



2015 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

This annual activity report by the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO) is for activities performed during calendar year 2015 and was prepared pursuant to MN Rules Chapter 8410, part 8410.0150, Subpart 3.

LMRWMO Board of Managers, Alternates, and Advisors

The LMRWMO was established by a joint powers agreement. The Board of Managers and their Member Cities at the end of the reporting year are below:

Representative

Bob Bullard (Chair)
Sharon Lencowski (Vice-Chair)
Mary Jeanne Schneeman (Secretary/Treasurer)
John Sachi
Anne Weber
Richard Williams
(Vacant)

City

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

The Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) serves as the Administrator for the LMRWMO. A complete list including addresses and phone numbers of the Board of Managers, alternates, advisors, engineering consultant, and attorney to the LMRWMO is attached.

2015 Completed Activities

The LMRWMO's 2011 Watershed Management Plan (Plan) includes an implementation program. Tables 1, 2 and 3 below contain a list of implementation activities identified in the Plan and the status of the activities listed. Additional LMRWMO activities in 2015 include:

- Contracted with the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to provide administrative, education, technical assistance, and project implementation functions and to act as a public liaison for the organization.

- Provided a Landscaping for Clean Water introduction class in which 29 people attended to learn about the benefits of raingardens, native gardens, and native shoreline plantings. This effort resulted in 14 people attending the Landscaping for Clean Water design workshops and 10 project designs. Four conservation projects were then installed by those participants in partnership with the Dakota County SWCD. Small grants and technical assistance were provided to watershed residents.
(See www.dakotaswcd.org/gis_app.html for locations and descriptions of completed projects.)
- Provided funding to the Metro WaterShed Partners, a coalition of more than seventy public, private and non-profit organizations in the Twin Cities metro area that promotes public understanding through collaborative educational outreach that inspires people to take action to protect and improve their local water resources.
- Maintained an up to date LMRWMO website to communicate water resource related information and additional educational information to the public regarding the current activities of the LMRWMO, available programs, as well as relevant information on the Mississippi River and other organizations.
- Updated the LMRWMO logo and website design to stay current with changes made to the organization and its boundaries.
- Completed a Major Plan Amendment to the LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan to include additional land area from Mendota Heights which was approved by the BWSR Board on June 24th, 2015 and finalized by the LMRWMO Board on August 12th, 2015.
- Finalized a Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) grant and report for Rogers, Pickerel, Thompson, Sunfish, and Augusta Lakes through a grant agreement with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency which included actively pursuing civic engagement and input.
Visit www.dakotaswcd.org/watersheds/lowermisswmo/wrapp.html for more information.
- Completed the Cherokee Heights Culvert Analysis and Erosion Control Feasibility Study to evaluate options to reduce erosion and flow through a steep ravine which flows through Lilydale Park to Pickerel Lake. This included assisting member cities with calculating allowable flow and cost allocations for potential projects.
- Applied for Clean Water Fund Grants for projects associated with the completed WRAPS study. Information from previous studies completed by the LMRWMO (Thompson Lake PAH Study, Cherokee Heights Culvert Analysis and Erosion Control Feasibility Study, LMRWMO Watershed Restoration and Protection Study) were referenced and used to evaluate and identify projects to pursue funding.
- Continued to monitor lakes through the Met Council Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program and wetlands through the Dakota County Wetland Health Evaluation Program. (See 2015 Lake monitoring and Wetland Health monitoring results in Tables 4 and 5 below.)
- Continued monthly grant tracking program with sources of funding for all state and local stormwater related grant program to assist the LMRWMO and member cities in identifying additional funding sources for implementation of projects.

- Reviewed and provided input on the Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency staff.
- Completed a solicitation for proposals for legal, professional, and technical consultant services per MN Statutes, section 103B.227, subdivision 5.

