



LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

2019 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

This annual activity report by the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO) is for activities performed during calendar year 2019 and was prepared pursuant to MN Rules Chapter 8410, part 8410.0150, Subpart 3.

Background

A joint powers agreement was executed on October 25, 1985, which established and empowered the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO). The LMRWMO is located in the southeast part of the Twin Cities metropolitan area, in northern Dakota County and southern Ramsey County. The LMRWMO abuts the south and west sides of the Mississippi River, from the Mississippi River's confluence with the Minnesota River down to Rosemount.

The LMRWMO covers 55.8 square miles (35,493 acres) and is composed of seven cities partially or wholly within the WMO boundaries. The LMRWMO member cities are: Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota Heights, Saint Paul, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul. Surface water in the LMRWMO ultimately discharges to the Mississippi River. The Board of Managers, which consists of appointed representatives from the member Cities as of 12-31-19, is listed below:

Representative

Sharon Lencowski (Chair)
Tom Sutton
Lyle Hanzal
Mary Jeanne Schneeman (Secretary/Treasurer)
Jill Smith
Karen Reid (Vice-Chair)
Jim McClosky
John Ross
Patti O'Leary
Jim Stowell
Sheila Vanney

Member City

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

A complete contact list including addresses and phone numbers of the Board of Managers, as of 12-31-19, is attached to this document.

The Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) serves as the Administrator for the LMRWMO, with Joe Barten as the Administration contact.

2019 Completed Activities

The LMRWMO's 2011 Watershed Management Plan (Plan) includes an implementation program. Tables 1, 2, and 3 below contain lists of implementation activities identified in the Plan and the status of the activities listed. Additional details on LMRWMO activities in 2019 include:

General:

- Contracted with the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to provide administrative, education, technical assistance, project management, and grant administration services, and to act as the public liaison for the LMRWMO.
- 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 project implementation.
- Solicited proposals for professional legal, audit, and engineering consultants.
- Participated in Dakota County groundwater plan update stakeholder process.
- Delegated LMRWMO grant management authority to LMRWMO Administrator/Dakota County SWCD staff.
- Initiated Watershed Management Plan update process and selected consultant to assist in plan update.
- Approved an amendment to the West St. Paul Local Surface Water Management Plan to include the Thompson Oaks stormwater improvement project in their implementation plan.

Education:

- Participated in the Freshwater Society's Master Water Stewards program. Two community members were sponsored to participate in the program to become Lower Mississippi River WMO Master Water Stewards. These volunteers will complete over a hundred hours of coursework in 2019 and 2020, complete a capstone project in coordination with the LMRWMO and then provide ongoing annual volunteer and community outreach services for the LMRWMO. Provided a MWS LMRWMO project tour.
- Participated in and provided funding to the Metro Watershed Partners Clean Water MN program, a coalition of public, private and non-profit organizations in the Twin Cities metro area that promotes public understanding through collaborative educational outreach that inspires people to act to protect and improve their local water resources.
- Coordinated the creation of a Spanish subtitled version of the Landscaping for Clean Water Introduction video.
- Created and distributed targeted mailings to residents of LMRWMO lakes, in partnership with the City of Mendota Heights, promoting the Landscaping for Clean Water educational program.
- Reviewed and prioritized the education items identified in the LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan and created a three-year Education and Outreach Plan (2019-2021) for implementation.

- Distributed stormwater educational articles from Clean Water MN, including those promoting the Adopt-A-Drain program, to Member cities for use in social media, newsletter, website, and print public education and outreach materials.
- Created new water monitoring template factsheets for use on LMRWMO Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) monitored lakes.
- 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.

