



Restoration of the Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen



What and where is the Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen?

The Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen (Amsterdam Dunes and Wetlands) covers 3,400 hectares near the City of Amsterdam. It is the main source of drinking water for the city of Amsterdam. The water from the wetlands travels to a post-treatment plant and produces 260,000 m³ of drinking water every day.

Why did the Amsterdamse Waterleidingduinen need restoration?

Over the previous 25 years, the grasses, shrubs and trees overcrowded the dunes. Black cherry had spread throughout the open dune landscape, pools silted up and wet dune slacks were clogged with tangled overgrowth. Nitrogen-rich precipitation was also preventing a diverse range of vegetation from thriving.

What happened with the restoration project?

Staff started by removing tall vegetation along the banks of the ponds. The spring sunshine can now penetrate through to the shallow waters, warming them up again quickly after the winter. Then staff dredged the ponds. The water is clear and low in nutrients again, encouraging water plants to return. As a result, the ponds quickly repopulated. Toads and dragonflies have started to reproduce there again and water mint is growing along the bank.

Where can you get more information about this project?

The European Union LIFE+ funding and Province of North Holland funded the project. For more information visit: awd.waternet.nl/LIFE.



For more information visit www.surfersforwetlands.org



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