



## Board of Managers Meeting Agenda

**Wednesday - March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Fleming Field - South St. Paul Airport  
1616 Humboldt Ave, West St Paul, MN 55118**

1. Call Meeting to Order
  - 1.1 Identification of Voting Board Members
  - 1.2 Approval of Agenda\* (Additions/Corrections/Deletions) Action
2. Approve February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes - Chair\* Action
3. Approve March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Financial Summary & Invoice Payment - Treasurer\* Action
4. Presentation on Chloride Reduction from Connie Fortin of Bolton & Menk - SWCD Information
5. Authorize Execution of Agreement with Met Council for 2024 Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for Volunteer Water Monitoring - SWCD\* Action
6. Updates & Handouts
  - 6.1: Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) Workshops and Flier - SWCD\* Information
  - 6.2: LCW Shoreline Workshop Mailers - SWCD\* Information
  - 6.3: Adopt-A-Drain 2023 Report - SWCD\* Information
  - 6.4: Contaminant Monitoring Request Update - SWCD\* Information
  - 6.5: E-Newsletter Requests - SWCD Information
  - 6.6: MN Stormwater Seminar Series - SWCD Information
  - 6.7: Member City Updates Information
7. Next Meeting: April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Lilydale City Hall
8. Adjourn

\* Materials included in full packet

\*\* Materials available separately on website:

<https://lmrwmo.org/about-us/meeting-information/>



## Board of Managers Meeting Minutes

Wednesday - February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - 3:00 p.m.

Fleming Field – South St. Paul Airport

### Managers and Alternates in Attendance:

Sharon Lencowski (Chair), Inver Grove Heights  
Steve Gebauer (Sec/Tres), Mendota Heights  
Michael Randle, South St. Paul  
Analiese Miller, West St. Paul  
Tom Sutton, Lilydale

Karen Reid (Vice-Chair), Saint Paul  
Leslie Pilgrim, Mendota Heights  
Dawn Gaetke, Inver Grove Heights  
Shannon Nelson, Sunfish Lake  
Brian Jastram, Saint Paul

### Advisors and Others in Attendance:

Paul Merchlewicz, Inver Grove Heights  
Krista Spreiter, Mendota Heights  
Kelsey Gelhar, South St. Paul  
Greg Williams, Barr Engineering

Ryan Ruzek, Mendota Heights  
Pat Murphy, Saint Paul  
Laura Zanmiller, Dakota County SWCD  
Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

#### 1.1 Public Comment / Introductions

Audience members may address the Board regarding items not on the agenda.

#### 1.2 Approval of Agenda\* (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

**Motion** by Nelson to approve the agenda, second by Sutton; motion passed.

### 2. Approve January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Meeting Minutes

**Motion** by Sutton to approve the previous meeting minutes, second by Gebauer; motion passed.

### 3. Approve February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Financial Summary & Invoices

Spreiter provided a summary of the finances.

**Motion** by Sutton to approve the financial summary, second by Nelson; motion passed.

### 4. Review Proposals for the Mississippi River Direct Drainages Study and Select Preferred Consultant

Pilgrim served as the spokesperson for the review committee and summarized the review and ranking of the six proposals received. She noted that WSB had the highest combined ranking from the reviewers. Upon discussion of the top proposals, which were all close, the committee recommends that the Board choose WSB as the consultant to perform the study. She noted that WSB had remaining budget, and the committee asked the Administrator to see if WSB could both add the Pickerel Lake subwatershed to the scope of study and provide a presentation to the Board upon completion of the results. The Board discussed the proposals and the committee recommendation.

**Motion** by Reid to accept the recommendation of the review committee and authorize the Board Chair to execute a contract with WSB for the Direct Drainage study, pending finalization of a scope of work by the Administrator for the potential addition of the Pickerel Lake subwatershed into the study and final study presentation to the Board, second by Sutton; motion passed.

## 5. Review 2025-2032 Budget Projections

The Board discussed the draft 2025 budget and 2025-2032 budget projections. There was discussion on the incremental increases being necessary to implement the items in the WMO plan and helpful to pursue outside grant funding. The Board noted that the projection can be changed as needed in the annual budgeting process.

**Motion** by Reid to preliminarily approve a 15% increase in LMRWMO member dues for 2025, for City budgeting purposes, with the final 2025 budget and member dues to be approved by the Board later in 2024, second by Sutton; motion passed.

## 6. Approve 2024-2025 Ramsey County Agreement for Services

**Motion** by Nelson to authorize the Board Chair to execute an agreement with Ramsey County for the two-year agreement for services as shown in the packet, second by Miller; motion passed.

## 7. Approve Engagement with Peterson Co. for 2023 Audit

**Motion** by Gebauer to engage with Peterson Co. to perform the 2023 LMRWMO financial audit, second by Reid; motion passed.

## 8. Contaminant Monitoring Approach Discussion

Barten summarized the information in the packet. The Board discussed the potential approach to requesting funds and investigating contaminants and agreed with the letter first and re-evaluation once Cities respond with their willingness to participate. Members suggested looking at the feasibility of remediation of the contaminants, what the data would be used for, the source of contaminants, presence in private wells vs. surface waters, and starting with lakes first for testing. Board members suggested including links to additional information in the letter and offering to present to City Councils on the request.

**Motion** by Sutton to send the letter, with the changes discussed, to member Cities to request funding as noted in the letter, second by Randle; motion passed.

