LMRWMO Goal Tracking Table – 2024 Activities (Goal 1 updated 12/9/2025)

<table>
<tr><th>Goal ID</th><th>Goal Text</th><th>Metrics/Measures</th><th>Goal Status</th></tr>
<tr><td>G1</td><td>Maintain or improve water quality in LMRWMO priority 1A and 1B lakes to meet applicable state standards or existing 10-year (2012 – 2021) summer average water quality, if better than state standards, including: (see Table 1).
<table>
<tr><th>Waterbody</th><th>Total Phosphorus (ug/L)</th><th>Chloro-phyll a (ug/L)</th><th>Secchi Depth (m)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Lake Augusta[1]</td><td>40</td><td>14</td><td>1.4</td></tr>
<tr><td>Hornbeam Lake</td><td>45</td><td>17</td><td>1.8</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rogers Lake</td><td>27</td><td>5</td><td>1.6</td></tr>
<tr><td>Seidls Lake</td><td>54</td><td>18</td><td>1.2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sunfish Lake</td><td>30</td><td>14</td><td>2.6</td></tr>
<tr><td>Thompson Lake[1]</td><td>60</td><td>20</td><td>1.0</td></tr>
</table>
(1) Goals based on applicable state standards for shallow and deep lakes (MN Rules 7050)</td><td>• Observed summer (June–September) average concentrations of total phosphorus and chlorophyll-a and summer average Secchi disc transparency averaged over the most recent 10-year period.

• Goals will be evaluated for each parameter for each lake.

• Goals are considered met if:
1. 10-year average parameter value is equal to or better than goal value;
2. 10-year average parameter value is worse than goal value but is:
a. Better than state standard, and
b. Does not demonstrate a statistically-significant worsening trend (at 90% confidence level).</td><td>10-year average water quality data are determined as part of water quality reporting appended to the LMRWMO Annual Report. Goal status is assessed against that data; current status is summarized below:
<table>
<tr><th>Waterbody</th><th>Total Phosphorus (ug/L)</th><th>Chloro-phyll a (ug/L)</th><th>Secchi Depth (m)</th></tr>
<tr><td>Lake Augusta</td><td>No</td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr>
<tr><td>Hornbeam Lake</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rogers Lake</td><td>Yes[1]</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Seidls Lake</td><td>Yes[1]</td><td>No</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sunfish Lake</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
<tr><td>Thompson Lake</td><td>No[2]</td><td>Yes</td><td>Yes</td></tr>
</table>
(1) Value is worse than goal, better than the state standard, and no worsening trend evident.
(2) Value of 61 ug/L is just above goal of 60 ug/L.</td></tr>
<tr><td>G2</td><td>Reduce sediment and phosphorus loading to the Mississippi River and priority 1A streams.</td><td>• Measured sediment and phosphorus concentrations or loads in Interstate Valley Creek, Ivy Falls Creek, and Kaposia Creek (as available).

• Estimated pollutant reductions from water quality improvement projects implemented by the LMRWMO and/or member cities and tributary to LMRWMO creeks or the Mississippi River.</td><td>Finalized the FY-2021 WBIF study of direct drainage watersheds to the Mississippi River within the LMRWMO and created a comprehensive and ranked list of water quality improvement projects for future implementation, likely by member Cities as opportunities arise through street reconstruction projects.

Mendota Heights is completing (2024-2025) the Interstate Valley Creek stabilization project. Mendota Heights also included water quality BMPs with the Emerson Avenue street project, treating drainage to the Mississippi River.

(see also Goal 12)</td></tr>
</table>

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Goal ID	Goal Text	Metrics/Measures	Goal Status

G3	Reduce bacteria loading to Interstate Valley Creek through landowner education, outreach, and member city support.	• Implementation of practices to reduce bacteria loading including but not limited to:
		  • Educational broadcasts (e.g., mailings, social media posts)
		  • Landowner site visits or other outreach
		  • Signage encouraging pet clean-up
			Member cities include pet waste information in quarterly (or more frequent newsletters). Member cities provide information at environmentally themed public events (e.g., Mendota Heights' Fishing Derby, Earth Day). St. Paul contracts with Friends of the Mississippi for education efforts addressing pet waste. West St. Paul includes signage in city parks.

G4	Work with member cities to implement practices to minimize chloride use in the watershed.	• Implementation of practices to reduce chloride use by member cities including but not limited to :
		  • Training for municipal applicators
		  • Training for private applicators/owners
		  • Municipal use of alternative deicers
		  • Site visits to promote reduced salt use in commercial/high impervious areas
		  • Use of salt minimization design strategies
		  • Incentive programs for residents
		  • Educational broadcasts
			Member cities perform annual training for public employees and calibration of equipment. Some cities use pretreatment and treated brine to minimize chloride application. Cities used a combination of site visits (West St. Paul), targeted mailings (St. Paul), and complaint follow-up (St. Paul) to address highly impervious areas. All cities include public education elements addressing chloride and deicer use.

