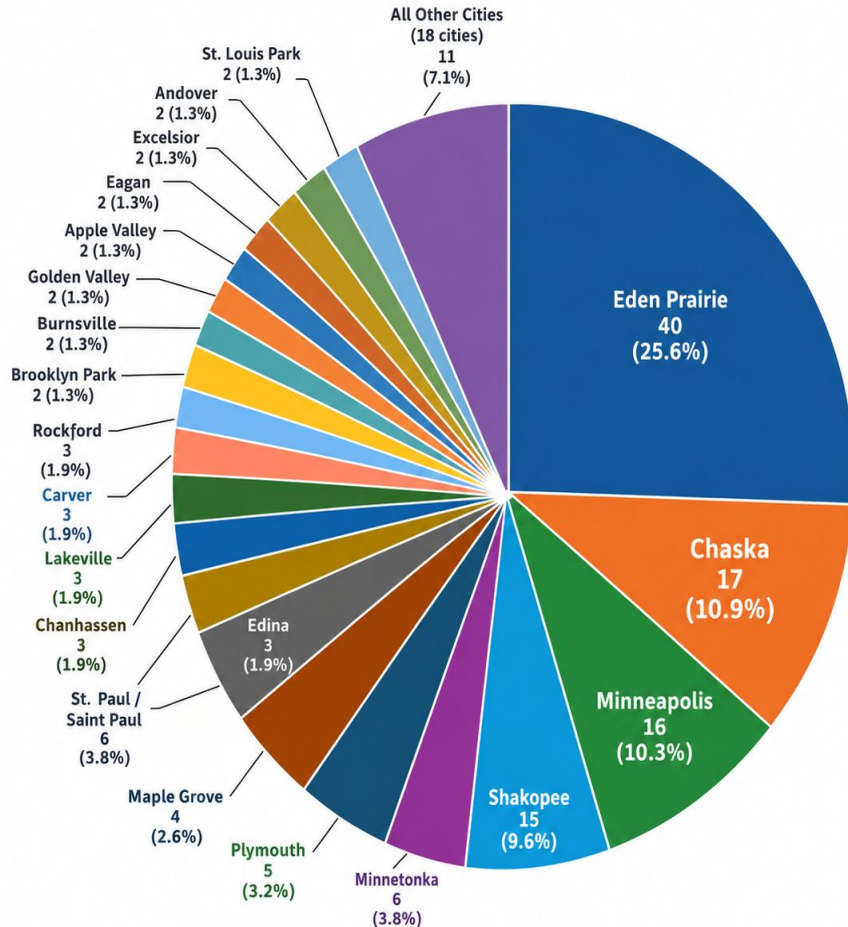
These results show that manual and targeted cut-stump methods can successfully control buckthorn while minimizing unnecessary herbicide use near a public spring and protecting the surrounding environment.



Respondents by City

Total Respondents: 156 from 35+ Communities

7



Community Support for Chemical-Free Management

Residents of **Eden Prairie** and surrounding communities who rely on and enjoy this natural spring have expressed strong concerns about the use of chemical herbicides in this sensitive area.

Many people visit the spring for its natural beauty, wildlife habitat, and recreational value, and they want to see it protected using environmentally responsible management practices.