## 9. Updates & Handouts

9.1 Williams noted the grant tracking spreadsheet is updated and included in the packet.

9.2 Barten updated on Lake Augusta information gathering, the Seidls Lake shoreline restoration project, and a potential future project at Butler Ave. in West St. Paul

9.3 City Staff provided updates on relevant topics and projects in their City

## 10. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 with the next Board meeting scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Fleming Field.



**FINANCIAL SUMMARY**  
**February 15, 2024 to March 13, 2024**

**Beginning Balance - Key Community Bank** **\$165,553.42**

*Interest* +  
+

**Deposits**      2/22/2024      West St. Paul (\$17,289.14), Inver Grove Heights (\$57,273.30), St. Paul (\$12,910.46), and Sunfish Lake (\$3,250.84) 2024 Dues +      \$90,723.75  
+  
+

To be approved at this meeting:

**Key Community Bank:**

-  
-  
-  
-  
-

**Available Balance at Key Community Bank** **\$256,277.17**

**Gateway Bank Accounts:**

	<u>Savings</u>		<i>Balance</i>		\$73,816.32
<b>Interest</b>	1/31/2024	Interest		+	\$188.08
	2/29/2024	Interest			\$176.39
			<i>Savings Ending Balance</i>		<b>\$74,180.79</b>
	<u>Checking</u>		<i>Balance</i>		\$1,000.00
			<i>Checking Ending Balance</i>	-	<b>\$1,000.00</b>

**Available Balance at Gateway Bank** **\$75,180.79**

**Available Balance - Key Community & Gateway Banks** **\$331,457.96**

**City of West St. Paul**

CHECK NO. **142130**

DATE	INVOICE NO.	DESCRIPTION	NET AMOUNT
01/10/2024	2024-07	Other Charges and Services	17,289.14

**CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS**

VENDOR: 00552 LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WMO

DATE	INVOICE #	P.O. #	DESCRIPTION	GL #	AMOUNT	Chk #:
2/15/2024	2024-01		2024 Dues for LMRWMO	530.74.5900.741.50070	57,273.30	246638

City of Saint Paul  
Office of Financial Services  
15 W. Kellogg Blvd. #700  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Date:	Check #:
02/09/2024	579390
Vendor #:	Check Amount:
2233	12,910.46

**CITY OF SUNFISH LAKE**

Invoice	Claim/Ref	Amount	PO	Comments	Discount	Invoice Total
2024-06	12538	\$3,250.84		2/1/2024 LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WMO E 101-60-40433	\$0.00	010010 \$3,250.84

75-0960/6888

**DEPOSIT TICKET**

**LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER WMO**  
1101 VICTORIA CURVE  
MENDOTA HEIGHTS MN 55118

CASH (INCLUDING COINS) 12910.46

SPCIFIC (OR TOTAL FROM OTHER SIDE) 77813.28

DATE 2-21 2024 90723.75

DEPOSITS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL

SUB TOTAL 90723.75

LESS CASH RECEIVED

\$ 90723.75

SIGN HERE FOR CASH RECEIVED

**KEY COMMUNITY BANK**

41

CHECKS AND OTHER ITEMS ARE RECEIVED FOR DEPOSIT SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE OR ANY APPLICABLE COLLECTION AGREEMENT.

CURRENCY COUNT - FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION USE ONLY			
	X	100	
	X	50	
	X	20	
	X	10	
	X	5	
	X	2	
	X	1	
TOTAL.		\$	

DOLLARS                      CENTS

CHECKS LIST SINGLY		
246638	57 273.30	
010010	3 250.84	
142130	1 7289.14	
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# Key Community Bank

Inver Grove Heights Office

RECEIPT    Drawer: 101    02/21/24  
                  Trans#: 3        08:56:16  
 \*\*\*\*\*6740  
 Checking Deposit                \$90,723.74

Balance    N/A

ONLINE BANKING ~ BILL PAY ~ E-STATEMENTS  
 VISIT [WWW.KEYCOMMUNITYBANK.COM](http://WWW.KEYCOMMUNITYBANK.COM) TODAY!