2016 Work Plan

The LMRWMO Board plans to conduct the following activities in 2016:

- Finalize the work plan for awarded grants applied for through the BWSR Clean Water Funds.
- Implement planned activities for awarded BWSR Clean Water Fund Grants which include the Thompson Lake Stormwater Improvements and Sunfish Lake and Lake Augusta Aluminum Sulfate Treatment projects.
- Continue to work with the City of St. Paul regarding issues identified in the Cherokee Heights Culvert Analysis and Erosion Control Feasibility study occurring at Lilydale Regional Park which includes coordinating the potential application for disaster relief funds. This may also include assisting member cities with calculating allowable flow and cost allocations for potential projects.
- Continue to collaborate with member cities to identify opportunities to partner and cost share to complete various water quality and quantity projects.
- Continue to prioritize implementation projects and programs, apply for grants, and assist member cities in obtaining grants through consistent use of monthly grant tracking program.
- Continue to maintain and update the LMRWMO website with information relevant to the public.
- Continue to provide educational workshops through participation in the Landscaping for Clean Water education program for residents and evaluate new educational opportunities as they arise.
- Continue cost sharing the installation of residential raingardens and other stormwater management projects through Landscaping for Clean Water and other SWCD cost share programs.
- Continue to monitor lakes through the Met Council Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP), including Pickerel Lake, Lake Augusta, Sunfish Lake, and Thompson Lake.
- Continue to monitor the status of the South Metro Mississippi River TMDL and its impact on LMRWMO and its members.
- Review local water management plans as they are submitted.

In addition to the planned activities listed above, member cities will continue to perform various water resources management, water quality, and educational activities through individual city programs and services.

Table 1. Implementation Status of Project List from 2011 Watershed Management Plan

Project Description	Proposed Date of Implementation from Plan	Notes from Plan	Current Project Status
Local government to construct BMPs to reduce negative impacts of development upstream of Hornbean Lake.	2014	To be constructed in coordination with new development.	Current development standards to drive water quality projects with future development.
Local government to construct improvements to reduce flooding/erosion at Marie Ave/Dodd Rd (feasibility study has been completed).	2012	None.	A project has been completed that was substantially different than the LMRWMO Feasibility Study, but may yield the same result. Rate control pond constructed at NE corner of Dodd and Marie to control flow downstream, reducing erosion.
Local government to construct improvements to provide rate control and stream bank stabilization north of Marie Ave in Interstate Valley Creek Watershed.	2017	Some stabilization projects have been constructed. Additional improvements to be constructed once funding becomes available.	No further action planned at this time.
Local government to construct improvements to stabilize erosion-prone areas along the Mississippi River.	2020	Improvements to be constructed once analysis has been completed.	-Feasibility study initiated in 2014 and completed in 2015 in the Cherokee Heights location. Sought Clean Water Funds for stabilization of eroded ravine and will continue to coordinate with City of St. Paul on improvements to Lilydale Park area.
Local government to construct improvements to address erosion along Ivy Falls Creek at Thompson Ave and Delaware Ave.	2013	To be constructed once feasibility study has been completed.	Field assessment took place in 2013 and no further action is planned at this time.
Local government to construct Lexington Avenue-Trunk Highway 13 Drainage and Erosion Improvements.	2015	Feasibility study was completed in 2010. Study identified cost share amounts for Lilydale and Mendota Heights. Funding from others TBD.	Project implemented in 2015 with substantial completion and will be finalized in 2016. Will investigate opportunities to seek funding through Met Council stormwater program for sediment reduction improvements.
Local government to construct Seidls Pond/Lake lift station.	2013	Feasibility study was completed in 2004.	A FY14 Clean Water Fund grant application was submitted by LMRWMO but not approved. No action planned at this time.
Local government to construct Dawn Way Storm Sewer Improvement Project	2012	Allowable flow cost apportionment was completed in 2008.	This project is in Inver Grove Heights 2018 CIP budget. There is a placeholder in South St. Paul's 2018 CIP.