Projects:

- Implemented the FY-2018 Clean Water Fund grant for the Cherokee Heights Stormwater Improvement and Ravine Stabilization project in coordination with the Cities of Saint Paul, Mendota Heights, and West St. Paul. Installation of two hydrodynamic separators was completed in June of 2018. Construction of the ravine/channel stabilization portion was completed in the summer of 2019. The LMRWMO coordinated the investigation of additional areas for stabilization within the project area with the project partners and BWSR. Implemented a rainbarrel distribution program for residents of the Cherokee Heights watershed.
- Finalized the FY-2016 Clean Water Fund grant for aluminum sulfate treatments on Sunfish Lake and Lake Augusta in coordination with numerous citizen, City, and Dakota County project partners. The majority of the work was completed in 2017 with the alum application done on both lakes. The LMRWMO modified the grant work plan to allow for additional monitoring in 2019 to verify the effectiveness of the Lake Augusta alum treatment.
- Implemented FY-2016 Clean Water Fund grant for Thompson Lake stormwater improvements in coordination with Dakota County and City of West St. Paul. Project included phase 1, removal of the PAH contaminated sediment in the lake bottom and phase 2, installation of the stormwater management improvements. Construction began in October of 2018 and progressed through June 2019. The LMRWMO assisted in hosting a Thompson Park grand re-opening event in partnership with Dakota County Parks. Implemented a rainbarrel distribution program for residents of the Thompson Lake watershed.
- Finalized the installation of an underground stormwater storage and infiltration pipe gallery with tree trenches at Seidls Lake in partnership with the City of South St. Paul. This project was the result of a 2017 Metropolitan Council stormwater management grant obtained by the LMRWMO in partnership with the City of South St. Paul. The project leveraged \$157,000 in City funds to obtain the \$150,000 Metropolitan Council grant.
- Assisted Ramsey Conservation District and the City of Saint Paul in the implementation of the Lilydale Regional Park Brickyard Area - North Knob stabilization project. This project is utilizing BWSR Disaster Recovery and Assistance Program (DRAP). This project will reduce erosion through a steep and severely eroded ravine and bluff.

- Participated in the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) workshop series and funded three classes in partnership with the Dakota SWCD. Through this program 89 people attended an introduction class to learn about the benefits of raingardens, native gardens, and native shoreline plantings. Along with the other LCW classes, this effort resulted in 50 residents of the LMRWMO attending the LCW design workshops to create project 50 project designs. The LMRWMO then provided \$250 grants for 20 residential conservation projects (raingardens and native gardens) installed by those participants. The LMRWMO also provided funding for technical assistance to be provided by the Dakota SWCD for those watershed residents. See http://www.dakotaswcd.org/gis_app.html for locations and descriptions of completed projects. 2019 Program fact sheet attached.
- Evaluated monitoring needs for LMRWMO waterbodies and recruited citizen volunteers to monitor multiple lakes in the LMRWMO through the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program.
- Initiated analysis for Seidls Lake lift station cost allocation between LMRWMO member Cities, using the LMRWMO allowable flow calculations.
- Applied for and received a grant for Conservation Corps crew labor for work in Lilydale Park in coordination with the City of Saint Paul.

2020 Work Plan

The LMRWMO plans to conduct the following activities in 2020:

- Continue the process to update the LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan.
- Update the LMRWMO website to a more comprehensive and user-friendly format.
- Participate in the Metro Watershed Based Funding stakeholder meetings and identify projects for implementation.
- Finalize reporting for the FY-2016 Sunfish Lake and Lake Augusta aluminum sulfate treatment grant.
- Finalize implementation of the FY-2016 Thompson Lake stormwater improvements grant, including contractor punch list items and project educational signage.
- Finalize implementation of the FY-2018 Cherokee Heights stormwater improvements and ravine stabilization grant, including signage and minor channel repairs.
- Continue implementation of items identified in the FY2019 Metro Watershed Based Funding grant.
- Sponsor two participants in the Master Water Steward program and assist them in implementing their capstone projects.
- Continue to collaborate with member cities to identify opportunities to partner and cost share to complete water quality and quantity improvement projects.
- Implement items identified in the LMRWMO Education and Outreach Plan.
- Continue to prioritize implementation projects and programs, apply for grants, and assist member cities in obtaining grants through use of grant tracking program.
- Continue to maintain and update the LMRWMO website with information relevant to the public.

- Continue to provide educational workshops and grants to LMRWMO residents through participation in the Landscaping for Clean Water education program.
- Continue cost sharing the installation of residential raingardens and other stormwater management projects in partnership with the Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water program.
- Continue to monitor lakes through the Met Council Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP), including Pickerel Lake, Lake Augusta, Sunfish Lake, Thompson Lake, and Seidls Lake.
- Assist in determining cost allocation for LMRWMO member City shared projects, including the Seidls Lake lift station project.