TOTAL  
 MUST BE ENTERED  
 ON FRONT SIDE

77 813.28

### 3.0 Financial Tracking Spreadsheet

LMRWMO 2024 Budget & Financial Summary		2023 Carryover		2024 Monthly Revenue								
Revenue	Budget	Dec 14, 2023 - Jan 10 2024	Jan 11 - Feb 14 2024	Feb 15 - Mar 13 2024	Mar 14 - April 10 2024	April 11 - May 8 2024	May 9 - June 12 2024		2024 Total	Variance	Percent Received	
Dues from Members	\$133,676.00		\$42,950.84	\$90,723.74					\$133,674.58	\$1.42	100%	
Interest	\$2,000.00	\$364.62	\$1.02	\$364.47					\$730.11	\$1,269.89	37%	
LMCIT Rebate	\$250.00								\$0.00	\$250.00	0%	
Grant Income	\$117,200.00		\$30,000.00						\$30,000.00	\$87,200.00	26%	
<b>Subtotal Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$135,926.00</b>	<b>\$364.62</b>	<b>\$72,951.86</b>	<b>\$91,088.21</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>		<b>\$164,404.69</b>			
		2023 Carryover		2024 Monthly Expenses								
Expenses	Budget	Dec 14, 2023 - Jan 10 2024	Jan 11 - Feb 14 2024	Feb 15 - Mar 13 2024	Mar 14 - April 10 2024	April 11 - May 8 2024	May 9 - June 12 2024		2024 Total	Remaining Budget	Percent Expended	
<b>Engineering/Technical Assistance</b>												
Technical Assistance	\$6,000.00	\$479.50							\$0.00	\$6,000.00	0%	
Meetings	\$6,500.00	\$1,155.00							\$0.00	\$6,500.00	0%	
Plan Implementation/Grant Applications	\$6,000.00								\$0.00	\$6,000.00	0%	
Watershed Plan Amendment	\$0.00	\$1,369.50							\$0.00	\$0.00		
<b>Project Study/Implementation</b>												
Miss. River Direct Drainage - FY-21 WBIF Match	\$9,300.00								\$0.00	\$9,300.00	0%	
Interstate Valley Creek Stabilization FY-24 CWF Match	\$10,000.00								\$0.00	\$10,000.00	0%	
Priority Watershed Modeling - \$100,000 (FY-23 WBIF Match)	\$12,000.00								\$0.00	\$12,000.00	0%	
Seidls Lake Improvements - \$356,000 (FY-22 CPL % Match)	\$2,500.00								\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0%	
Landscaping for Clean Water Projects	\$13,600.00	\$750.00							\$0.00	\$13,600.00	0%	
<b>Monitoring</b>												
Lake and Stream Water Monitoring (CAMP) and Reports	\$13,760.00	\$3,103.97							\$0.00	\$13,760.00	0%	
<b>Education</b>												
WMO Biannual E-Newsletter	\$3,800.00								\$0.00	\$3,800.00	0%	
Landscaping for Clean Water Classes	\$9,500.00								\$0.00	\$9,500.00	0%	
MN Water Stewards Support	\$4,000.00	\$225.00							\$0.00	\$4,000.00	0%	
Storm Drain Stenciling Program	\$3,000.00	\$180.00							\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0%	
Engage Residents at Public Events / WMO Tabling Materials	\$500.00								\$0.00	\$500.00	0%	
General Education Requests	\$1,000.00	\$1,170.00							\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0%	
Metro Watershed Partners Membership	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00						\$1,000.00	\$0.00	100%	
Website Maintenance and Updates	\$2,900.00								\$0.00	\$2,900.00	0%	
Board Education	\$200.00	\$360.00							\$0.00	\$200.00	0%	
Adopt A Drain Welcome Kits <sup>2</sup>	\$1,500.00								\$0.00	\$1,500.00	0%	
<b>Administration</b>												
General Administration	\$32,000.00	\$7,925.00							\$0.00	\$32,000.00	0%	
Hold Annual TAC Meeting	\$1,000.00								\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0%	
Insurance	\$2,500.00								\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0%	
Attorney and Audit	\$5,500.00	\$34.00							\$0.00	\$5,500.00	0%	
<b>Subtotal Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$148,060.00</b>	<b>\$16,751.97</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>					<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$147,060.00</b>	<b>1%</b>	
<b>Grant Expenses</b>	<b>\$175,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$175,000.00</b>	<b>0%</b>	
<b>Overall Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$168,417.88</b>	<b>\$240,369.74</b>	<b>\$331,457.95</b>								
<b>Total Grant Balance<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>\$38,158.59</b>	<b>\$68,158.59</b>	<b>\$86,652.50</b>								
<b>Operating Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$130,259.29</b>	<b>\$172,211.15</b>	<b>\$244,805.45</b>								
<b>Unencumbered Operating Fund Balance<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>\$115,259.29</b>	<b>\$152,211.15</b>	<b>\$224,805.45</b>								

**2024 Budget Notes:**

- \$20,000 set aside for 2033 Watershed Plan Update, \$5,000 additional annually encumbered.
  - \$1,500 Added to Budget at 1-8-23 Meeting, carryover from 2023
  - Overage from FY-19 WBIF grant of \$18,493.91 (\$13,000 additional water monitoring Lake Augusta, \$5,493.91 in staff time) officially shown as absorbed into WMO general fund, to zero out/close out grant, on March 13, 2024.
- General: Budget is an estimate and will vary depending on changing priorities and grant project progress.

**Balances Explained:**

Overall Fund Balance	Balance of all bank accounts
Total Grant Balance	Grant funds in-hand
Operating Fund Balance	WMO funds without grants
Unencumbered Operating Fund Balance	WMO funds not already dedicated

### 3.0 Grant Financial Tracking Spreadsheet

#### BWSR - FY 2019 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Augusta, Interstate Valley Creek, Education) CLOSED OUT

