## PERMEABLE PAVERS SET THE STAGE FOR ART INSTALLATION WHILE REDUCING RUNOFF

When a new transit-oriented development in Minneapolis wanted to adopt sustainable stormwater management practices and plan for a public art sculpture on the property, Willow Creek<sup>®</sup> paving stones provided an ideal solution.

The selection of Willow Creek Brickstone Permeable pavers for 9,000 square feet of public walkways and a patio commons for residents drastically minimizes stormwater runoff to the nearby Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. In addition, the use of pavers provided a convenient medium for the installation of sculptures when the community received a public art grant.

"The Oaks Station Place development was modeled after a historic landmark transit community, Forest Hills Gardens, on the Long Island Railroad in Queens, New York," said Jim Schloemer, an engineer with Kaas Wilson Architects. "The classic hardscapes help evoke the grace of an earlier era in history, along with other architectural features, such as gable roofs, brick exterior, classic design, and wrap-around plaza at trackside."

In addition to permeable pavers for patios and walkways, a StormTech drain system under the parking lot and driveway provides additional stormwater management. "Those

systems coupled with the permeable pavers helped to meet our sustainability goals," said Oaks Properties Vice President Angie French.

Because interlocking concrete pavers are easily removable and replaceable for maintenance and other reasons, they were an ideal choice to serve as a base for public art. The lighted sculptures by artists Chris Krumm and Clark Wiegman is called "Luminous" and represents the area's granary history.



"With permeable pavers you can remove and replace them easily for footings, maintenance, repair or underground work," said Chad Johnson, principal of Structures Hardscapes in Minneapolis, who worked on the project. "No other special preparation for installation of the artwork was needed."

"We have found that Willow Creek permeables are the most cost-effective paving solution that significantly reduces stormwater runoff," says Johnson.



LOCATION: Minneapolis, MN

**OWNER:** Oaks Properties LLC, Minneapolis

**DESIGNER:** Kaas Wilson Architects, Minneapolis

CONTRACTOR: Structures Hardscapes, Chaska, MN

MANUFACTURER: Willow Creek Concrete Products, Faribault, MN

SOLUTION: Willow Creek Brickstone Permeable in Slate