In addition to the planned activities listed above, member Cities will continue to perform water resources management, water quality, and educational activities through City programs and services.

Watershed Management Plan Implementation Item Review

Key for Implementation Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Implementation item is complete, partially complete, or in progress.	Implementation item requires action by the LMRWMO.	Implementation item is no longer necessary or no action is planned by the LMRWMO at this time.
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Table 1. Implementation Status of Project List from 2011 Watershed Management Plan

Planned Actions or Activities	Proposed Timeframe	Actual Timeframe	Accomplishments to Date	Next Steps
Local government to construct BMPs to reduce negative impacts of development upstream of Hornbean Lake.	2014	Pending	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	2013	A rate control pond was constructed at NE corner of Dodd and Marie to control flow downstream, reducing erosion and allowing sediment to settle out of suspension and be removed.	Project complete.

Local government to construct improvements to provide rate control and stream bank stabilization north of Marie Ave in Interstate Valley Creek Watershed	2017	2011 to 2020	Some streambank stabilization projects have been constructed on the unnamed reaches of the Interstate Valley Creek headwaters. These have been constructed on an individual basis. LMRWMO's Landscaping for Clean Water program can help provide funding for landowner projects in coordination with the Dakota SWCD.	A feasibility study for streambank stabilization and rate control options will be completed as part of the FY-2019 Watershed Based Funding work plan.
Local government to construct improvements to stabilize erosion-prone areas along the Mississippi River.	2020	2018 to 2020	In progress. Inver Grove Heights completed a feasibility study for Stormwater Facilities in Areas Tributary to the Mississippi River in 2016 which identified 11 prioritized projects. The city/WMO is currently pursuing State and Met Council grant opportunities for implementation of these water quality and erosion stabilization projects. City of IGH was awarded a PSIG grant for the 78 th and Concord project. City completed a feasibility study in 2018 for Dickman Trail outfall. Feasibility study completed in 2015 for the Cherokee Heights ravine and FY2018 grant awarded for ravine stabilization Lilydale Park area. Watershed-wide study not yet initiated.	Continue to seek funding to implement those projects identified in the study.
Local government to construct Lexington Avenue-Trunk Highway 13 Drainage and Erosion Improvements.	2015	2015 to 2016	Feasibility study completed in 2010 and identified cost share amounts for participating cities. Project implemented in 2015 with substantial completion in 2016. Received funding through 2016 Met Council stormwater program for sediment reduction improvements.	Project complete.
Local government to construct Seidl's Pond/Lake lift station.	2016	2020 to 2021	Feasibility study was completed in 2004. Applied and turned down for Clean Water Fund grant in 2014. Applied for a 2017 grant and received a, ENRTF grant for water quality project at Seidl's Lake.	Lift station design is complete and project is out to bid for planned construction in 2020 or 2021.

Local government to construct Dawn Way Storm Sewer Improvement Project	2019	2019 to 2020	Allowable flow cost apportionment was completed in 2008. Funds have been allocated in budgets by the participating cities.	Finalize proposed approach for project implementation.
Stormwater BMPs or education to improve stormwater management upstream of Rogers Lake	2020	2011 to 2012	WRAPS Study completed in 2014. Stormwater BMPs planned to be implemented in conjunction with development / redevelopment. Raingardens and sump manholes installed with reconstruction of Robert Trail. Door knocking education campaign completed by St. Thomas Academy students. Educational material mailing campaign to watershed residents. LMRWMO's Landscaping for Clean Water program can help provide funding for projects and stormwater education within watershed going forward.	Current development standards to drive water quality projects with future development. Continue LMRWMO's Landscaping for Clean Water program.
Ravine/bluff stabilization in Ivy Creek, Lilydale Park, and/or near Pickerel Lake	2019	2014 to 2020	In progress. Pickerel Lake was part of the 2014 WRAPS Study. Feasibility study initiated in 2014 and completed in 2015 in the Cherokee Heights portion of Lilydale Park near Pickerel Lake. Have received BWSR flood relief funds for repair of severely eroded "North Knob" area and Clean Water funds for	Continue to seek funding and coordinate with City of St. Paul, Ramsey County, and BWSR on implementing improvements to Lilydale Park area. Much progress already made on stream sections.
Phosphorus treatment in Sunfish Lake	2017	2017 to 2019	Part of the 2014 WRAPS Study. Awarded FY2016 CWF grant dollars for implementation.	Project complete, finalize grant.
Thompson Lake Stormwater/Sediment Improvement Project	2016	2017 to 2019	Separate Thompson Lake PAH contamination feasibility study completed in 2014. Part of the 2014 WRAPS Study. Awarded FY2016 CWF grant dollars for implementation.	Implement Clean Water Fund grant work plan.