Table 2. Implementation Status of Programs List from 2011 LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan

Program Description	Proposed Date of Implementation from Plan	Current Program Status
Address BWSR performance standards	Every year	On-going implementation.
Transition to an all citizen Board	TBD	In 2016, two existing City Employee Board Members will be replaced by Citizen Board Members for the Cities of South St. Paul and West St. Paul.
Revise JPA to reflect 3rd Generation Plan	2011	JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012 - 3rd revision due to change in WMO boundary approved by communities in 2014.
Revise JPA to broaden membership of formal Technical Advisory Committee	2011	JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012
Revise JPA to include a water quality cost allocation formula.	2011	Cost share allocation formula was developed and approved in 2012; JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012.
Implement permanent Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	Every year	Involved citizen members are kept informed of LMRWMO activities via an email list and are informed about pertinent LMRWMO programs and projects via email and invited to LMRWMO events as necessary.
Maintain WMO website to communicate water resource related information	Every year	On-going implementation; all meeting agendas, materials, and minutes are posted regularly.
WMO administration	Every year	On-going
WMO annual insurance premiums	Every year	On-going
WMO attorney and audit expenses	Every year	On-going
Publish annual WMO newsletter for public distribution	Every year	On-going; 2015 LMRWMO Newsletter is attached to this report.
Review annual evaluation reports from member cities.	Every year	Cities report activities at monthly LMRWMO meetings.
Review member city local plan updates for consistency with WMO Plan	2012 and 2013	See Table 6 for status of this item.
Develop water resource educational content	Every year	Education opportunities available to residents through yearly Landscaping for Clean Water classes. Watershed education provided through WRAPS citizen engagement process. In 2012 the WMO funded development and fabrication of educational sign describing Seidl's Lake bioinfiltration cell with examples of waters quality BMPs for homeowners. Educational signs provided for Landscaping for Clean Water projects funded by LMRWMO. Provide yearly support for the Metro WaterShed Partners education efforts. Will engage residents through planned Clean Water Fund grant education efforts and projects in 2016-2018.
Coordinate/conduct non-certification training for member city staff to address items in MS4 permit.	2012 and 2017	Member City representatives present to the LMRWMO Board on activities related to the MS4 permit.
Participate in Landscaping for Clean Water Program	Every year	Provide yearly introduction and design courses to LMRWMO residents and have provided grants for 24 projects since 2012.

Assist member cities in addressing the South Metro Mississippi TMDL and other TMDLs as they are completed.	2012 – 2020	The South Metro Mississippi TMDL and the Upper Mississippi River Bacteria are in draft form. LMRWMO Engineers have assisted in data transmittals, as requested.
Develop annual water quality monitoring program for water bodies and outfalls to the Mississippi River.	2011	The LMRWMO developed a lake monitoring program in 2012. An outfall monitoring program may be developed in partnership with the City of St. Paul.
Implement water quality monitoring program to assess water bodies and outfalls to the Mississippi River	2012 – 2020	The LMRWMO implemented a lake monitoring program in 2012. The LMRWMO has conducted or financially supported monitoring numerous lakes within the watershed during recent years, often through the CAMP. Additional outfall monitoring program will be considered for 2017 and beyond.
Develop outreach program to assist member cities with MS4 permit renewal.	2012	No activity to report.
Pursue locations to conduct wetland restoration for a wetland bank program.	2014	No activity to report.
Conduct or facilitate joint certification training for member city staff on designing and inspecting erosion control plans and inspecting erosion control measures.	2013 and 2018	There is no longer a need for this task. All cities in the WMO have staff that maintains proper certifications through the MnDOT certification program.
Develop a pond and BMP maintenance program.	2012	No activity to report. New MS4 permit requirements will drive this program.
Assist member cities in pursuing grants available to watersheds.	Every year	On-going. Documents that track grant opportunities are presented to Board members at monthly meetings.
Monitoring of Pickerel Lake and/or inflows to Pickerel Lake	2015 – 2020	Monitoring done in 2015 through contract with Dakota SWCD and anticipated to continue through CAMP program in years that the lake does not flood by the Mississippi River.

Table 3. Implementation Status of Studies List from 2011 LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan

Project Description	Proposed Date of Implementation from Plan	Current Project Status
Utilize MIDS, once complete, to determine effectiveness of existing BMPs throughout WMO.	2013	No activity to report.
Complete feasibility study to address PAHs in Thompson Lake.	2012	Project initiated in 2013 and was completed in 2014.
Complete feasibility study to investigate debris and floatables in Simley Lake.	2012	This study is no longer considered necessary or appropriate.
Evaluate landlocked basins with flood concerns or future flood potential or on an as needed basis.	2014	No activity to report. This activity has and will continue to be pursued by individual Cities as needed.

