

## **Topic of the Month – August 2018**

## Meet a Silver Compass Member

When Katrina Chang first approached the Mille lacs Lake Watershed Management Group (MLLWMG) for assistance building a rain garden, she said right away that she wanted it to be a community project. She

wanted the people of Wahkon to enjoy the beautiful garden and she wanted to protect the lake that is so important to her community.

Katrina has built two raingardens to capture and absorb stormwater and has installed two rain barrels to catch even more runoff. She has hosted MLLWMG meetings and a raingarden planting workshop. She has provided a hands-on opportunity for local youth to help the kids learn about native plants.

Katrina has learned that the long roots of native plants do a great job of absorbing polluted stormwater runoff before it reaches the lake.



All of these activities have made Katrina one of only two Silver members in the Compass Lake Stewardship program. Compass helps homeowners in the Mille Lacs Lake watershed take action to protect water quality in



Mille Lacs Lake. It also recognizes active members with Bronze, Silver and Gold membership status. Katrina is Silver because she has installed Best Management Practices that protect the lake and she has invited fellow community members to learn from her efforts. Compass is a shoreland stewardship program developed by the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group (MLLWMG). Compass helps point people toward taking action to protect the health of the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed.

Katrina is a great example of someone who has worked to influence others to protect the lake and then show them how to do it!