

# MELANIE KERN



## Project Background

During the Spring of 2003 the Anoka Conservation District assisted 7 landowners with the restoration of over 56 acres of prairie. The Melanie Kern oak savanna restoration in Burns Township converted 19.6 acres of abandoned farm field to native grasses. Nine species of native grasses and 19 wildflowers were planted. During the Spring of 2002 13.7 acres were planted into riparian forest buffer along the site's wetlands. The buffer will reduce erosion and improve water quality for the wetlands while establishing vital winter habitat for wildlife. A 3-acre windbreak was also planted to reduce soil erosion and improve energy conservation for adjacent houses. The entire area being restored will be protected by a permanent conservation easement donated by the landowner.

## Restoration Goals

- Convert ag. field to native grasses and flowers
- Plant trees to restore oak savanna
- Establish riparian forest buffer around wetlands
- Plant windbreak to reduce erosion



Restoration efforts focus on re-establishing native communities



Kern Restoration Map

## Project Specs

<u>Restoration Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Oak Savanna	19.6
Riparian Forest	13.7
Windbreak	3.0
<u>Planting</u>	<u>Number</u>
Native Trees and Shrubs, Mixed Variety	7,725
<u>Seeding</u>	<u>Pounds</u>
Prairie grass	513

## Project Partners

- NRCS (CCRP and WHIP programs)
- USFWS, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge
- Sherburne SWCD
- Minnesota DNR (Conservation Partners, Metro Greenways Conservation Easement)