Complete feasibility study to provide rate control and streambank stabilization north of Marie Ave in Interstate Valley Creek Watershed.	2013	Study may not be needed. City staff is assessing situation.
Investigate opportunities to implement access points to improve access to water resources (e.g. fishing pier, observation platform).	2015	No activity to report.
Evaluate DNR protected water bodies with known or potential problems and pursue shoreland restoration where needed.	2014 - 2020	A shoreline assessment of Sunfish Lake will be implemented in 2016 or 2017 as part of the Clean Water Fund Grant.
Work with ACOE to identify location/extent of erosion problems on Mississippi River.	2013	No activity to report.
Monitor shoreland erosion around Golf Course pond and determine if remedial action is necessary.	2012	City of Inver Grove Heights worked with golf course staff to remediate shoreland erosion in 2009. No additional erosion problems have occurred at that site. Additionally, in 2011 and 2012 improvements were completed where the pond outlets near Babcock Trail to correct drainage and minor erosion issues.
Verify the existing electronic/ GIS boundary of the WMO matches the legal description from the JPA.	2011	No activity to report. There is no legal description of boundary in JPA. BWSR now allows GIS boundary to serve as legal boundary.
Establish stormwater volume reduction requirements.	2013	No activity to report. New MS4 permit requirements will drive this program.
Set aside funding for 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan.	Every year	On-going. Currently \$5,000 per year is set aside for this purpose.
Cherokee Heights culvert analysis and erosion control feasibility study.	2014	Study completed in 2015. Will continue to work with the City of St. Paul regarding issues identified in the Cherokee Heights Culvert Analysis and Erosion Control Feasibility study occurring at Lilydale Regional Park.
Feasibility studies to evaluate ravine/bluff stabilization in Ivy Creek, Lilydale Park, and/or near Pickerel Lake	2018	Studies performed by the City of St. Paul for Lilydale park erosion issues.

2015 Monitoring Data

Six lakes within the LMRWMO were monitored through the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) in 2015. The LMRWMO reimburses cities to cover monitoring fees as requested. The LMRWMO Board contracted with the Dakota County SWCD for monitoring of Pickerel Lake. The results shown on the following page are calculated using preliminary data, as they have not undergone the Met Council's QA/QC process.

Table 4. Results of 2015 CAMP Monitoring in LMRWMO

Lake	City	Number of sampling trips	Secchi Depth (m) average	Chlorophyll- <i>a</i> (µg/l) average	Total Phosphorus (µg/l) average
Horseshoe Lake	Sunfish Lake/ Inver Grove Heights	12	2.18	7.93	30.08
Hornbean Lake	Sunfish Lake/ Inver Grove Heights	14	0.82	30.69	59.64
Sunfish Lake	Sunfish Lake	14	2.55	27.74	44.29
Rogers Lake	Mendota Heights	11	1.68	4.75	29.27
Lemay Lake	Mendota Heights	1	1.6	5.1	32
Pickereel Lake	St. Paul	7	1.11	31.79	52

Some cities in the LMRWMO have been involved with Dakota County's Wetland Health Evaluation Program (WHEP). WHEP uses citizen teams, led by a trained team leader, to collect plant and invertebrate samples from local wetlands to evaluate the health of the wetland. Over the years, participation by member cities has fluctuated due to the availability of funding and volunteers. In 2015, eight wetlands in the LMRWMO were monitored with the following results. A complete 2015 WHEP report is available at www.mnwhep.org.

