

LMRWMO

LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

2022 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.*

SPANISH LANGUAGE WINTER SALT TRAINING MINIMIZING NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF CHLORIDE ON LAKES

The LMRWMO initiated a program to provide Spanish language water resources education to its residents. This first of its kind pilot program will provide certification for Spanish speakers through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA's) Smart Salting for Property Managers Program.

The program provides education on the negative impacts that winter salt use can have on our water resources and provides practical solutions for how property managers can minimize the use of salt for winter maintenance and balance winter safety with water quality impacts.

Chloride pollution in lakes comes from salt put on sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and roads in the winter. Chloride does not easily leave a waterbody once it is dissolved and levels of chloride in metro lakes have been slowly but steadily increasing over recent decades.



Salt applied to sidewalks melts and flows into nearby lakes.

Once Chloride levels in a lake reach a certain amount, it becomes toxic to aquatic animals and a lake is said to be impaired. It takes only one teaspoon of salt to permanently pollute five gallons of water. Thompson Lake in West St. Paul is currently the only LMRWMO waterbody impaired for chloride. There are currently no methods to remove chloride from our waterbodies.

Outreach materials, curriculum, a translator, and certification testing will be available to Spanish speakers through this program. The intent is for this model to be shared with other Metro Watershed Management Organizations to utilize in the future.

Two pilot Spanish Language classes will be held in fall of 2022, one virtual and one in person. Additional details will be posted on the LMRWMO website and shared with WMO partners in late summer 2022.

BECOME A CITIZEN WATER QUALITY MONITOR!

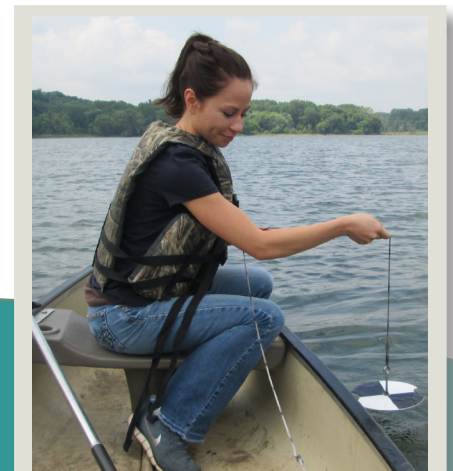
Help us gather the vital data to inform our lake and stream management decisions and ensure the lasting health of the LMRWMO lakes and streams.

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 DIGITAL CLASSES

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, giving 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 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 being offered now! Register online or call for more information: (651) 480-7777 or visit: www.dakotaswcd.org

NEW WEBSITE

The LMRWMO website has a new look! Check out the new and improved site that includes information on studies and projects implemented by the WMO, as well as educational information and data on lake water quality: www.LMRWMO.org

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 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 works to protect surface waters. Visit the LMRWMO website for more information: www.LMRWMO.org

DID YOU KNOW?

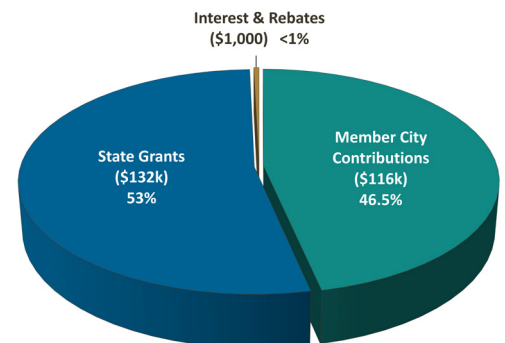
The LMRWMO Board of Managers is made up of citizen appointees who set the budget and direction of the organization. Contact us if you'd like to fill a Board vacancy for one of the bolded Cities below.

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

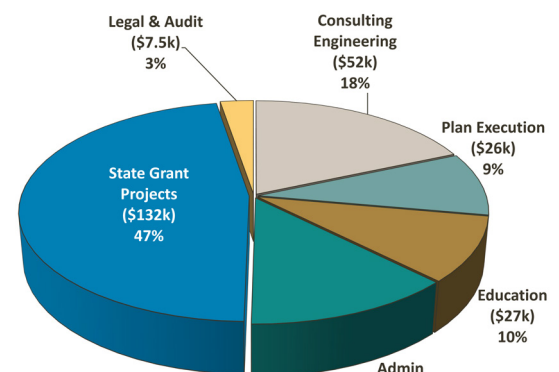
2022 BUDGET

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
Michael Randle (Member) - South St. Paul
Daniel Anderson (Alternate) - South St. Paul
Dan Halvorsen (Member) - Sunfish Lake
Shannon Nelson (Alternate) - Sunfish Lake

Sheila Vanney (Member) - West St. Paul
Julie Eastman (Member) - West St. Paul

Staff Contact - Joe Barten (651) 480-7777