Phosphorus treatment in Augusta Lake	2016	2017 to 2019	Part of the 2014 WRAPS Study. Awarded FY2016 CWF grant dollars for implementation.	Project complete, finalize grant. Will continue with lake study to identify further lake improvement activities.
Cherokee Heights culvert analysis and erosion control improvement project	2016	2018 to 2020	Feasibility study completed in 2015 for the upper Cherokee Heights ravine portion of Lilydale Park. Applied for but did not receive FY2016 and FY2017 CWF grant dollars for implementation. Received FY2018 CWF grant dollars for ravine stabilization and stormwater improvements.	Implement Clean Water Fund grant work plan.

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

Planned Actions or Activities	Proposed Timeframe	Actual Timeframe	Accomplishments to Date	Next Steps
Address BWSR performance standards	Every year	Every year	On-going implementation. PRAP Level II Review Completed in 2016.	Continue to address on an annual basis.
Transition to an all citizen Board	TBD	TBD	All LMRWMO Board members are citizens.	Completed.
Revise JPA to reflect 3rd Generation Plan	2011	2011	JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012 - 3rd revision to change WMO boundary approved in 2014.	Completed.
Revise JPA to broaden membership of formal Technical Advisory Committee	2011	2011	JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012.	Completed.
Revise JPA to include a water quality cost allocation formula.	2011	2011	Cost share allocation formula was developed and approved in 2012; JPA revised and approved by communities in 2012.	Completed.

Implement permanent Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	Every year	Every year	Involved citizens are kept informed of LMRWMO activities via an email list, informed about pertinent LMRWMO programs and projects via email, and invited to LMRWMO events as necessary.	None planned at this time.
Maintain LMRWMO website to communicate water resource related information	Every year	Every year	On-going implementation; all meeting agendas, materials, and minutes are posted regularly. Created water monitoring web page in 2016.	Continue to update website with relevant information.
WMO administration	Every year	Every year	On-going.	Continue as planned.
WMO annual insurance premiums	Every year	Every year	On-going.	Continue as planned.
WMO attorney and audit expenses	Every year	Every year	On-going.	Continue as planned.
Publish annual WMO newsletter for public distribution	Every year	Every year	Published on an annual basis and distributed to member Cities for public posting and distribution.	Continue as planned.
Review annual evaluation reports from member cities	Every year	Every year	Cities may report activities at monthly LMRWMO meetings.	Continue as planned.
Review member City local plan updates for consistency with WMO Plan	2012 & 2013	2012 to 2018	3 of 7 cities have approved plans. Provided guidance to cities in 2016 on timeline for approval with revised State statutes.	Continue to review City local plans as updated.
Develop water resource educational content	Every year	Every year	Education opportunities annually available to residents through Landscaping for Clean Water classes and Metro Watershed Partners. Watershed education provided through FY16 CWF grant efforts in 2016-2018 as well as MWS program and continued implementation of the LMRWMO Education and Outreach Plan.	Continue as planned.
Coordinate/conduct non-certification training for member city staff to address items in MS4 permit	2012 & 2017	-	Member City representatives and topic experts regularly present to the LMRWMO Board on activities related to the MS4 permit.	Continue informal presentations by member City staff on MS4 activities and requirements.

