

A photograph of a garden scene. In the foreground, several tall, slender green stems rise vertically, each topped with a dense cluster of small, bright red flowers. The background is filled with lush green foliage, including various shrubs and trees. On the right side, a portion of a light-colored wooden bench is visible. The overall scene is bright and vibrant, suggesting a well-maintained garden.

Managed Natural Landscapes

MCO 227.90

Yard maintenance

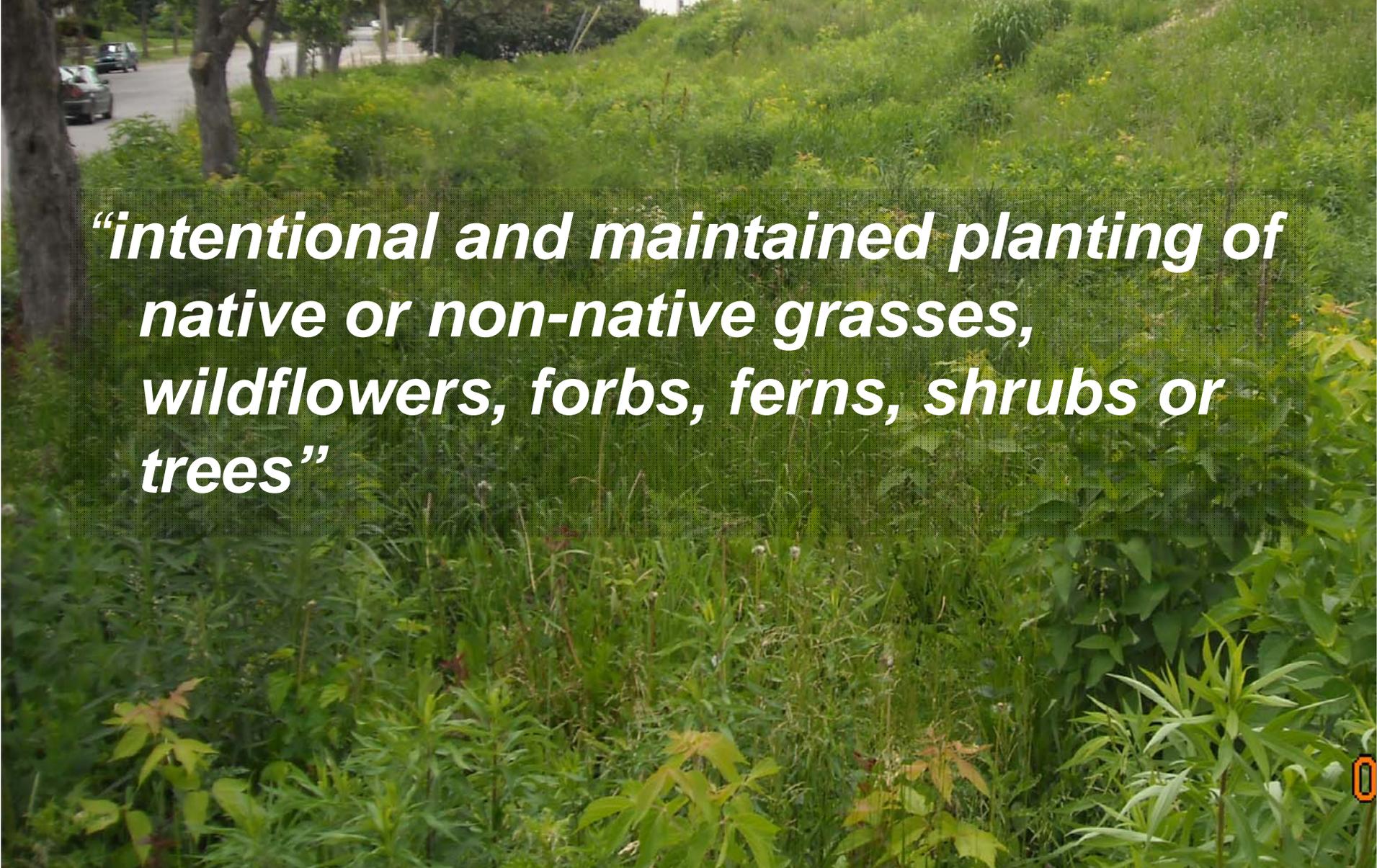
- **Important part of property maintenance**
- **Prevents harborage of vermin**
- **Contributes to neighborhood livability and property values**