Table 5. Results of 2014 Wetland Health Evaluation Program Monitoring in LMRWMO

Wetland	City	Invertebrate (aquatic bug) Score (trend)	Macrophyte (vegetation) Score (trend)
WSP-1 Mud Lake	West St. Paul	Excellent (Improving)	Moderate (Stable but variable)
WSP-5 Lilly Lake	West St. Paul	Moderate (Stable)	Poor (Stable)
WSP-6 Marthaler Park	West St. Paul	Excellent (Stable)	Moderate (Stable)
WSP-12 Wentworth Pond	West St. Paul	Poor (Not enough data)	Poor (Not enough data)
SSP-1 Anderson Pond	South St. Paul	Poor (Stable but declining)	Poor (Stable but declining)
SSP-3 LeVander Pond	South St. Paul	Moderate (Stable but variable)	Poor (Stable)
MH-2 Copperfield	Mendota Heights	Moderate (Improving but variable)	Moderate (Stable)
MH-9 Hagstom-King	Mendota Heights	Moderate (Not enough data)	Excellent (Not enough data)

Permits and Variances

The LMRWMO does not have a permit program. The individual Member Cities provide permitting of projects for construction and post-construction stormwater management, floodplain management, and Wetland Conservation Act enforcement.

Status of Local Plan Adoption and Implementation

All of the member cities have prepared local water management plans that conform to the 2001 LMRWMO Plan and have been formally approved by the LMRWMO. Table 6 summarizes the status of local plans developed in compliance with the 2011 LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan. Updated requirements to MN Statutes 8410.0105, subdivision 9 and 8410.0160 subdivision 6 for the adoption of Local Water Management Plans will be followed by LMRWMO member Cities.

Table 6. Cities with approved local water management plans

Member City	LMRWMO Approval Date for conformance with 2011 Watershed Plan	LMRWMO Approval Date for conformance with 2001 Watershed Plan
South St. Paul	April 2012	January 2005
West St. Paul	Not submitted to date	September 2006
St. Paul	Not submitted to date	September 2006
Mendota Heights	Not submitted to date	February 2006
Sunfish Lake	Not submitted to date	February 2009
Inver Grove Heights	December 2014	June 2008
Lilydale	December 2013	March 2008

Consultant Services Selection

As required, every two years solicitations are made to retain legal services, auditor services, and engineering consulting services. On April 8th, 2015, the LMRWMO Board retained services from the following consultants:

Engineer: Barr Engineering
Attorney: Campbell Knutson, PA
Auditor: HLB Tautges Redpath, Ltd.

Fund Balance

The LMRWMO maintains a checking account for current expenses and a certificate of deposit to keep the balance of the funds. Attached is the 2015 financial statement.

Wetland Banking

The LMRWMO does not have a wetland banking program.

Attachments

- 2015 Financial Statement
- 2016 Adopted Budget
- 2016 Newsletter
- 2015 Board of Managers, Alternates, and Advisors Contact List

Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization
Balance Sheet
Governmental Fund
December 31, 2015
With Comparative Totals for December 31, 2014

Assets	Total	
	General Fund	
	2015	2014
Cash & investments	\$ 100,761	\$ 77,961
Due from other governments	\$ 1,173	\$ 22,194
Prepaid items	\$ 1,456	\$ 1,456
Total Assets	<u>\$ 103,390</u>	<u>\$ 101,611</u>
Liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 8,124	\$ 9,578
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 8,124</u>	<u>\$ 9,578</u>
Deferred inflow of resources:		
Unavailable revenues - due from other governments	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Fund Balance		
Nonspendable	\$ 1,456	\$ 1,456
Assigned for watershed plan development	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Unassigned	\$ 88,810	\$ 85,577
Total fund balance	<u>\$ 95,266</u>	<u>\$ 92,033</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	<u>\$ 103,390</u>	<u>\$ 101,611</u>

Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015
With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2014

	Total	
	General Fund	
	<u>\$ 2,015</u>	<u>\$ 2,014</u>
Revenues:		
Member contributions	\$ 69,300	\$ 65,781
Intergovernmental	\$ -	\$ 34,117
Investment income	\$ 83	\$ 63
Other	\$ 1,173	\$ 1,411
Total revenues	<u>\$ 70,556</u>	<u>\$ 101,372</u>
Expenditures		
Current:		
General government		
Administrative	\$ 19,534	\$ 19,504
Insurance	\$ 2,275	\$ 2,275
Professional Fees	\$ 4,898	\$ 4,422
Programs:		
Engineering	\$ 40,616	\$ 47,027
Other		
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 67,323</u>	<u>\$ 73,228</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$ 3,233	\$ 28,144
Fund balance - January 1	<u>\$ 92,033</u>	<u>\$ 63,889</u>
Fund balance - December 31	<u><u>\$ 95,266</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 92,033</u></u>