G5	Promote infiltration and reuse to reduce stormwater runoff volumes through member city volume control performance standards and the support of education and outreach activities.	• Continued implementation of member city local controls prioritizing volume reduction through infiltration (where feasible), consistent with LMRWMO Plan Policy P1.
		
		• LMRWMO and/or member city education and outreach activities including but not limited to:
		  • Broadcasts (e.g., social media)
		  • Resident incentive programs (e.g., rain barrels)
		
		• LMRWMO and member city financial support for Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water workshops and projects.
			Member cities continued to implement ordinances requiring infiltration as the preferred method of stormwater treatment (where feasible).
			
			Participated in the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) workshop series and funded three classes in partnership with the Dakota SWCD. 31 people attended an introduction class. 21 LMRWMO residents attended design workshops. The LMRWMO provided grants for 8 residential conservation projects (raingardens and native gardens) installed by those participants.

LMRWMO Goal Tracking Table – 2024 Activities (Goal 1 updated 12/9/2025)

Goal ID	Goal Text	Metrics/Measures	Goal Status
G6	Minimize flood potential and reduce the number and/or flood risk of habitable structures within local floodplain areas in cooperation with member cities.	• Implementation of capital projects by the LMRWMO and member cities that increase stormwater storage or result in reduced flood risk. • Number of habitable structures removed from the 100-year floodplain as a result of LMRWMO and member city projects.	The LMRWMO and member cities did not implement flood risk reduction projects impacting habitable structures in 2024. Member cities performed routine pond cleanouts to maintain storage and hydraulic performance.
G7	Promote fish and wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities by maintaining or improving water quality (see goal G1) and shoreline integrity, implementing 10 shoreline improvement projects over 10 years (including city, LMRWMO, and/or cost-share projects).	• Observed summer (June–September) average water quality (see Goal G1). • Number of shoreline protection or improvement projects performed (or supported) by the LMRWMO and member cities (including shoreline projects implemented through Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water).	Developed content for and provided a Natural Shoreline Workshop to residents of the LMRWMO (as well as adjacent Watersheds) in partnership with the Dakota County SWCD. Note: no shoreline LCW projects were constructed in the LMRWMO in 2024. South St. Paul and Inver Grove Heights collaborated on Seidl's Lake shoreline restoration including native plantings and natural shoreline stabilization, enhancing local habitat (see also Goal 8).

G8	Promote the incorporation of habitat benefits into at least two stormwater management BMPs over 10 years.	• Habitat benefits incorporated into stormwater BMPs constructed by the LMRWMO and member cities including but not limited to:
		  • Native plantings in existing turf areas
		  • Conservation easements to protect existing natural areas
		  • Design enhancements to minimize disturbance of habitat (e.g., trees)
			The LMRWMO was awarded $382,000 in grant funds for restoration of vegetation surrounding Seidls Lake in Inver Grove Heights & South St. Paul. The project is being done in close partnership with the two Cities, who are providing matching funding, and in tandem with a trail reconstruction project. Tree clearing and some shoreline stabilization occurred in 2024. The remaining lake vegetation restoration work will occur in 2025

G9	Pursue no net loss of wetlands due to human activity via support of member city roles as local governmental units (LGUs) responsible for wetland management.	• Continued administration of Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) by member cities (per LMRWMO Plan Policy 25).	All member cities currently act as the local governmental unit (LGU) responsible for administration of the WCA in their city. All member cities have adopted and enforce local controls requiring wetland buffers.

LMRWMO Goal Tracking Table – 2024 Activities (Goal 1 updated 12/9/2025)

Goal ID	Goal Text	Metrics/Measures	Goal Status
		• Continued implementation of member city local controls requiring wetland buffers and limiting wetland impacts (per LMRWMO Plan Policy 26).	Mendota Heights updated its wetland ordinance in 2024 and now requires 25-foot vegetated buffers.
G10	Promote the protection of groundwater quality and quantity through annual collaboration with Dakota County, Ramsey County, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and/or other agencies managing groundwater.	• Annual meeting with Dakota County to review coordination of groundwater management roles and opportunities. • Annual communication to Minnesota DNR and other groundwater management agencies regarding coordination of organization roles.	Coordinated with Dakota County, SWCD, and other Watershed partners on a public video marketing campaign which was launched to promote the Landscaping for Clean Water program and promote general water conservation for lawn watering to address declining aquifer levels and water treatment concerns.

G11	Promote groundwater conservation, infiltration, and water reuse through implementation of member city volume control performance standards, education, and outreach.	• Continued implementation of member city local controls prioritizing volume reduction through infiltration (where feasible), consistent with LMRWMO Plan Policy P1.
		• LMRWMO and/or member city education and outreach activities including but not limited to:
		  • Broadcasts (e.g., social media)
		  • Resident incentive programs (e.g., rain barrels)
			Member cities continued to implement local controls prioritizing volume reduction through infiltration.
			
			See Goal 14 regarding participation in Landscaping for Clean Water.
			
			See also Goal 15 and Goal 16 regarding education and engagement activities.