Revenue											
BWSR FY-2019 WBIF Payment	\$144,670.00	\$72,335.00		\$72,335.00					\$144,670.00	\$0.00	100%
WBIF Matching Funds	\$59,640.00			\$25,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$18,493.91			\$73,493.91	(\$13,853.91)	123%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$204,310.00</b>	<b>\$72,335.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$97,335.00</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>	<b>\$18,493.91</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$218,163.91</b>	<b>-\$13,853.91</b>	<b>107%</b>
Expenses											
Grant Administration	\$8,000.00	\$497.43	\$2,767.00	\$4,066.00					\$7,330.43	\$669.57	92%
Education Program Implementation	\$36,000.00	\$1,899.87	\$24,294.44	\$4,490.40					\$30,684.71	\$5,315.29	85%
Education Program Project Dev.	\$4,670.00	\$913.75	\$7,172.47	\$197.50					\$8,283.72	(\$3,613.72)	177%
Education Program Project Dev. Match (WMO)	\$4,640.00		\$3,040.00	\$546.00					\$3,586.00	\$1,054.00	77%
Interstate Valley Creek Project Dev.	\$4,000.00	\$339.96	\$6,323.50	\$1,926.50					\$8,589.96	(\$4,589.96)	215%
Interstate Valley Creek Study	\$44,000.00		\$32,873.25	\$11,397.50					\$44,270.75	(\$270.75)	101%
Interstate Valley Creek Study Match	\$25,000.00		\$25,000.00						\$25,000.00	\$0.00	100%
Lake Augusta Project Development	\$4,000.00	\$2,334.62	\$4,498.22	\$1,733.50					\$8,566.34	(\$4,566.34)	214%
Lake Augusta Study (Added \$13k for monitoring)	\$57,000.00		\$25,559.80	\$30,932.20					\$56,492.00	\$508.00	99%
Lake Augusta Study Match	\$30,000.00		\$30,000.00						\$30,000.00	\$0.00	100%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$217,310.00</b>	<b>\$5,985.63</b>	<b>\$161,528.68</b>	<b>\$55,289.60</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$222,803.91</b>	<b>-\$5,493.91</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>FY-19 WBIF Balance</b>	<b>\$66,349.37</b>	<b>\$66,349.37</b>	<b>-\$95,179.31</b>	<b>-\$53,133.91</b>	<b>-\$23,133.91</b>				<b>\$0.00</b>		

#### FY-2019 WBIF Closeout Summary

Project included multiple contracts for ed/ and outreach, two studies. Summary below.

Were \$5,493 over budget on grant admin and project development, 2.7% of tproject amount  
There was an additional \$13,000 approved for additional monitoring on Lake Augusta

\$13,000.00 Additional water monitoring on Lake Augusta  
\$5,493.91 Project development/staff overage

**\$18,493.91 Total Overage, as previously noted**

**\$18,493.91 Shown as WMO Match on Mar. 13, 2024 to zero out grant.**

#### BWSR - FY 2021 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Miss. River Direct Drainage Study)

Revenue											
BWSR FY-2021 WBIF Payment	\$93,042.00	\$46,521.00							\$46,521.00	\$46,521.00	50%
WBIF Matching Funds	\$9,304.00								\$0.00	\$9,304.00	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$102,346.00</b>	<b>\$46,521.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$46,521.00</b>	<b>\$55,825.00</b>	<b>45%</b>
Expenses											
Grant Administration	\$10,042.00			\$156.00					\$156.00	\$9,886.00	2%
Erosion & Direct Drainage Study	\$71,000.00								\$0.00	\$71,000.00	0%
Erosion & Direct Drainage Study Match (WMO)	\$9,304.00								\$0.00	\$9,304.00	0%
Project Development	\$12,000.00			\$2,733.50					\$2,733.50	\$9,266.50	23%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$102,346.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,889.50</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,889.50</b>	<b>\$99,456.50</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>FY-21 WBIF Balance</b>	<b>\$46,521.00</b>	<b>\$46,521.00</b>	<b>\$46,521.00</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>	<b>\$43,631.50</b>		

#### BWSR - FY 2023 Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Priority Watershed Project ID & Model - Thompson, Rogers, Seidls)

Revenue											
BWSR FY-2021 WBIF Payment	\$118,385.00			\$59,193.00					\$59,193.00	\$59,192.00	50%
WBIF Matching Funds	\$12,000.00								\$0.00	\$12,000.00	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$130,385.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$71,192.00</b>	<b>45%</b>
Expenses											
Grant Administration	\$8,000.00								\$0.00	\$8,000.00	0%
Priority Watershed Project ID & Model	\$100,385.00								\$0.00	\$100,385.00	0%
Priority Watershed Project ID & Model Match (WMO)	\$10,000.00								\$0.00	\$10,000.00	0%
Project Development	\$12,000.00								\$0.00	\$12,000.00	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$130,385.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$130,385.00</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>FY-21 WBIF Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>	<b>\$59,193.00</b>		

#### MN DNR - Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (Seidls Lake Shoreline Restoration)

Revenue											
Grant Reimbursement Payments	\$382,000.00								\$0.00	\$382,000.00	0%
Matching funds	\$75,000.00								\$0.00	\$75,000.00	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$457,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$457,000.00</b>	<b>0%</b>
Expenses											
Grant Administration/Project Mgmt	\$26,000.00			\$15,118.00					\$15,118.00	\$10,882.00	58%
Construction	\$356,000.00								\$0.00	\$356,000.00	0%
Engineering - Construction Docs	\$37,500.00								\$0.00	\$37,500.00	0%
Engineering - Const. Mgmt. Permits, Bids	\$37,500.00								\$0.00	\$37,500.00	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$457,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$15,118.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$15,118.00</b>	<b>\$404,382.00</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Seidls Lake Shoreline Balance</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>	<b>-\$15,118.00</b>		