Typical Minneapolis yard



Managed Natural Landscape

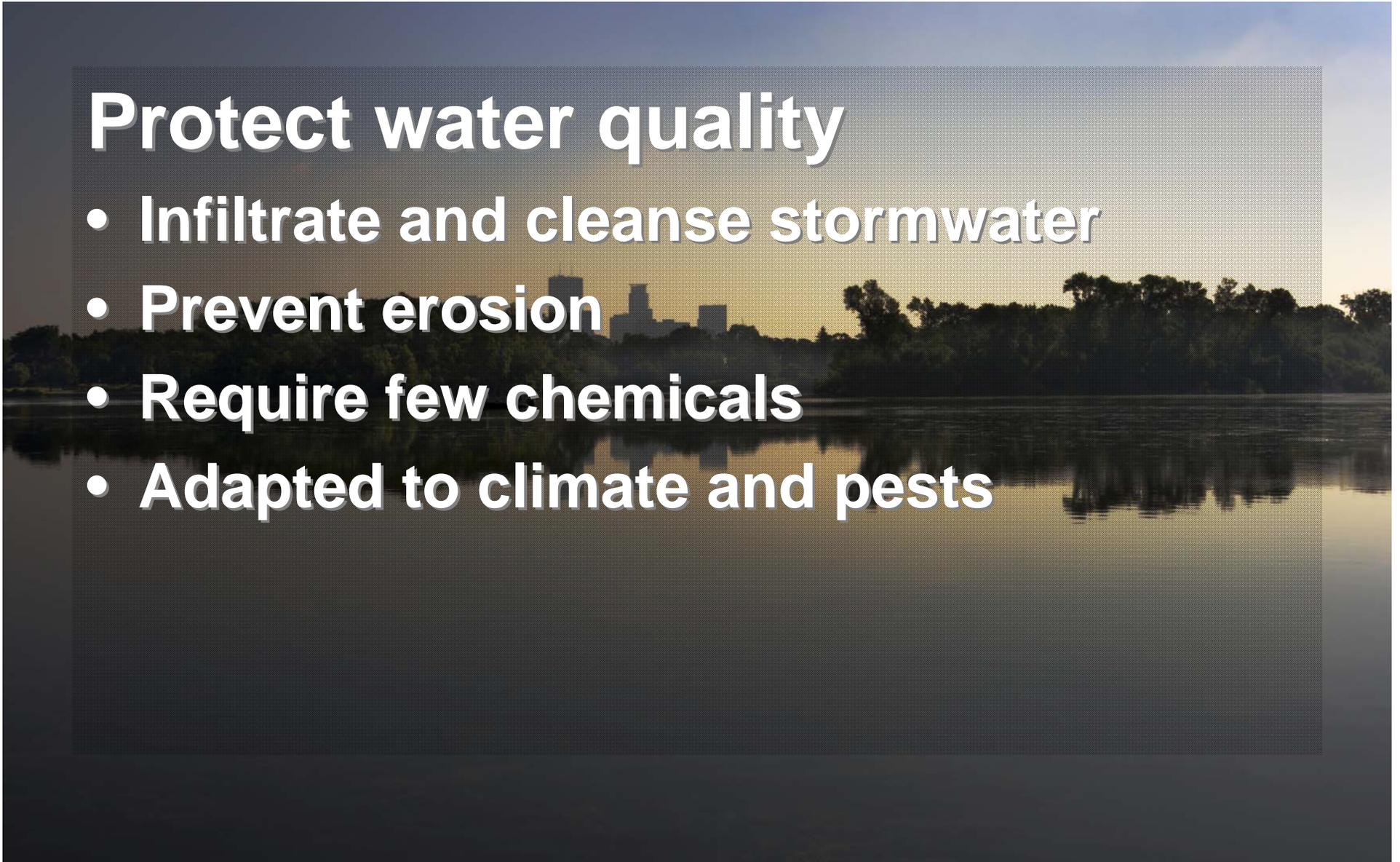


“intentional and maintained planting of native or non-native grasses, wildflowers, forbs, ferns, shrubs or trees”

Managed Natural Landscapes

Protect water quality

- Infiltrate and cleanse stormwater
- Prevent erosion
- Require few chemicals
- Adapted to climate and pests

