

LMRWMO

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

2021 NEWSLETTER

LMRWMO MISSION: Water resources and related ecosystems are managed to sustain their long-term health and integrity through member city collaboration and partnerships with other water management organizations with member city citizen support and participation.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TEN YEAR PLAN TO SET DIRECTION OF LMRWMO

The LMRWMO has begun the process to update its ten-year Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. This means that throughout 2021 and 2022, the LMRWMO Board will lead the process to gather public input on what water resource issues exist that need to be addressed through LMRWMO studies, projects, or programs. These can range from large-scale lake and watershed studies, stormwater capital improvement projects, to backyard raingarden conservation and education programs. Priorities are identified through input from various sources. Public input is sought via a public meeting and online survey, as well as a Citizen Advisory Committee who meets regularly to discuss the plan and make recommendations to the LMRWMO Board on various plan elements.



Ravine erosion identified and repaired as part of previous LMRWMO Plan

A Technical Advisory Committee is also formed with local professionals, such as engineers and planners, as well as State and Regional government agency professionals to consult on the more technical aspects of the plan. Ultimately, the LMRWMO Board will decide on the final plan content through review at their regular LMRWMO Board meetings. Water resource issues that are typically included in the LMRWMO plan include stormwater runoff management, large scale erosion issues, wetland management, stream erosion and general surface water (lakes, river, stream) pollution concerns.

If interested in serving on the LMRWMO Citizen Advisory Committee through the plan update process, please contact the LMRWMO Administrator:
joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us.

BECOME A CITIZEN WATER QUALITY MONITOR!

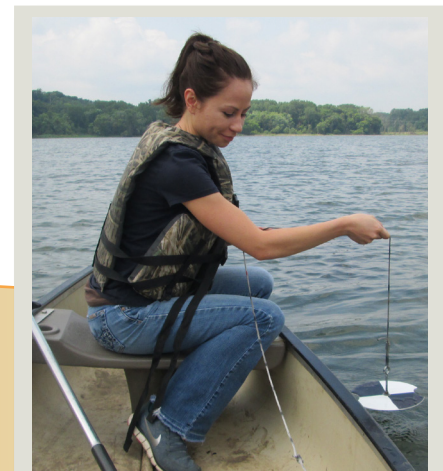
Help us gather the vital data to inform our lake and stream management decisions and ensure the lasting health of the LMRWMO lakes and streams.

Monitoring typically involves Secchi disk measurements to track the water transparency as well as measurements of phosphorus and chlorophyll in a lake. These indicate how excess nutrients in the lake are causing algae growth and making lakes unusable.

If you would like to learn how to become a water monitor, contact the LMRWMO Administrator below:

(651) 480-7777

joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us



Using a Secchi disk to measure water clarity

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION FACTS:

- WMOs are funded by the cities within their jurisdiction.
- WMOs are governed by a citizen board appointed by the member cities.
- The WMO was formed in 1985 after the Metro Surface Water Mgmt. Act was passed.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER GOES DIGITAL

ONLINE DESIGN COURSES & \$250 GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Landscaping for Clean Water program makes it easy for residents of the LMRWMO to turn their yards into an attractive force for clean water. Each of us has the opportunity to create a landscape on our property which will benefit our lakes, streams, and wetlands by soaking water into the ground, providing pollinator habitat, and stabilizing eroded slopes and shorelines. The introductory and design classes are now being offered online, to give you the tools and knowledge to transform your yard for the better. Register today to get access to the online materials as well as online one-on-one office hours for personal, professional design assistance for your native gardens, rain gardens, or native shoreline planting project.



The program provides an overview of water quality challenges and provides beautiful and practical ways to transform your yard into a beneficial landscape. You will also learn about \$250 grants available to participants. After the introductory video, you can sign up for a \$25 online design workshop. Workshops are being offered online now! Register online or call for more information: (651) 480-7777 or visit: www.dakotaswcd.org

NEW WEBSITE

The LMRWMO is updating its website! Stay tuned for the exciting new look. The new website will include additional information on LMRWMO projects, studies, and water monitoring information.

ABOUT THE WMO

The Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization, located in northern Dakota County and southern Ramsey County, covers 55.8 square miles and includes Inver Grove Heights, St. Paul, South St. Paul, West St. Paul, Lilydale, Mendota Heights, and Sunfish Lake. The LMRWMO was established by a Joint Powers Agreement to meet the requirements of the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act of 1982.

The premise of the Surface Water Management Act is that rain and storm-water runoff are not contained within municipal boundaries. Rain that falls in one community may run through another causing flooding, erosion, or the degradation of water quality downstream. The LMRWMO addresses intercommunity stormwater issues works to protect surface waters. Visit the LMRWMO website (below) for more information.

www.dakotacountywcd.org/watersheds/lowermisswmo/index.html

DID YOU KNOW?

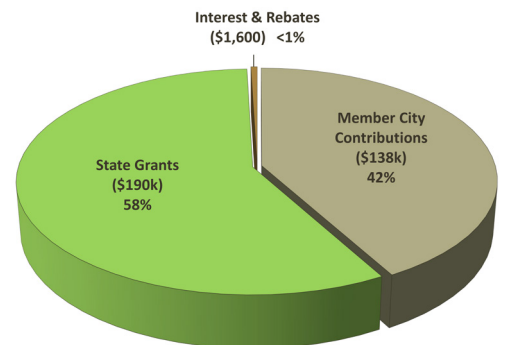
The LMRWMO Board of Managers is made up of citizen appointees who set the budget and direction of the organization. Contact us if you'd like to fill a Board vacancy for one of the bolded Cities below.

- Inver Grove Heights
- Lilydale
- Mendota Heights
- **Sunfish Lake**
- **South St. Paul**
- **St. Paul**
- West St. Paul

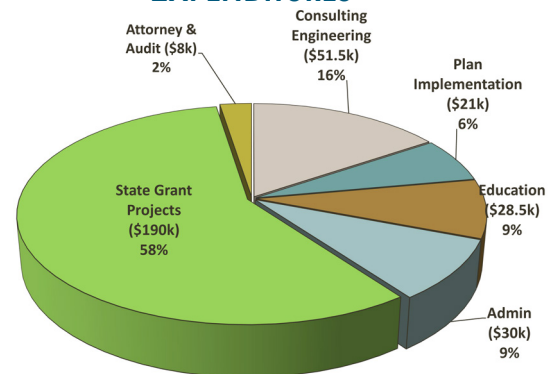
2021 BUDGET

The LMRWMO is funded by member City dues based on land area and property value. Grant assistance is also provided through partnership entities to fulfill the mission of the LMRWMO. See below for more information.

REVENUE



EXPENDITURES



The LMRWMO Board of Managers is comprised of up to two appointed representatives from each member city, listed below

Sharon Lencowski (Chair) - Inver Grove Heights
Tenzin Dolkar (Member) - Inver Grove Heights
Karen Reid (Vice Chair) - Saint Paul
Mary Jeanne Schneeman (Sec/Tres) - Mendota Heights

Jill Smith (Alternate) - Mendota Heights
Michael Randle (Member) - South St. Paul
Tom Sutton (Member) - Lilydale
Lyle Hanzal (Alternate) - Lilydale

Sheila Vanney (Member) - West St. Paul
Julie Eastman (Member) - West St. Paul
Administrator - Joe Barten (651) 480-7777