	Budget	Aggregate Prior to Jan 12, 2022	Jan 13, 2022 - Jan 11, 2023	Jan 12 2023 - Jan 10 2024	Jan 11 - Feb 14 2024	Feb 15 - Mar 13 2024	Mar 14 - April 10 2024	April 11 - May 8 2024	Total	Variance	Percent Received/ Expended
TOTAL GRANT FUNDS RECEIVED	\$763,656.00	\$118,856.00	\$0.00	\$156,528.00	\$30,000.00	\$18,493.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$323,877.91	\$498,971.09	42%
PASS THROUGH MATCH RECEIVED	\$130,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$18,493.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$73,493.91	\$70,450.09	57%
LMRWMO MATCH PROVIDED	\$13,944.00	\$0.00	\$3,040.00	\$546.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,586.00	\$498,971.09	26%
GRANT EXPENSES (MINUS WMO MATCH)	\$762,712.00	\$5,985.63	\$158,488.68	\$72,751.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$240,811.41	\$521,900.59	32%
PASS THROUGH MATCH EXPENSES	\$130,000.00	\$0.00	\$58,040.00	\$546.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$58,586.00	\$71,414.00	45%
<b>NET FUND BALANCE (MINUS WMO MATCH)</b>		<b>\$112,870.37</b>	<b>-\$45,618.31</b>	<b>\$38,158.59</b>	<b>\$68,158.59</b>	<b>\$86,652.50</b>	<b>\$86,652.50</b>	<b>\$86,652.50</b>	<b>\$86,652.50</b>		





## MEMORANDUM

**To:** LMRWMO Board of Managers  
**From:** Joe Barten, Dakota County SWCD  
**Subject:** 2024 Volunteer Water Monitoring Planning  
**Date:** March 6, 2024

### WATER MONITORING HISTORY

The LMRWMO Watershed Management Plan identifies the need to evaluate and track water quality trends through monitoring of DNR protected water bodies within the WMO. Monitoring efforts since 2011 have focused on lakes larger than 10 acres and on water bodies identified by the member Cities to be of interest. Lakes could be considered of interest because the LMRWMO has identified them as priority waterbodies, has implemented recent projects to improve lake water quality, or has plans to implement projects in the future. Monitoring data can then help identify water quality improvements over the long term or establish baseline conditions for future improvements.

The attached monitoring summary table shows the lakes historically monitored by the LMRWMO and Member Cities, primarily through the Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) with volunteer coordination, data analysis processing, and Met. Council coordination provided by the Dakota County SWCD through the annual agreement for services. Some Lakes listed on the attached table are monitored through the same program but with the City as the sponsor and volunteer coordinator.

### RECOMMENDED 2024 CAMP WATER MONITORING

Dakota County SWCD staff recommends continuing to monitor Thompson Lake, Seidl's Lake, and Lake Augusta to track improvements related to recently implemented and planned projects. We also recommend monitoring Schmitt Lake, Dickman Lake, Simley Lake, Interstate Valley Creek, and Ivy Falls Creek in 2024 to continue to establish baseline data on the condition of those waterbodies. Additionally, the LMRWMO will monitor Chloride and e. Coli levels in Thompson Lake, which is impaired for Chloride.

### CAMP MONITORING PROCESS

The CAMP program obtains data on eutrophication parameters only, which include total phosphorus, chlorophyll *a*, and Secchi depth. Additional parameters are analyzed for the stream sites. CAMP

volunteers also collect surface temperature data and note general observations such as water color, odor, wind conditions, lake level, amount of aquatic plants, physical condition, and recreational suitability. The cost per lake for CAMP covers training, monitoring equipment supplies for each CAMP volunteer, as well as the laboratory analysis.

**2024 PROPOSED CAMP WATERBODY LIST & COST ESTIMATE**

Thompson Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Seidls Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Lake Augusta	<i>CAMP - 14 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$760
Schmitt Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Dickman Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Simley Lake	<i>CAMP - 7 Events (Bi-Weekly)</i>	\$380
Interstate Valley Creek	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
Ivy Falls Creek (Trib. 1)	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
Ivy Falls Creek (Trib. 2)	Vol. Stream - 7 Events (Monthly)	\$660
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4,640</b>

The 2024 LMRWMO/SWCD Work Plan includes services for water monitoring data management, volunteer coordination, and backup water monitoring (2 times) if the volunteer is unavailable. The SWCD also provides Chloride and e. Coli monitoring at Thompson Lake in addition to CAMP monitoring (this cost is shared 50/50 with the LMRWMO and Dakota County).

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED**

- Discuss the above list of waterbodies to be monitored and propose additional waterbodies (if any) for monitoring in 2024. SWCD staff recommend Thompson Lake, Seidls Lake, Lake Augusta, Schmitt Lake, Dickman Lake, Simley Lake, Interstate Valley Creek, and two sites at Ivy Falls Creek.
- Authorize the LMRWMO Administrator to execute an agreement with the Metropolitan Council for 2024 water monitoring through the Metropolitan Council’s Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for selected lakes.