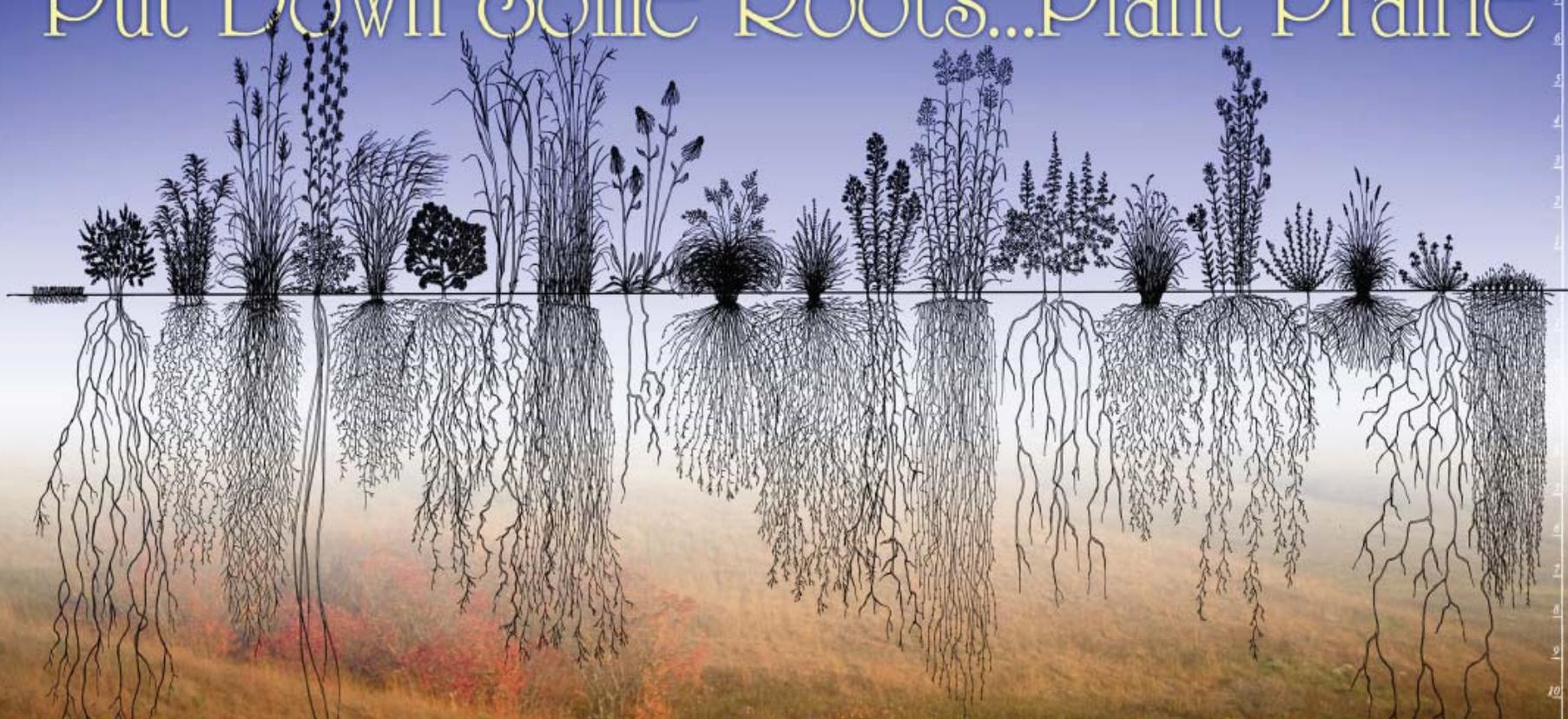


Managed Natural Landscapes

- **Promote biodiversity**
- **Provide habitat**
- **Store carbon**



Put Down Some Roots...Plant Prairie



Improve water quality • Anchor soil • Provide wildlife habitat • Sequester carbon

Native tallgrass prairie is the most endangered ecosystem in North America

MNDNR, artwork by Conservation Research Institute, Heidi Natura

Managed Natural Landscapes

Requirements

- May not contain noxious weeds or unintended vegetation
- May not pose a hazard
- Are not lawns gone wild



Managed Natural Landscapes

- Identifying your managed landscape as intentional educates the community and assists inspectors.
- If you receive a violation notice from the City that you believe is in error, call 311 to discuss with the inspector.



Environmental Impact of our yards depends upon:

- What is planted
- How it is maintained



Low Impact Lawn Care

- **Avoid cutting too short**
- **Water less (1 inch per week)**
- **Leave grass clippings**
- **Minimize fertilizer (plant clover)**
- **Avoid herbicides and pesticides**
- **Use an electric or manual reel mower**



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07/05/2011