Participate in Landscaping for Clean Water Program (formerly Blue Thumb program)	Every year	Every year	Provide yearly introduction and design courses to LMRWMO residents and have provided grants for 68 projects since 2011.	Continue to participate/provide program to residents of the LMRWMO
Assist member cities in addressing the South Metro Mississippi TMDL and other TMDLs as they are completed	2012 to 2020	2012 to 2020	LMRWMO member Cities and staff have been engaged with agency staff on both the South Metro Mississippi TMDL and the Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL. LMRWMO Engineers have assisted in data transmittals, as requested.	None planned at this time. Will continue involvement as requested.
Develop annual water quality monitoring program for water bodies and outfalls to the Mississippi River	2011	2012	Annual evaluation of water monitoring is performed by the Board.	Continue as planned.
Implement water quality monitoring program to assess water bodies and outfalls to the Mississippi River	2012 to 2020	2012 to 2020	The LMRWMO has conducted or financially supported monitoring numerous lakes within the watershed since 2012, often through the CAMP. Outfall of Interstate Valley Creek monitored in 2019 and will be again in 2010.	Continue as planned.
Develop outreach program to assist member cities with MS4 permit renewal	2012	-	No activity to report. There has not been a need for this program.	None planned at this time.
Pursue locations to conduct wetland restoration for a wetland bank program	2014	-	No activity to report. There has not been a need for this program.	None planned at this time.
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 assures proper certifications through the MnDOT certification program.	None planned at this time.
Develop a pond and BMP maintenance program	2012	-	No activity to report. New MS4 permit requirements will drive this program.	None planned at this time.

Assist member cities in pursuing grants available to watersheds	Every year	Every year	On-going. Documents that track grant opportunities are presented to Board members at monthly meetings. The LMRWMO has assisted member cities in preparing and submitting grant applications in since 2012.	Continue monthly tracking and assist member cities in pursuing grant opportunities.
Monitoring of Pickerel Lake and/or inflows to Pickerel Lake	2015 to 2020	2015 to 2020	Monitoring done through CAMP program. Monitoring on Ivy Falls Creek in 2019	Continue monitoring through CAMP program.

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

Planned Actions or Activities	Proposed Timeframe	Actual Timeframe	Accomplishments to Date	Next Steps
Utilize MIDS, once complete, to determine effectiveness of existing BMPs throughout the WMO.	2013	-	No activity to report.	None planned at this time.
Complete feasibility study to address PAHs in Thompson Lake.	2012	2013 to 2014	Project initiated in 2013 and was completed in 2014.	Completed.
Complete feasibility study to investigate debris and floatables in Simley Lake.	2012	-	This study is no longer considered necessary.	None planned at this time.
Evaluate landlocked basins with flood concerns or future flood potential or on an as needed basis.	2014	2014 to 2020	This activity has and will continue to be pursued by individual Cities as needed.	None planned at this time.
Complete feasibility study to provide rate control and streambank stabilization north of Marie Ave. in Interstate Valley Creek Watershed.	2013	2019 to 2020	Some stabilization improvements have been completed.	Included in Metro WBF work plan, feasibility study planned for 2019-2020.

Investigate opportunities to implement access points to improve access to water resources (e.g. fishing pier, observation platform).	2015	2015 to 2020	Opportunities have been investigated at Rogers Lake.	None planned at this time. Will investigate as opportunities arise.
Evaluate DNR protected water bodies with known or potential problems and pursue shoreland restoration where needed.	2014 to 2020	2014 to 2020	Grants for shoreline restoration are available from the LMRWMO through the Landscaping for Clean Water Program.	Continue providing shoreline restoration grants through Landscaping for Clean Water program.
Work with ACOE to identify location/extent of erosion issues on Mississippi River.	2013	-	No activity to report. No funding available.	None planned at this time.
Monitor shoreland erosion around Golf Course pond and determine if remedial action is necessary.	2012	2011 to 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, 2011 and 2012 improvements were completed where the pond outlets near Babcock Trail to correct drainage and erosion issues.	Completed.
Verify the existing electronic and GIS boundary of the WMO matches the legal description from the JPA.	2011	-	No longer necessary. There is no legal description of boundary in JPA. BWSR now allows GIS boundary to serve as legal boundary.	None planned at this time.
Establish stormwater volume reduction requirements.	2013	-	No activity to report. New MS4 permit requirements will drive this program and will be implemented by member cities.	None planned at this time.
Set aside funding for 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan.	Every year	Every year	On-going. Currently \$5,000 per year is set aside for this purpose.	Continue as planned.
Cherokee Heights culvert analysis and erosion control feasibility study	2014	2015	Study completed in 2015.	Completed.