G12	Reduce sediment loading to the Mississippi River.	• Measured sediment concentrations or loads in Interstate Valley Creek, Ivy Falls Creek, and Kaposia Creek (as available). • Estimated sediment reductions from water quality improvement projects implemented by the LMRWMO and/or member cities and tributary to LMRWMO creeks or the Mississippi River.	Finalized the FY-2021 WBIF study of direct drainage watersheds to the Mississippi River within the LMRWMO and created a comprehensive and ranked list of water quality improvement projects for future implementation, likely by member Cities as opportunities arise through street reconstruction projects. See also Goal 2.

LMRWMO Goal Tracking Table – 2024 Activities (Goal 1 updated 12/9/2025)

Goal ID	Goal Text	Metrics/Measures	Goal Status
G13	Reduce sediment loading to LMRWMO priority waterbodies.	• Estimated sediment reductions from water quality improvement projects implemented by the LMRWMO and/or member cities and tributary to LMRWMO priority waterbodies.	The LMRWMO partnered with the Dakota County SWCD, Mendota Heights, and Dakota County to implement Clean Water Funded projects identified in the Interstate Valley Creek Stabilization and Volume Reduction Feasibility study to address areas of severe bank erosion. Final plans and bidding occurred in late 2024 with construction to occur in 2025
G14	Prevent or mitigate the impact of local erosion issues through the promotion of partner cost-share and educational programs (e.g., Dakota County SWCD cost-share).	• Number of shoreline protection, riparian stabilization, or other erosion control projects supported by the LMRWMO (including relevant projects implemented through Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water).	Participated in the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) workshop series and funded three classes in partnership with the Dakota SWCD. 31 people attended an introduction class. 21 LMRWMO residents attended design workshops. The LMRWMO provided grants for 8 residential conservation projects (raingardens and native gardens) installed by those participants.
G15	Increase community awareness of water resource management issues via outreach activities and cooperation with member city and partner education and outreach programs.	• Attendance of LMRWMO staff or Managers at community events. • Development or broadcast of educational content through LMRWMO or member city media. • Maintenance and update of the LMRWMO website. • Development of a K-12 education program in cooperation with partners.	Updated the LMRWMO website with meeting information and links to annual reports, newsletters, and technical reports. Created and distributed an E-newsletter to engage with the public and inform them of LMRWMO activities and opportunities to assist the LMRWMO in it's mission Participated in and provided funding to the Metro Watershed Partners Clean Water MN program to promote public understanding through educational outreach. Distributed stormwater educational articles from Clean Water MN to Member cities for use in social media, newsletter, website, and print public education and outreach materials.

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			Coordinated with Dakota County, SWCD, and other Watershed partners on a public video marketing campaign to advertise Landscaping for Clean Water.
G16	Increase community capacity to implement water resource stewardship practices via outreach and support of partner engagement programs (e.g., Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water program, MN Water Stewards).	• LMRWMO Support for Minnesota Water Stewards program • Support of LMRWMO and member city volunteer programs (e.g., drain stenciling). • LMRWMO and member city financial support for Dakota County SWCD's Landscaping for Clean Water workshops and projects.	Participated in the Landscaping for Clean Water (LCW) workshop series and funded three classes in partnership with the Dakota SWCD. 31 people attended an introduction class. 21 LMRWMO residents attended design workshops. The LMRWMO provided grants for 8 residential conservation projects (raingardens and native gardens) installed by those participants. Implemented new storm drain stenciling program kits to connect the public with their impact on downstream waterbodies. Kits were borrowed 16 times in 2024, and 23 volunteers stenciled 69 drains. Provided 14 Adopt-a-Drain kits in 2024. Developed content for and provided a Natural Shoreline Workshop to residents of the LMRWMO (as well as adjacent Watersheds) in partnership with the Dakota County SWCD; 23 participants attended.
G17	Execute the activities included in the LMRWMO implementation program while promoting efficiency, limiting organizational redundancy, and leveraging skills of partner organizations.	• Support of technical trainings for Managers. • Annual meeting with member city staff to coordinate capital improvement programs with LMRWMO projects and funding opportunities. • Tracking of implementation progress (completed as part of annual reporting).	The LMRWMO annual report includes the implementation schedule updated to reflect the current status of each task. REPORTS - Lower Mississippi River WMO

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G18	Maximize the financial capacity of the WMO through the pursuit and use of grant and cost-share funding.	• Use of watershed-based implementation funding to fund LMRWMO projects. • Applications for competitive grant funding (as appropriate)	Applied for grant funding for the FY-25 Accelerated Implementation Grant for watershed modeling. Finalized the FY-2021 WBIF study of direct drainage watersheds to the Mississippi River. The LMRWMO was awarded $382,000 in grant funds for restoration of vegetation surrounding Seidls Lake in Inver Grove Heights & South St. Paul. Finalized funding commitments from Member Cities for Monitoring of Fish Tissue for Contaminants of Emerging Concern on LMRWMO Priority Waterbodies.