Lower Mississippi River WMO

Adopted 2016 Budget

Adopted 4/8/2015

ESTIMATED REVENUES AND ASSETS		2016 Budget
Use of Fund Balance		\$14,035
Dues from Members		\$76,230
Interest		\$75
Other/Grant Match		\$0
LMCIT Rebate		\$660
MPCA 4 Lakes WRAP Project Grant		\$0
TOTAL		\$91,000
ESTIMATED EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES		2016 Budget
Consulting Engineering		
Technical Assistance		\$5,000
Meetings		\$6,000
Plan Reviews		\$3,500
Watershed Plan Amendment		\$0
Subtotal		\$14,500
Project Implementation		
Plan Implementation		\$10,000
WQ Cost Allocation Formula Development		\$0
Cost Share Program - Blue Thumb installs		\$7,500
Water Monitoring		\$6,000
Subtotal		\$23,500
Education		
Blue Thumb Program Workshops		\$4,500
General Education Activities		\$2,000
MN Waters Membership		\$3,000
Website		\$1,600
CAC Coordination		\$1,000
Subtotal		\$12,100
Administration		
General Administration		\$16,000
Accounting Services		\$1,400
Insurance		\$2,500
Attorney and Audit		\$6,000
Subtotal		\$25,900
Grant Match Funds		\$10,000
Set Aside for 4th Generation Mgmt Plan Dev.		\$5,000
TOTAL		\$91,000

Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization

www.dakotaswcd.org/watersheds/lowermisswmo

GOAL: 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.

PROJECTS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN LOCAL LAKES

The LMRWMO has applied for and been awarded funding from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment for the Sunfish Lake and Lake Augusta Internal Loading and Thompson Lake Water Quality Improvement projects. These projects were identified through a series of studies addressing water quality and pollution sources of the three lakes.

The studies showed that Lake Augusta and Sunfish Lake have similar depth and watersheds and identified the source of phosphorus, which is the pollutant in the lakes causing algae blooms. Phosphorus can come from a variety of sources but monitoring and modeling results indicated that the majority, 87% Lake Augusta and 90% for Sunfish Lake, comes from the sediments at the bottom of the lake or "internal loading."

The solution for this type of

internal phosphorus is an application of aluminum sulfate (alum) into the lake. This non-toxic material is commonly used to treat and clarify drinking water and can have the same effect on a lake. The alum binds with phosphorus particles in the water and makes them unusable for plants, thereby reducing the production of algae in the lake.



Thompson Lake also has an issue with too much phosphorus, but the studies done by the LMRWMO showed that the majority was coming from the surrounding watershed and being washed into the lake with stormwater runoff. This project

will involve construction of a stormwater pond and treatment wetland to remove phosphorus from the stormwater before it enters Thompson Lake. Large sediment particles bound to the phosphorus will be settled out in the pond and smaller particles will be taken up by the plants in the treatment wetland.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

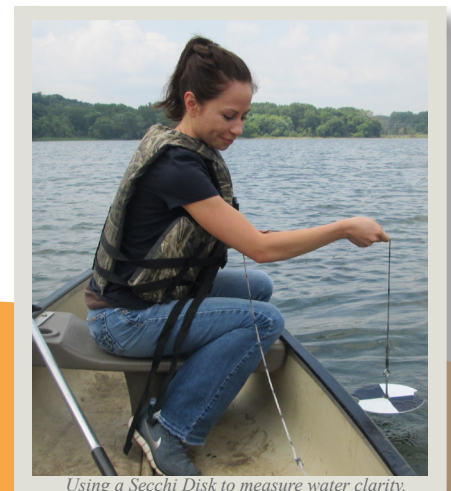
The LMRWMO monitored Pickerel Lake in 2015 through the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program.

Monitoring involves Secchi disk measurements to measure transparency of the water as well as measurements of phosphorus and chlorophyll in the lake. These give an indication of how much nutrients are in the lake causing excess algae growth.

