

Las Vegas Family Church Shine City Project at Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve

Ken Doo
February 22, 2020



On February 22, 2020, Shine City Project worked with Get Outdoors Nevada on a cloudy and wet morning at the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve! Located next to Wetlands Park and the Henderson Water Reclamation Facility, the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve covers an area of approximately 140 acres and contains nine ponds. It is the third-largest body of water in Southern Nevada, and the nine ponds are a habitat for more than 270 species of local and migratory birds in Las Vegas!

Joining Get Outdoors Nevada and other volunteers, our nine Shine City Project volunteers met at the Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve to help with the morning's tasks. There were various plants that needed to be planted. These plants would help rehabilitate several of the ponds and create more food, shelter, and space for threatened birds and pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Additionally, wire cages needed to be assembled in order to protect the newly planted plants from being a tasty snack for animals such as rabbits.



Walking from the visitor center, our volunteers made our way to the planting area at the back of the preserve. It was nice being able to walk alongside the various ponds and enjoy the sights of the water, the birds, and the vegetation. Once there, we started work on placing plants near their proper plots and putting them in their holes. Though at first the morning was dry with cloudy skies, the rain soon came in and blessed our volunteers. Even though the rain came down, our volunteers still continued to do their best ensure that the tasks at hand were completed. As the planting was being finished, we started to put

together the wire cages and stake them in place around the plants. We were cold and wet, but we were able to bring back victory upon returning to the visitor center!



At the end of the service project, with the combined efforts of all the volunteers who were present, four of the nine ponds were able to receive new vegetation! Additionally, our efforts helped to increase the preserve's native habitat by roughly 62,000 square feet! Overall, despite the weather, it was an enjoyable service project, and we look forward to coming back and doing more! Rain or shine, Shine City Project never fails in helping Las Vegas!