Feasibility Studies to evaluate ravine/bluff stabilization in Ivy Creek, Lilydale Park, and/or near Pickerel Lake	2018	2015	Studies performed by the City of St. Paul for Lilydale park erosion issues.	None planned at this time. Could consider additional study at Ivy Creek.
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2019 Lake Monitoring Data

The LMRWMO has conducted or supported monitoring numerous lakes within the watershed. Eight lakes within the LMRWMO were monitored through the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) in 2019. Monitoring data, once available from the Metropolitan Council, will be posted on the [LMRWMO monitoring web page](#).

2019 Wetland Monitoring Data

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 2019, seven wetlands in the LMRWMO were monitored. A complete 2019 WHEP report is available at <http://www.mnwhep.org> under 'WHEP Reports and Data'.

Status of Local Plan Adoption and Implementation

All of the member cities have prepared local water management plans that conform to the 2011 LMRWMO Plan and have been formally approved by the LMRWMO. Table 6 shows the compliance dates of the local plans. 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. Local Water Management Plan Status

Member City	LMRWMO Approval Date for Conformance with 2011 Watershed Plan	LMRWMO Approval Date for conformance with 2001 Watershed Plan
Inver Grove Heights	December 2018	June 2008
Lilydale	October 2018	March 2008
Mendota Heights	July 2018	February 2006
South St. Paul	December 2018	January 2005
St. Paul	June 2018	September 2006
Sunfish Lake	November 2018	February 2009
West St. Paul	December 2018	September 2006

Permits and Variances

The LMRWMO does not have a permitting program. The individual member cities provide permitting of projects for land use, construction stormwater management, post-construction stormwater management, floodplain management, and Wetland Conservation Act enforcement.

Consultant Services Selection

As required, every two years solicitations are made to retain legal services, auditor services, and engineering consulting services. On June 12th, 2019, the LMRWMO Board retained services from the following consultants:

Engineer:	Barr Engineering Co.
Attorney:	Campbell Knutson, PA
Auditor:	Peterson Company Ltd.

Financial Statement and Audit

The LMRWMO maintains two checking accounts and a savings account. A financial audit was performed covering the 2019 finances. The 2019 LMRWMO financial audit was finalized by the consultant and ready at the time the document was created.

Wetland Banking

The LMRWMO does not have a wetland banking program.

Attachments

- 2019 Board of Managers Contact List
- 2019 Landscaping for Clean Water Summary
- 2020 Adopted Budget

2019 LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SUMMARY

ENGAGING LANDOWNERS
TO PROVIDE THEM THE SKILL
AND RESOURCES NEEDED TO
IMPROVE WATER QUALITY
IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER



"Don't let limited knowledge of gardening and plants stop you! The staff was so helpful, that even someone with very little experience with gardening or planting can create a beautiful garden!"

- 2019 Participant



2019 BY THE NUMBERS

- 103 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED IN 2 NEW MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS
- 424 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED IN 11 INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOPS
- 209 PROJECTS DESIGNED IN 10 DESIGN COURSES
- 77 RAINGARDENS & NATIVE GARDENS INSTALLED (85 LAYOUTS)
- 100% THOUGHT THE DESIGN COURSES WERE *EXCELLENT OR GOOD*
- 91% INTERESTED IN PUTTING IN ANOTHER PROJECT



500th
Landscaping for Clean
Water Project Installed!

"It is awesome. Please keep spreading the word about the benefits of planting native plants. Your grant money is going towards a worthy cause. Thanks for this program."

-2019 Participant



2019 FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Black Dog
Watershed Management Organization

Eagan - Inver Grove Heights
Watershed Management Organization

LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
WATERSHED DISTRICT

LMR WMO
LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

North Cannon River
Watershed Management Organization

Vermillion River
watershed
reflecting life

2019 LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Landscaping for Clean Water program includes educational workshops, design courses where residents plan their project, and grants that include both cost-share incentives and on-site technical assistance. This process makes it possible for participants to design and install raingardens, native gardens or shoreline restorations that make an impact on local water quality and provide pollinator habitat!

