June monthly block
Cheri Stockinger, 2019 Artist in Residence

After listening to researcher Dr. Sarah Hobbie speak about the BioCON project at the June Lunch with a Scientist program, we visited the research plots. The Square in a Square pattern of my June block represents this, as well as other, "man-made" landscapes of Cedar Creek. The geometric patterns are repeated several times throughout various research projects and plots: BioCON plots of grasses and legumes are exposed to various levels of carbon dioxide, fertilizer, heat and rain; the oak savanna is divided into blocks that outlines various burn frequencies; the bison enclosure has numerous fenced off areas to prevent grazing.

The pale tan color in this month's block is for the soil of the Anoka Sand Plan that lacks organic matter. The purple represents the field of lupine (a legume that provides nitrogen to the soil) growing in the BioCON plots. Brown represents the coarse, shaggy coats of the bison.

The two teal colored blocks, one with a bee and the other with a "weed", represents the visitors to the research plot; the pollinators and the interns that are busy pulling weeds.