**ATTACHED:** Summary Table of LMRWMO Waterbodies & Water Monitoring  
2024 CAMP Program Brochure

Summary of Water Monitoring in the LMRWMO

Waterbody	Plan Priority Level	DNR ID	Area (Acres)	Waterbody Location	MPCA Waterbody Type	Public Access?	Impairments	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Long Term Monitoring Notes:	Planned Frequency	Monitoring Repr.
<b>Monitoring Goal: Tracking Trends or Changes in Water Quality (Monitor Frequently)</b>								<b>5-Year Monitoring Plan</b>											
Mississippi River	1-A	N/A	N/A	Throughout	N/A	Public	Nutrients/Eutrophication biological indicators										Led by other agencies.		
Thompson Lake	1-A	19-0048	7	West St. Paul	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access	Nutrients/Eutrophication bio. indicators, Chloride	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	7 Events	Yes
Seidl's Lake	1-A	19-0095	7	South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	7 Events	Yes
Rogers Lake	1-A	19-0080	107	Mendota Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Interstate Valley Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	Mendota Heights	Stream	Public parkland	e. Coli	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Yes
Ivy Falls Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	Mendota Heights	Stream	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Yes
Kaposia Creek	1-A	N/A	N/A	South St. Paul	Stream	Public parkland											No monitoring planned at this time		
Lake Augusta	1-B	19-0081	33	Mendota Heights	Lake (deep or shallow)	Private - no access	Nutrients/Eutrophication biological indicators	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue WMO CAMP monitoring.	14 Events	Yes
Sunfish Lake	1-B	19-0050	45	Sunfish Lake	Deep Lake	Private - no access	Delisted in 2022	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Yes
Hornbeam Lake	1-B	19-0047	22	Sunfish Lake/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Lemay Lake	2	19-0082	25	Mendota Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
Horseshoe Lake	Unprioritized	19-0051	14	Sunfish Lake/Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	(CITY CAMP)	Monitoring expected to continue through City		Future
<b>Monitoring Goal: Establishing Baseline Conditions (Monitor Infrequently)</b>																			
Pickrel Lake	2	19-0079	107	Lilydale/St. Paul	Shallow Lake	Public - boat landing	Mercury in fish tissue	WMO (CAMP)									Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Simley Lake	2	19-0037	11	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Public - dock access					WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.	7 Events	
Ohmans Lake (Marcott Chain)	2	19-0042	22	Inver Grove Heights	Deep Lake	Private - no access											Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Rosenberger Lake (Marcott chain)	2	19-0041	20	Inver Grove Heights	Deep Lake	Private - no access											Monitor for 5 years to re-establish baseline.		
Copperfield Pond	2			Mendota Heights													Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
Dickman Lake	Unprioritized	19-0046	24	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Pending
Schmitt Lake	Unprioritized	19-0052	61	Inver Grove Heights	Shallow Lake	Private - no access		WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	WMO (CAMP)	Continue monitoring with willing volunteer, can stop if no volunteer	7 Events	Pending
Anderson Pond	Unprioritized	19-0094	3	South St. Paul	(Wetland or shallow lake)	Public - no access											Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
LeVander Pond	Unprioritized	19-0088	3	South St. Paul	(Wetland or shallow lake)	Private - no access											Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		
Bohrer Pond	Unprioritized	19-0034	14	South St. Paul/Inver Grove Heights	Lake (possibly deep or shallow)	Public - no access											Consider adding in future years to establish baseline.		

## COLLABORATE WITH US ON CAMP

Citizen scientists (the volunteers), governmental organizations (called sponsors) and the Metropolitan Council each have specific responsibilities in the collaboration, including these key roles:

- ◆ **Sponsors** recruit volunteers and the **Council** trains them to be effective citizen scientists.
- ◆ **Sponsors** pay an annual participation fee. Visit [www.metrocouncil.org/camp](http://www.metrocouncil.org/camp) for current fee information.
- ◆ **Sponsors** ensure that their volunteers participate in training and monitoring.
- ◆ **Volunteers** collect water samples, measure water clarity and temperature, and observe lake conditions.
- ◆ **Volunteers** supply their own boats.
- ◆ **The Council** analyzes the water samples and reviews the monitoring data.
- ◆ **The Council** provides an assessment of current lake conditions to sponsors and volunteers.



## HOW TO GET STARTED

Visit [www.metrocouncil.org/camp](http://www.metrocouncil.org/camp) for more details about the program.

Email Brian Johnson at [brian.johnson@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:brian.johnson@metc.state.mn.us) or call him at 651-602-8743 to learn how to recruit volunteers in your community or if you have questions about the program.



# HARNESS THE POWER OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

*CITIZEN-ASSISTED MONITORING PROGRAM*



## WE ALL CARE ABOUT OUR MINNESOTA LAKES

Water is at the heart of Minnesota's culture and economy. Your organization can tap into people's passion for water by recruiting community volunteers to gather data about water quality in local lakes.

The Metropolitan Council's Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) partners with cities, watershed districts, water management organizations and others to collect and analyze data from lakes in the seven-county metropolitan area.

## BENEFITS TO YOUR ORGANIZATION

The Council and our partners rely on this long-term water quality data to inform and document progress on local and regional water management plans. Enlisting residents to monitor water quality has many benefits:

- ◆ Volunteers are a cost-effective way to obtain scientifically valid data and build long-term water quality data sets. For example, these data can help your organization:
  - Document whether water quality is improving, degrading, or staying the same over time.
  - Assess "before" and "after" lake water quality conditions in response to watershed best management practices and lake management projects.
  - Evaluate if a lake is meeting state eutrophication water quality standards.
- ◆ Good data helps your organization make lake and watershed management decisions with more confidence given limited resources.
- ◆ Volunteers become more aware of lake conditions, leading them to understand and support the lake protection and management activities of your organization.
- ◆ Volunteers may become advocates for your organization's broader efforts by:
  - Effectively communicating with their local government representatives as better-informed residents.
  - Spreading the word of their work and your organization's efforts to their neighbors and social networks.
- ◆ Council-produced lake reports make it easier for your organization to communicate with residents about local water quality.

## VOLUNTEERS ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT WATER QUALITY



"Clear, spring-fed water and natural filtration has made Lac Lavon one of the most pristine lakes in the metro area. I wanted to make sure it stayed that way. I volunteered to take the lake samples to track its history so our 110 homeowners could enjoy the benefits of a good clear lake for many years to come. So far, so good!" – *Wally Shaver, Apple Valley*



"We knew that more development was coming to the area around Lake St. Joe, and we felt a sense of responsibility to begin monitoring the lake to help ensure its future water quality. Without clean water, our community and neighborhood will be negatively impacted. We love the lake and hope our efforts will ensure it continues to be a wonderful natural and recreational resource for the neighborhood and for Chanhassen." – *Sue Morgan and Linda Scott, Chanhassen*

# CREATE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS TO KEEP OUR WATERS CLEAN

## DESIGN A NATIVE GARDEN



Native gardens are beautiful, save water, reduce need for fertilizer, and provide wildlife & pollinator habitat.