Below is a summary of the 2019 participants by City.

Apple Valley

Intro workshop participants	63
Projects designed in class	41
Installed raingardens	4
Installed native gardens	6

Burnsville

Intro workshop participants	90
Projects designed in class	57
Installed raingardens	15
Installed native gardens	4
Installed shoreline planting	1

Eagan

Intro workshop participants	80
Projects designed in class	47
Installed raingardens	9
Installed native gardens	1

Farmington

Intro workshop participants	5
Projects designed in class	5
Installed raingardens	2
Installed native gardens	1

Hastings

Intro workshop participants	12
Projects designed in class	6
Installed raingardens	1
Installed native gardens	1

Inver Grove Heights

Intro workshop participants	21
Projects designed in class	11
Installed raingardens	4
Installed native gardens	2

Lakeville

Intro workshop participants	47
Projects designed in class	32
Installed raingardens	5
Installed native gardens	1

Mendota Heights

Intro workshop participants	33
Projects designed in class	19
Installed raingardens	2
Installed native gardens	4

Rosemount

Intro workshop participants	21
Projects designed in class	11
Installed raingardens	3
Installed native gardens	1

South Saint Paul

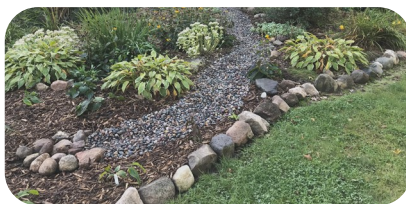
Intro workshop participants	16
Projects designed in class	9
Installed raingardens	3

West Saint Paul

Intro workshop participants	19
Projects designed in class	11
Installed raingardens	4
Installed native gardens	1

Also Installed in Dakota County

Raingarden - Greenvale Twp.	1
Native garden - Randolph	1



2019 PARTNERS

Cities

- Apple Valley
- Burnsville
- Eagan
- Inver Grove Heights
- Lakeville
- Mendota Heights
- Rosemount
- South St. Paul

Dakota County

Minnesota Zoo

Special Thank You

- Master Gardeners of Dakota County
- Master Water Stewards



THIRTEEN YEARS OF CLEAN WATER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Workshop Participants	
2007-2019	4,618
Projects Completed	
2007-2019	575

LMRWMO

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

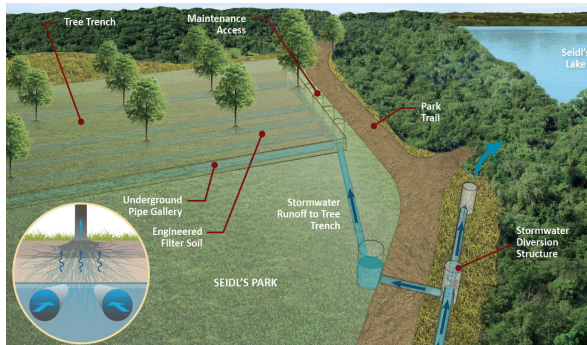
2020 NEWSLETTER

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.

ROOTED IN WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TREE TRENCHES STOP POLLUTANTS FROM ENTERING SEIDL'S LAKE

The LMRWMO partnered with the City of South St. Paul on the installation of an underground stormwater treatment and storage tree trench system. The project leveraged \$157,000 in City funding to obtain \$150,000 in stormwater improvement grant funds from the Metropolitan Council. The LMRWMO obtained the grant and the City managed the project installation.

The underground system captures and filters polluted stormwater from a 27-acre watershed to the north. The underground tree trench prevents almost 10 lbs of phosphorus and over 3,700 lbs of sediment from reaching Seidl's Lake. This helps to improve the water quality of the lake long term, reducing the likelihood of algae blooms, and annually recharging groundwater with nearly six Olympic-sized swimming pools worth of stormwater.