Community Petition

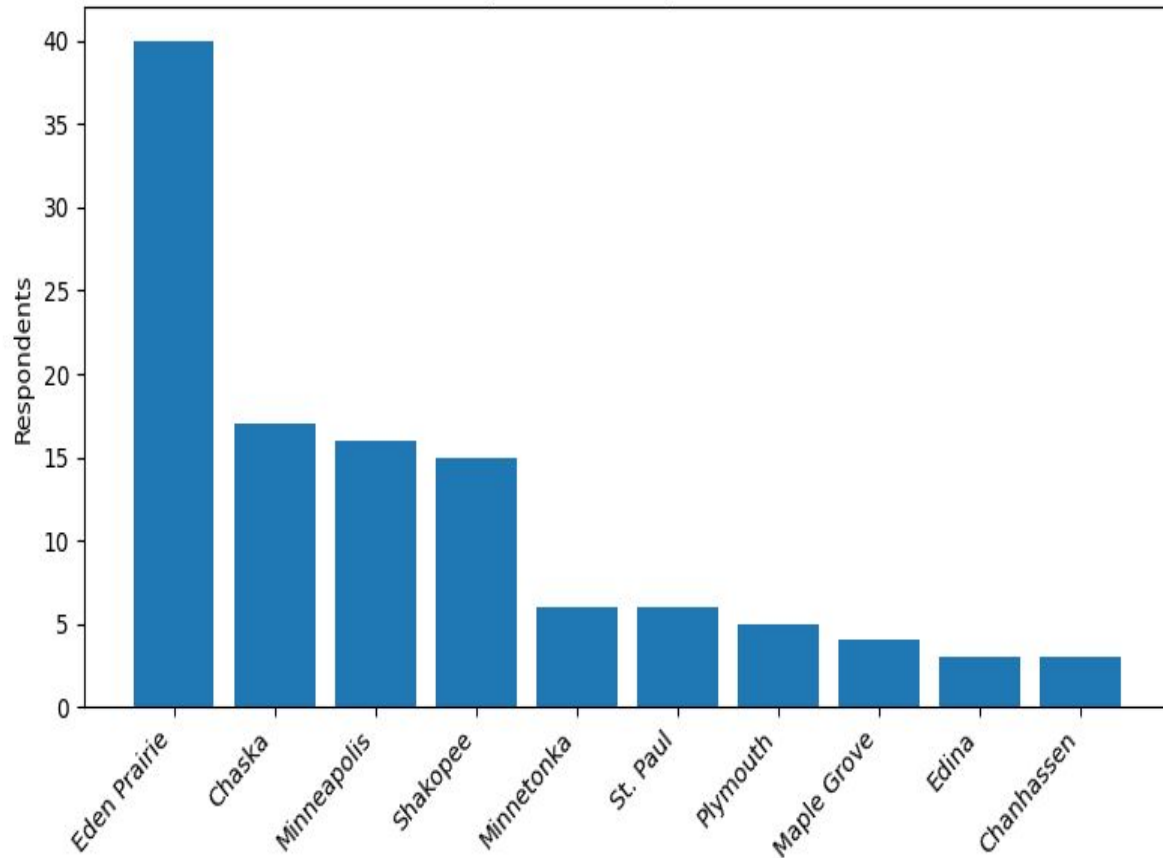
Community Voices Matter

To demonstrate public support, I gathered a petition with **168 signatures** from residents across Eden Prairie and neighboring communities.

These community members are urging the board to prioritize **chemical-free invasive species management**, using **manual and high-cut buckthorn removal methods** instead of herbicides whenever practical.

This petition reflects a growing community desire to protect our water source while restoring native ecosystems through proven mechanical methods.

Top 10 Cities Represented



Community Volunteers Are Ready to Help

A Safer Solution Already Exists

Residents and volunteers have already demonstrated their willingness to help restore Frederick-Miller Spring through **manual buckthorn removal and targeted cut-stump methods**.

Why choose this approach?

- ✓ Protects the spring and surrounding groundwater
- ✓ Reduces unnecessary herbicide use in a sensitive natural area
- ✓ Helps protect wildlife, native vegetation, and visitors
- ✓ **Costs the City little to nothing** through community volunteer efforts
- ✓ Has already shown successful results at Frederick-Miller Spring

If the community is willing to volunteer their time, energy, and labor at no cost to the City, why not prioritize the safest practical management methods first?

Protect the spring. Protect public health. Work with the community.

Lizery Lighthouse

hey i would like to volunteer once a month and possibly be added to this group message

i spoke at a public hearing once and i will keep trying because this spring is a real special place

Michelle Sm-Al

My husband and I can help on Wednesday to pull buckthorn

5w Like Reply



Renee Mattheisen

Please add me to the list! I always hand pick the weeds from my gardens! I also have taken out buckthorn from a community garden at a school I've been involved within. Unfortunately the school uses TruGreen and they sprayed around the garden fence that had some lemon balm that they thought were weeds. We later found several dead bunnies that were probably munching on it 🥺

4w Like Reply

THANK YOU.