

FUND FACTS

Fund Objective: Capital Appreciation
Inception Date: September 30, 1999
Ticker Symbol: NSGRX
Gross Expense Ratio: 1.39%
Net Expense Ratio: 0.75%¹
Dividend Schedule: Annually
Benchmark: Russell 2000® Index²
Morningstar Category: Small Growth

FUND CHARACTERISTICS

Total Net Assets: \$169 million
Number of Holdings: 1,860
Annual Portfolio Turnover: 13.90% (as of 3/31/11)
Weighted Average Market Cap (\$mil): \$1,240

	Fund	Benchmark ²
Trailing 12-month Price to Earnings Ratio	15.53	13.92
Price to Book Ratio	1.18	1.43

RISK CHARACTERISTICS

	Fund	Benchmark ²
Beta	0.87	1.00
Up Market Capture	91.99	100.00
Down Market Capture	89.62	100.00
Information Ratio	0.37	0.00

Above risk characteristics are based on 3-year time period.

FUND STRATEGY

- Follow an active quantitative, core equity strategy to select stocks based on a statistical analysis of historical relationships among small-cap characteristics, stock prices and market capitalization ranges.
- Use a screening process designed to reduce exposure to stocks with negative fundamental indicators.
- Maintain a highly diversified portfolio consistent with small-cap core benchmarks, in an effort to reduce the risks associated with any specific stock or industry.

PERFORMANCE as of 12/31/11

FUND	ANNUALIZED						
	Quarter	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
FUND	15.12%	-2.49%	-2.49%	17.70%	1.50%	4.02%	4.54%
RUSSELL 2000® INDEX ²	15.47%	-4.18%	-4.18%	15.63%	0.15%	5.62%	5.96%
MORNINGSTAR CATEGORY AVG SMALL GROWTH	13.56%	-3.55%	-3.55%	18.45%	1.30%	4.38%	-

Performance quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than that shown here. Performance data current to the most recent month end is available by calling 800-595-9111.

The Advisor has agreed to reimburse certain expenses of the Fund. The contractual reimbursement arrangement is expected to continue until at least December 31, 2012. After this date, the contractual arrangements may be terminated if it is determined to be in the best interest of the Fund and its shareholders. In the absence of fee waivers, yield, total return, growth since inception and dividends would have been reduced. Total return is based on net change in NAV assuming reinvestment of distributions.

Equity Risk: Equity securities (stocks) are more volatile and carry more risk than other forms of investments, including investments in high-grade fixed income securities. The net asset value per share of this Fund will fluctuate as the value of the securities in the portfolio changes.

Small Cap Risk: Small-capitalization funds typically carry additional risks since smaller companies generally have a higher risk of failure. Their stocks are subject to a greater degree of volatility, trade in lower volume and may be less liquid.

¹ The Net Expense Ratio, as reported in the most recent prospectus, includes contractual expense reimbursements that, if not extended, will end on December 31, 2012.

Please see back page for calendar year returns, investment terms and index definitions.



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TOP 10 HOLDINGS

Company	Fund % of Net Assets
Ascena Retail Group Inc	0.3%
HealthSpring Inc	0.3%
NewMarket Corp	0.3%
Salix Pharmaceuticals Ltd	0.2%
Casey's General Stores Inc	0.2%
American Campus Communities Inc	0.2%
Alaska Air Group Inc	0.2%
Wright Express Corp	0.2%
World Fuel Services Corp	0.2%
Jack Henry & Associates Inc	0.2%
TOTAL	2.3%

SECTOR WEIGHTINGS

Economic Sector	Fund	Benchmark ²
Financials	21.7%	22.2%
Information Technology	17.4%	17.1%
Industrials	15.9%	15.7%
Consumer Discretionary	12.7%	13.0%
Health Care	12.6%	12.6%
Energy	6.4%	6.7%
Materials	5.0%	4.5%
Utilities	3.8%	3.7%
Consumer Staples	3.7%	3.7%
Telecommunication Services	0.8%	0.8%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%

ASSET ALLOCATION

Stocks	98.3%
Cash	1.7%
TOTAL	100.0%

All data is as of date indicated and subject to change.

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS



ROBERT H. BERGSON | Began career in 1995
With Northern Trust since 1997

Mr. Bergson received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Carnegie Mellon University and an M.S. in real estate development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a CFA charterholder, a member of the Society of Quantitative Analysts and the Investment Analyst Society of Chicago, and an Associated Person of the National Futures Association.

ALEX RYER | Began career in 1990
With Northern Trust since 2005

Mr. Ryer holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Bucknell University and an MBA from the University of New Hampshire. He is a CFA charterholder, a Certified Financial Risk Manager and a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst.

CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
FUND	-2.49%	25.58%	33.14%	-40.03%	10.15%
RUSSELL 2000® INDEX ²	-4.18%	26.85%	27.16%	-33.79%	-1.56%
MORNINGSTAR CATEGORY AVG SMALL GROWTH	-3.55%	26.98%	35.46%	-41.55%	7.59%

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A Conservative Investment Approach

Northern Trust has built a tradition of strength and stability in investment management. Markets fluctuate over time, but we have remained steadfast in our disciplined, risk-managed investment philosophy.

² **Russell 2000® Index** is an unmanaged index which measures the performance of the 2,000 smallest companies in the Russell 3000® Index based on market capitalization. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Trailing 12-month Price to Earnings Ratio: The sum of a company's price-to-earnings. Calculated by taking the current stock price and dividing it by the current earnings per share for the past 12 months.

Price to Book Ratio: A ratio used to compare a stock's market value to its book value. It is calculated by dividing the current price of the stock by the latest quarter's book value per share.

Beta: Beta represents the systematic risk of a portfolio and measures its sensitivity to a benchmark.

Up Market Capture: Measure of a manager's performance in up markets relative to the market.

Down Market Capture: Measure of a manager's performance in down markets relative to the market.

Information Ratio: A measure of risk-adjusted relative return.

Please carefully read the prospectus and summary prospectus and consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of Northern Funds before investing. Call 800-595-9111 to obtain a prospectus and summary prospectus, which contain this and other information about the funds.



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