If you would like to volunteer to become a water monitor, contact the LMRWMO to learn how!

(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 municipalities within their jurisdiction.
- WMOs are governed by a board appointed by the member municipalities.
- WMOs deal with surface water and typically not groundwater issues.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER - CLEAN WATER STARTS AT HOME

The Landscaping for Clean Water program makes it easy for residents of the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization to turn their yards into an attractive force for clean water rather than a contributor to water pollution. 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, or stabilizing eroded slopes and shorelines. Through this program, we give you the tools and knowledge to transform your yard for the better. Register today to attend an introductory Landscaping for Clean Water workshop to learn about low-maintenance native gardens, raingardens, and native shoreline planting projects.

The workshop provides an overview of water quality challenges in Dakota County and provides beautiful and practical ways to transform conventional urban yards into beautiful and beneficial landscapes. You will also learn about financial incentives that are available. After the introductory workshop, you can sign up for a \$25 Landscaping for Clean Water Design workshop where you will work with professionals to design a project specific to your property.

Workshops are held annually from March to June and attendance at the introductory workshop is free. Register or find out more by calling (651) 480-7777 or visiting www.dakotacountyswcd.org



Example of a Residential Raingarden

ABOUT THE WATERSHED

The Lower Mississippi River Watershed, located in Northern Dakota and Southern Ramsey counties covers 35,548 acres 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 and ensures that all stormwater projects and studies follow accepted engineering standards. The costs incurred are allocated proportionately to member cities. Other efforts of the LMRWMO include protection of surface waters, water monitoring, and public education.

The public is welcome to attend LMRWMO board meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. (No meetings typically held in January or July.) Meetings are located at the member cities' city halls. For upcoming meeting information, contact your Board of Managers representative or visit: www.dakotaswcd.org/watersheds/lowermisswmo/agendas.html

NEW LOOK!

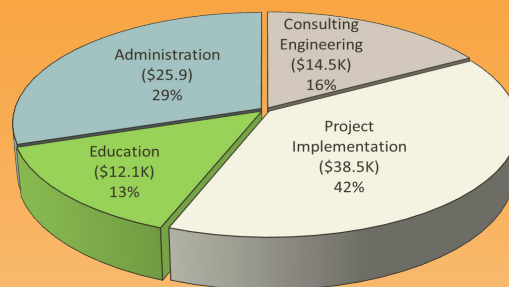
The LMRWMO recently created a new logo, shown below, after incorporation of additional areas of Mendota Heights and revision of the 2011 Watershed Management Plan.



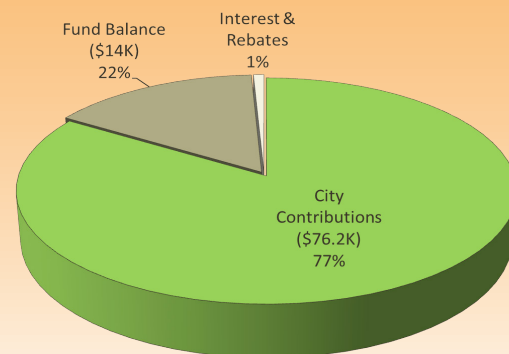
2016 BUDGET

The LMRWMO is funded through contributions from its member cities based on area within the watershed and valuation of that area. Funding and grant assistance is also provided through partnerships with other entities to help the LMRWMO fulfill its mission.

2016 EXPENDITURES



2016 REVENUE



The Board of Managers is comprised of appointed representatives from each member City.

2016 LMRWMO Representatives:

Bob Bullard (Board Chair) - Lilydale
Sharon Lencowski (Vice Chair) - Inver Grove Heights
Mary Jeanne Schneeman (Sec/Tres) - Mendota Heights
Jill Smith (Alternate) - Mendota Heights

Marilyn Lundberg (Alternate) - Lilydale
Anne Weber (Member) - St. Paul
Edward Blaeser (Manager) - South St. Paul
Chris Hartzell (Alternate) - South St. Paul

Richard Williams (Alternate) - Sunfish Lake
Molly Park (Alternate) - Sunfish Lake
Scott Deyo - West St. Paul
Administrator: Joe Barten (651) 480-7777