



SOUTH WASHINGTON WATERSHED DISTRICT

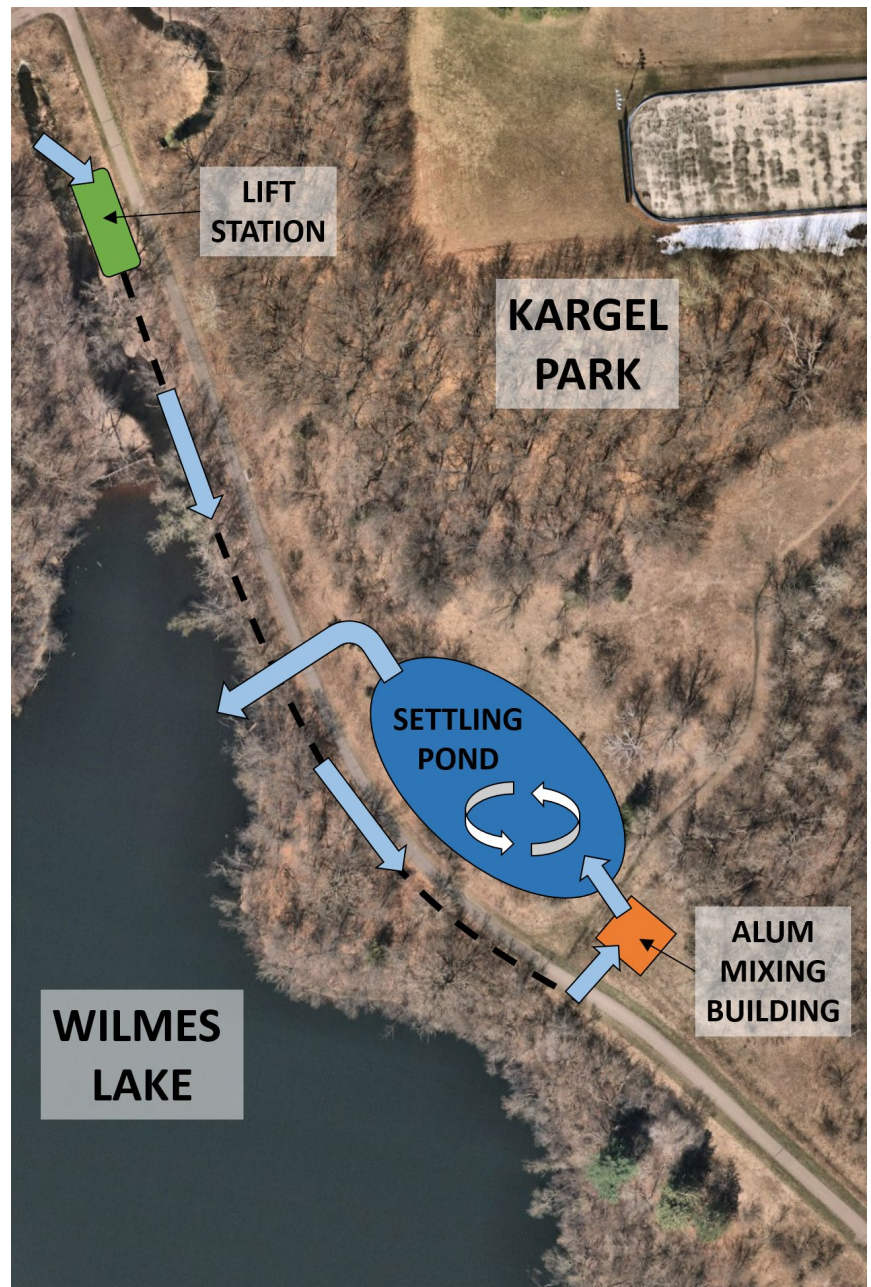


The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) and the City of Woodbury are partnering to construct the Wilmes Lake Alum Treatment Facility in Kargel Park, which will help improve water quality and clarity in Wilmes Lake. The lake has suffered from excess nutrient loading and nuisance algae blooms, largely due to phosphorus in stormwater runoff. SWWD has established a phosphorus reduction goal of 153 pounds per year for Wilmes Lake.

An alum treatment facility within Kargel Park was identified in a 2019 regional feasibility study as the most beneficial and cost-effective way to remove phosphorus from stormwater runoff to Wilmes Lake. Aluminum sulfate (alum) is a safe and commonly used treatment that reacts with phosphorus in water, forming a solid material called "flocculent" that separates from the water and sinks, resulting in cleaner and clearer water. The alum treatment system will include a lift station at the north end of the lake that pumps stormwater runoff to a small treatment building northwest of the Brookview Road cul-de-sac. Periodically, the flocculent will need to be removed from the new settling pond.

The project is expected to remove between 95 and 283 pounds of phosphorus each year. Construction began in August 2023 and will continue into 2024, during which time the lakeside trail between Brookview Road and Tamarack Road will be closed for residents' safety. The trail will also be reconstructed during this project.

Project construction is funded by SWWD while future operation and maintenance will be completed by the City of Woodbury's public works staff through a funding agreement with SWWD. The project area within Kargel Park will also undergo a native prairie restoration effort by SWWD in 2024. The system is expected to begin operation in late 2024 or early 2025, resulting in cleaner stormwater runoff to Wilmes Lake and improved water quality for years to come!





**Site clearing and preparation underway
August 2023**



**Settling pond rough grading
September 2023**



**Chemical building foundation installed
October 2023**



**Lift station vault during installation
November 2023**