

## **Green Fund Project Final Report**

This report may be published on the SIU sustainability website.

Name of person(s) completing report: Aaron Schiller

Department: Zoology

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Faculty Advisor (if applicable):

Project Title: Campus Lake Vegetation Project

Project ID #: 17SP130

Award Date: 4-27-17

Completion Award: \$2070.36

Total Funds Used: \$1248.39

1. Please provide a write up of your project/project experience.

The SIUC student subunit of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) collaborated with professionals on campus to create a cost-effective plan to reintroduce semi-aquatic vegetation native to Jackson County, including species that were previously present in Campus Lake. We utilized green funding to purchase, plant, and monitor aquatic vegetation in select areas of Campus Lake. Our goals were to minimize erosion around the shoreline as well as increasing the aesthetics of the lake. We selected plants that are native to the area and generally viewed as aesthetically pleasing.

2. Please provide a summary of your results (environmental, social, and/or economic) including quantifiable data as appropriate (ex. # of individuals reached, lbs. diverted from landfill, energy saved, etc.).

We had about 15 students assist in the preparation and planting of the vegetation. We utilized \$1248.39 and purchased approximately 1800 plants. We estimate that about a quarter of the plants took hold and are established in Campus Lake. The effects of the established vegetation will increase in the future and will continually prevent shoreline erosion and increase aesthetics of the lake. We anticipate that the vegetation will spread to other areas of the lake and further increase the benefits to the lake. I have included some images below from mid-summer and some of the vegetation was already flowering.

3. Summarize how your project promoted the Green Fee/Sustainability on campus including, but not limited to, flyers created, screenshots of website, signage, etc. Please include website links, if applicable.

The project supported the Green Fee on campus by posting flyers around campus to inform students, faculty, etc., about our project so that they may join us in our efforts to assist in the establishment of vegetation along the shoreline of our beautiful campus lake. Our project also promotes the Green Fee by using the money given to us to not only increase the aesthetics of campus lake, but also aid in the prevention of erosion throughout the shores and banks along it.

4. Is there anything you would do differently if you were to do a similar project in the future? If so, please describe.

If I were to lead a project like this again I would try to do as much as possible during the school year instead of during the summer. Campus Lake filled up much faster than expected with the flooding event so we were forced to plant the vegetation as soon as we could get the plants. This happened to be soon after school let out for the summer and we did not reach as many people as we had anticipated.

5. Please attach a minimum of 5 digital images –these will be images used to promote interest in sustainability projects on campus. These can be photos of the progress of the project or the completed project.















6. Optional: Do you have any suggestions for the SIU Sustainability Council to improve the Green Fund Award Process?