

What is a Floating Wetland?

A floating wetland is a man-made aquatic plant habitat, created to mimic a natural wetland ecosystem by providing shade and wildlife cover, and by absorbing excess nutrients in waterways.

These floating wetlands are a pilot project designed to help reduce algae in Sequiota Park Lake. Algae is caused by a combination of warm temperatures, sunlight and excess nutrients washed into the lake. Stormwater runoff flows downstream from yards, rooftops, roads and parking lots, washing fertilizers, animal waste and other pollutants into the lake.

Take a closer look:

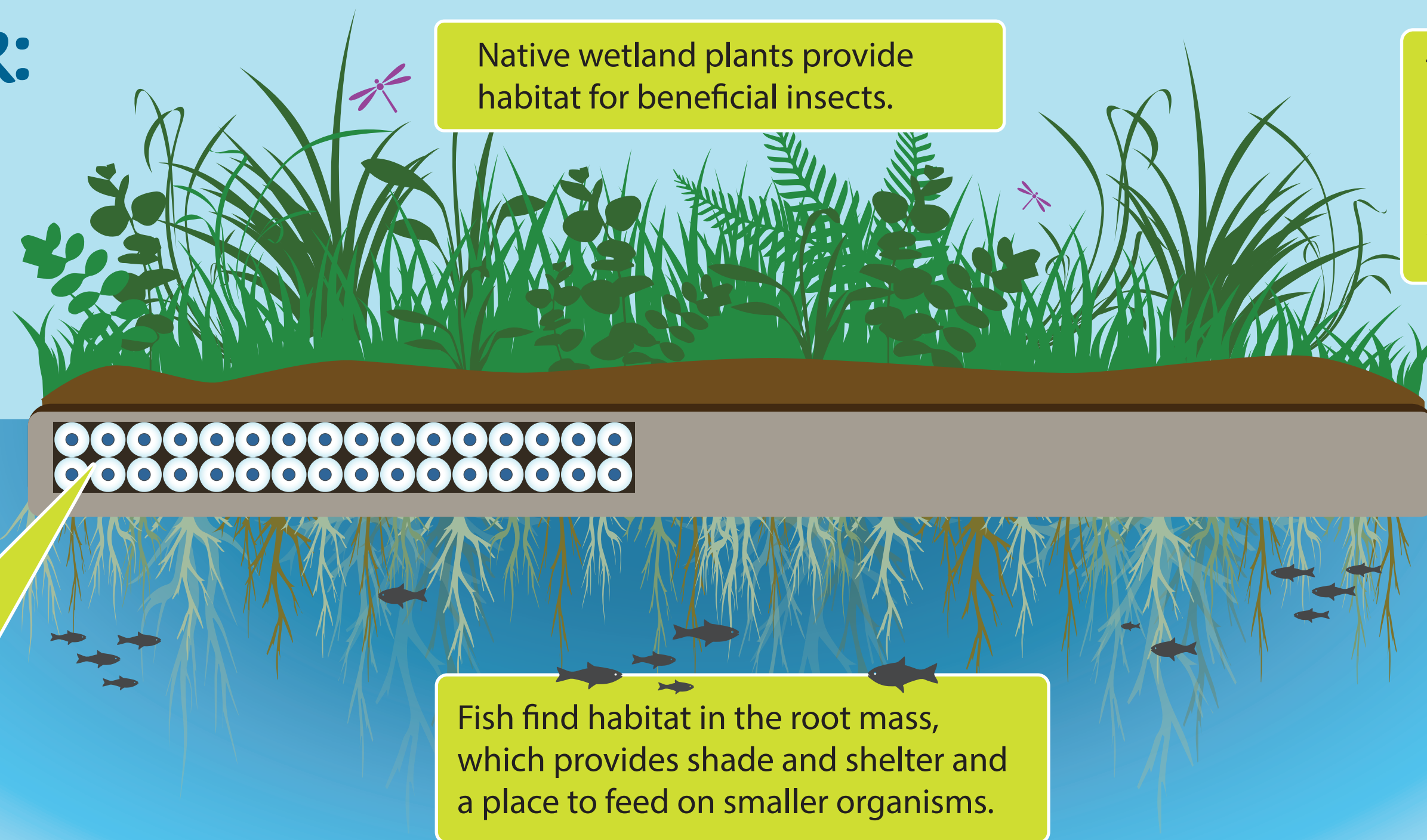
Recycled Materials

Inside each wetland are bundles of recycled plastic bottles, which keep the structure afloat. The bottles are held together with recycled cocoa bean bags, which provide a growing medium for the plants.



Native wetland plants provide habitat for beneficial insects.

The plant roots absorb excess nutrients in the water, reducing algae growth and providing dissolved oxygen, which is great for fish.



Fish find habitat in the root mass, which provides shade and shelter and a place to feed on smaller organisms.

The wetland is anchored to the bottom of the lake, to prevent it from floating downstream.

For more information, visit springfieldmo.gov/stormwater.

Questions? Please call 864-1010.