Schematic drawing of underground system showing underground pipe gallery

The innovative underground storage system collects and treats the most polluted first flush of stormwater. That water is diverted to the underground pipe gallery system where sediment and debris are captured. The system then provides water directly where it is needed by the trees through capillary action, when the pipe gallery and sand is saturated with the stormwater, it travels upwards to the tree roots which need it. Additional benefits include native habitat for songbirds, pollinator habitat, shade for park users, and usable park space above the system.

The project is one of several planned by the City of South St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, and the LMRWMO to improve the water quality of Seidl's Lake.

BECOME A CITIZEN WATER QUALITY MONITOR!

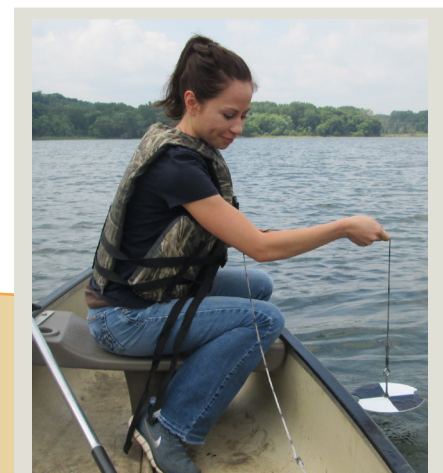
Help us gather the vital data to inform our lake and stream management decisions and ensure the lasting health of the LMRWMO lakes and streams.

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 introduction 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, raingardens, or native shoreline planting project.



The program provides an overview of water quality challenges and provides beautiful and practical ways to transform conventional urban yards into beneficial landscapes. You will also learn about \$250 grants available to participants. After the introductory video, you can sign up for a \$25 online design workshop where you will receive additional resources, including a Blue Thumb Guide to Raingardens book worth \$20, and

professional assistance designing a project for your property. Workshops are being offered online now! Register online or call for more information: (651) 480-7777 or visit: www.dakotacountyswcd.org

ABOUT THE WATERSHED

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 stormwater 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., located at the member city halls. For upcoming meeting information, contact your Board of Managers representative or visit:

www.dakotaswcd.org/watersheds/lowermisswmo//agendas.html

DID YOU KNOW?

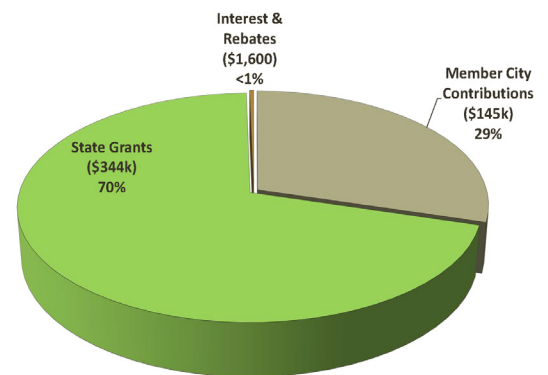
The LMRWMO Board of Managers is made up of citizen appointees who set the budget and direction of the organization. Contact us if you'd like to fill a Board vacancy for one of the highlighted Cities below.

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

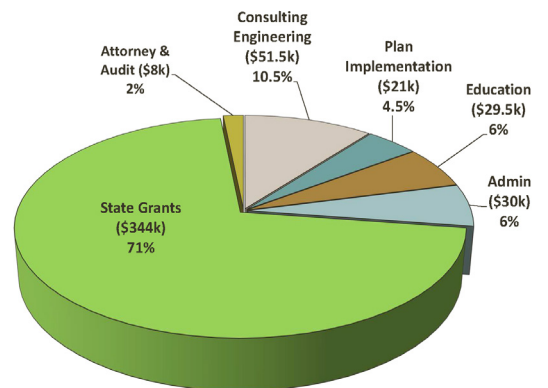
2020 BUDGET

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
Karen Reid (Vice Chair) - Saint Paul
Mary Jeanne Schneeman (Sec/Tres) - Mendota Heights
Jill Smith (Alternate) - Mendota Heights

Tom Sutton (Member) - Lilydale
Lyle Hanzal (Alternate) - Lilydale
Patti O'Leary (Member) - Sunfish Lake

Jim Stowell (Alternate) - Sunfish Lake
Sheila Vanney (Member) - West St. Paul

Administrator - Joe Barten (651) 480-7777