## CREATE A RAINGARDEN



Raingardens filter storm water runoff from streets and rooftops before it enters streams, ponds, and lakes, keeping waterways clean!

## STABILIZE SHORELINES



Native plants have long roots that reduce erosion, filter out pollutants, and discourage geese from gathering.

Join us for a **FREE** Landscaping for Clean Water presentation!

See dozens of beautiful, affordable garden designs, learn about the benefits they provide, and get an introduction to how you can get started on your own project.

After attending, you'll become eligible to attend a Design Course (where you'll receive expert assistance on designing your own project) and apply for a grant of **\$250 & on-site assistance**.



LANDSCAPING FOR  
CLEAN WATER



Dakota County Soil and  
Water Conservation District

# LANDSCAPING FOR CLEAN WATER CLASSES

## DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS FOR 2024

All hour-long classes will start at 6:00 p.m.  
at the following locations or on Zoom:



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Via Zoom



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**

Via Zoom



**TUESDAY, APRIL 2 - IN-PERSON**

Veterans Memorial Community Center  
8055 Barbara Ave, IGH, MN, 55077



**MONDAY, APRIL 29 - IN-PERSON**

Ritter Farm Park  
19300 Ritter Trail, Lakeville, MN, 55044



**TUESDAY, JUNE 6**

Via Zoom



Classes are  
free, but  
pre-registration  
is requested!

SCAN TO REGISTER



**Questions?** Contact Dakota SWCD at (651) 480 - 7777 or [LCW@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:LCW@co.dakota.mn.us)  
[www.dakotaswcd.org/services/landscaping-for-clean-water-2024/](http://www.dakotaswcd.org/services/landscaping-for-clean-water-2024/)

DAKOTA COUNTY



SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thanks to our many watershed  
and city partners!



Here's what some past participants had to say  
about the Introduction class:

"Very good! Made the project seem very doable.  
With **expert help**, it makes it much easier."

"It was excellent! I left there with **more knowledge  
and interest about our water**. The instructor was  
**super engaging!**"





Keep it Natural



Plant Natives!

# Natural Shoreline Workshop

You can contribute to a cleaner, clearer, healthier Lily Lake, provide pollinator habitat, and beautify your yard by planting a natural shoreline!

6.2 Natural Shoreline Workshop Mailer



The Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO) and the Dakota County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) are hosting a

## Natural Shoreline Workshop!

We will show you how natural shorelines installed with native plants can protect your shoreline, beautify your property, and provide habitat for pollinators and aquatic animals. We'll talk about the process to install such a project, necessary permits, as well as technical assistance and grants to make it a reality!

**Monday, April 8**  
**6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Dakota Lodge**  
**Thompson County Park in WSP**



To learn more about the workshop and register – scan the QR code or go to [www.dakotaswcd.org](http://www.dakotaswcd.org) and search *Landscaping for Clean Water*



ADOPT  
A STORM  
DRAIN



# 2023 Lower Mississippi River WMO Annual Report



## We're Making a Difference!

**57**

participants  
2023

**78**

drains adopted  
2023

**334**

participants  
TOTAL

**519**

drains adopted  
TOTAL

# Drain Cleaning & Collection Data

74 Lower Mississippi River participants reported cleanings, which represents 22.2% of all participants

Lower Mississippi River participants collected 1,313.8 lbs of debris from their adopted storm drains in 2023

Debris Type	Amount (lbs)
Brown Leaves	890.2
Grass and Green Leaves	120.1
Sediment and dirt	265.3
Trash	38.3
Recyclables	0.0
Pet Waste	0.0
Salt	0.0



Month	New Participants	Drains Adopted	Debris collected (lbs)	Time spent (hrs)
January	5	6	0	1.83
February	2	2	20.8	4.08
March	0	0	0.16	4.4
April	1	3	42.8	3.43
May	2	4	112.8	4.73
June	2	3	99.56	2.3
July	5	9	91.98	2
August	15	21	114.68	1.28
September	14	17	56.64	2.67
October	3	3	315.92	5.48
November	5	6	378	11.4
December	3	4	81.94	5.8
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1,315.3</b>	<b>49.4</b>



## GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

## Annual Report 2023 Lower Mississippi River

### Cities and Subwatersheds

Drains Adopted: Cumulative total

Debris collected: 2023 data only

Cities	Drains adopted	Debris collected (lbs)	Time spent (hours)
West St. Paul	0	0.0	0.0
St. Paul	0	0.0	0.0
South St. Paul	0	0.0	0.0
Mendota Heights	0	0.0	0.0
Inver Grove Heights	0	0.0	0.0

Subwatershed	Drains adopted	Debris collected (lbs)	Time spent (hours)
City of St. Paul-Mississippi River	427	1,164.5	43.3
Lock and Dam No 2-Mississippi River	80	82.6	5.5
Rich Valley / Vermillion River	4	0.0	0.0
Gun Club Lake / Minnesota River	4	67.4	0.5
Lower Minnesota River	2	0.0	0.0
Lake Augusta (Mendota Heights)	2	0.8	0.1

## Mailings and Signs

Sample welcome packet pictured below, including: yard sign and stake, welcome card with safety tips and instructions, and customized welcome letter

In addition to mailed packets, 21 residents signed up at the State Fair this year and received their packet and “We protect Minnesota lakes and rivers” yard sign there.

