

## Wild Rice has been seeded around Lower Sioux

On September 8, 2015, the Office of the Environment held a Wild Rice Program at the Lower Sioux Interpretive Center. This two hour program included learning about some of Minnesota's wild ricing history, going out to seed the pond at the gravel pit with wild rice, and of course, everyone's favorite, eating wild rice!

This program was made possible by the Circle of Flight grant which was awarded to the Lower Sioux Community this past spring. This grant enabled the OE to purchase 1,000 lbs of green wild rice seed from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. Three locations were chosen as the most suitable habitat for the wild rice seed: the pond by the gravel pit, "Hank's" Lake, and the Pendleton pond. Careful monitoring of these sites will occur over the coming years to see how well the seed takes to each location but we are very hopeful that in 5-7 years there will be harvestable wild rice located right here at Lower Sioux!

Special thank you to everyone who came out to this program and who helped make this event into such a great success! Keep your eyes out for wild rice plants this next summer!



Dotty kicked off the wild rice seeding, thanks Dotty for making it look easy!

