A NEW SPECIAL EDITION

Restoring Our Habitat

The pond, the woodland, and the land beneath our homes.



A community rooted in care.

Our shared landscape holds more than scenery. It holds water, supports living things, and connects the homes around it. Understanding that landscape is the first step toward caring for it well.

Inside: our ownership record and maps; habitat and drainage; the 2026 restoration story; potential funding; and a thoughtful path forward.

New educational edition - October 27, 2026. Recreated from an unpublished community draft with updated branding and source review. This publication presents learning and possibilities; it does not adopt an association plan or budget.

THE STORY OF THIS PLACE

We began with landscaping.

We discovered a landscape.

Looking beyond the surface

Flowers, trees, boulders, and a pond give Deephaven Cove its character. Looking more closely invites different questions: Where does the water go? What land do we share? What belongs here? What care will help this place endure?

Reading the land alongside its records

Aerial images reveal patterns and changes. County property records identify parcels and listed owners. Wetland maps add ecological context. Drainage plans explain structures and intended flow. Each source answers a different question; together they help build a clearer story.

Learning from the 2026 work

The June restoration scope included pond debris clearing, drainage improvements, safe access, off-site disposal, and final restoration. July 30-31 project documentation describes work on the outlet grate, obstructing roots, and excavation, followed by water flowing again. This records an observation during the work, rather than a technical certification of the system.

A living neighborhood

Community observations of deer, dragonflies, fireflies, and hummingbirds are reminders to notice the life around our homes. These encounters are part of the neighborhood story, rather than measurements of ecological recovery.

The question that guides our care: What is this land trying to tell us?

OUR COMMON LAND

The ownership record

The county map makes shared land visible.



Listed owner: Deephaven Cove Twnhm Assoc
Parcel: 1811722440157 | **Type:** Common Area
Area: 47,858 square feet, shown as 1.1 acres

The turquoise outline identifies the selected parcel along Valley Cove Court and County Road 101. Parcel acreage includes land around the water; it is not the pond surface area or an approved grant-project area.

Source: Hennepin County Property Map printout, June 23, 2026. A GIS map is not a recorded plat or boundary survey. Easements, agreements, and development records may add detail about particular structures and responsibilities.

READING THE WETLAND MAP

A connected landscape

Ownership and wetland mapping describe different aspects of a place.



Locate the neighborhood

The supplied RPBCWD viewer screenshot shows mapped features near Valley Cove Court, County Road 101, and Susan Lane. Compare these locations with the county parcel map on page 3.

Read colors with care

The mobile screenshot clips part of the legend. It is reproduced as a research aid; its colors are not used here to assign a formal wetland type or draw a field-delineated boundary.

Keep the questions separate

A wetland inventory is not an ownership map. It does not establish pipe connections or downstream routing. Consult recorded plans and site assessment.

Map screenshot; capture date unconfirmed. View current maps at rpbcwd.org/watershed-map. This publication does not identify a verified drainage route to Lake Minnetonka.

TWO RESPONSIBILITIES, ONE LANDSCAPE

Habitat and infrastructure

Care for the living edge. Understand the working system.

Restore with the site

Habitat work begins with an assessment of soil, water, light, existing plants, and invasive growth. A practical plan can protect desirable vegetation, manage invasive regrowth, establish suitable native plants, and monitor establishment. Clearing alone is not a complete restoration.

Keep drainage in view

A basin receives runoff, stores water, and releases it through designed outlets. Water remaining in a pond can be normal. Debris, damaged structures, sediment accumulation, and loss of stabilizing vegetation can affect performance. A visible outlet deserves attention alongside the plants around it.

Notice, record, and report

Keep dated photographs of unusual water levels, erosion, visible blockages, or damaged structures. Report the location and conditions through association channels. Use qualified professionals for structural assessment, sediment work, and repairs; residents should stay out of pipes and confined structures.

Make care continuous

Restoration and maintenance need follow-through. Establish a site-specific inspection and care plan, retain records, and revisit priorities as conditions change. Professional guidance can help distinguish beneficial vegetation from growth that interferes with access or structures.

Learning sources: Minnesota Stormwater Manual, Operation and maintenance of stormwater ponds; RPBCWD, Wetland Buffer and Habitat Restoration Project. See page 7. These are general principles, not an engineering assessment of Deephaven Cove.

EXPLORING A FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Funding can help.

A grant is a possibility to evaluate, not a promise or a spending commitment.

RPBCWD lists homeowner associations in its non-residential applicant category. Its current habitat program lists potential reimbursement up to 50% of eligible costs, capped at $50,000, with a $1.50-per-eligible-square-foot limit. The district must confirm the applicable project category and offer.

For illustration: a $50,000 eligible project at an awarded 50% rate would mean up to $25,000 reimbursement and $25,000 remaining cost. This is an example, not a proposed community budget.

Confirm the project before calculating support

Habitat eligibility includes a contiguous quarter-acre minimum, professional restoration, and native plants. Pond-edge work may fit a different category. Parcel area is not automatically eligible restoration area.

Plan for cash flow and continued care

The standard program operates by reimbursement. Most work begun before an award is not eligible. Awards over $5,000 require a recorded maintenance declaration. Review timing, eligible costs, and continuing obligations before committing.

What is established today?

No current application, award, association contribution, or approved restoration budget is established by the materials reviewed for this edition. The original unpublished draft explored an opportunity; it did not establish a grant award.

Sources checked October 27, 2026: RPBCWD Standard Cost Share, Habitat Restoration Project, and 2026 Habitat Restoration Project Summary. Governing annual policies and any executed agreement control. Links on page 7.

THE NEXT CHAPTER

Thoughtful stewardship begins with learning.

A welcoming invitation to understand the place we share.

Dear neighbors,

The land around our homes is worth knowing. Its water, woodland, and living edges invite us to look more closely, ask better questions, and make choices with the future in mind.

We can begin with a manageable next step: collect the records, listen to technical guidance, identify priorities, and understand the ongoing care each option requires. Neighbors bring observations and local knowledge. Professionals bring tools for assessing conditions and designing appropriate work.

Our opportunity is to leave the next caretakers a clearer story: what we learned, what we did, and what still needs attention. That is one way a community cares for home.

Together, we care for our land, our waters, and each other.

Sources & further reading

RPBCWD: Standard Cost Share

RPBCWD: Habitat Restoration Project

RPBCWD: Wetland Buffer

RPBCWD: Watershed Map

Minnesota Stormwater Manual: Pond operation and maintenance

Hennepin County: Property Map

Local sources: June 23, 2026 county GIS printout; supplied wetlands-map screenshot; June restoration scope and July 30-31 work documentation; an unpublished community habitat draft and landscape narrative. New edition prepared October 27, 2026. This educational publication does not represent an adopted association action.