Sign	Packets Mailed
Mississippi River	14

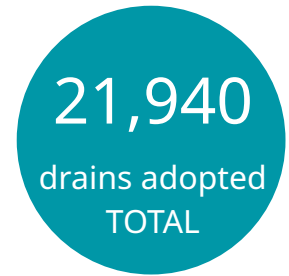
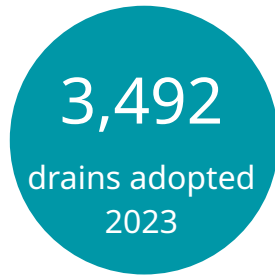
*\* Some participants opt out of receiving a yard sign, so the number of packets sent is lower than the total number of new signups this year.*





## MINNESOTA STATE SUMMARY

## Annual Report 2023 Lower Mississippi River



2,925 Minnesota participants reported cleanings, which represents 24.2% of all participants

Minnesota participants collected 121,639.9 lbs of debris from their adopted storm drains in 2023

Debris Type	Amount (lbs)
Brown Leaves	65,943.0
Grass and Green Leaves	6,188.6
Sediment and dirt	40,800.7
Trash	8,624.5
Recyclables	0.0
Pet Waste	0.0
Salt	83.1

Month	New Participants	Drains Adopted	Debris collected (lbs)	Time spent (hrs)
January	132	181	1,378.4	188.0
February	70	123	302.8	195.8
March	103	203	848.1	194.5
April	258	438	14,472.1	346.2
May	155	266	11,818.0	210.8
June	79	132	8,014.1	207.9
July	83	151	7,695.0	160.0
August	461	619	5,977.7	133.3
September	430	592	7,731.6	165.3
October	183	363	12,452.1	294.5
November	131	288	41,956.5	653.7
December	64	136	8,993.5	250.5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,149</b>	<b>3,492</b>	<b>121,639.9</b>	<b>3,000.4</b>



February 21, 2024

Paul Merchlewicz - City Engineer  
City of Inver Grove Heights  
8150 Barbara Ave.  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

**RE: Request to Support PCB and other Contaminants of Concern Investigation**

Dear Paul,

The Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (LMRWMO) was notified in July of 2023 of a settlement between the Monsanto Company and the US District Court for the Central District of California. This settlement determined that a payment of approximately \$17,000 be given to any NPDES Phase 1 and 2 City within a watershed that contains or adjoins a PCB impaired waterbody. It is our understanding that all seven of the LMRWMO Member Cities received this payment. This included the City of Inver Grove Heights, as well as the other six LMRWMO member Cities, who all received a check for \$17,000 in mid-2023.

The LMRWMO Board believes PCBs and other related contaminants pose a threat to humans as a potential carcinogen as well as to wildlife with their accumulated presence of contaminants in waterbodies, fish tissue, or lake sediment. This windfall of funds as a great opportunity to determine the potential presence and impact of PCBs and other related contaminants of concern in LMRWMO waterbodies. To that end, the LMRWMO Board officially acted at its November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board meeting to request the use of the settlement funds from LMRWMO Member Cities for a joint study. The funds from Inver Grove Heights would be combined with all LMRWMO Member City contributions for a specific "PCB and other Contaminants of Concern Investigation and Study" on priority LMRWMO waterbodies. This project is a unique initiative to benefit the residents of the LMRWMO and further understand the extent of these contaminants of concern in our waterbodies.

To accomplish such an effort, the LMRWMO is proposing the following general scope of work. This would be modified as necessary depending on the amount of pooled funds available. The work could occur in 2024 or 2025 (or both).

**DRAFT PCB and other Contaminants of Concern Investigation and Study Scope of Work**

- Investigate the extent of existing information related to contaminants of concern within LMRWMO waterbodies.
- Establish priorities for monitoring/investigation based on recreation and human health concerns for LMRWMO priority waterbodies. Lake priority shown below is from the LMRWMO Plan and could include:
  - Priority 1A - Mississippi River, Lake Augusta, Thompson Lake, Rogers Lake, Seidls Lake

- Priority 1B and Priority 2 - Sunfish Lake, Hornbeam Lake, Simley Lake, Lemay Lake
- Perform monitoring of prioritized LMRWMO waterbodies for PCBs, PFOS/PFOA, PAH, and other potential and related contaminants of human health concern.
- Target investigation to fish tissue, water, or lake sediment monitoring based on the appropriate contaminant of concern.
- Provide a report summarizing the results of the investigation and specific next steps, if any, for each waterbody, to share with the LMRWMO and Member Cities.

We greatly appreciate the City of Inver Grove Heights considering providing a portion of the \$17,000 received towards this effort. A contribution of \$8,500 from each member City (half of the settlement) would go far in accomplishing this joint project. If helpful, I am available to talk or present to the City Council if it will help in this request.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to protect the water resources of the LMRWMO and please contact me at my cell with any questions at (952) 212-2266 or email at [joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:joe.barten@co.dakota.mn.us).

Sincerely,



Joe Barten  
Administrator, Lower Mississippi River WMO

**Attached:** 2023 League of MN Cities Letter on Settlement

**Additional Information:**

[PCB Class Action Lawsuit Website](#)

[MN Dept of Health – Contaminants and MN Fish](#)