

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

455 HAYWARD AVENUE, OAKDALE, MINNESOTA 55082
Phone 651.330.8220 x22 fax 651.330.7747 www.mscwmo.org



Regular Meeting of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization

Washington Conservation Center, 455 Hayward Ave

Attend virtually via ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84039162977>

Thursday, March 10th, 2022

6:00PM

1. Call to Order – 6:00PM
 - a. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Draft minutes – February 17th, 2022 **pg. 1-6**
3. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Report of savings account, assets for March 10th, 2022
 - b. Approve payment of bills for March 10th, 2022
4. Public Comment
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - a. 3M PFAS Reimbursement Request **pg. 7-8**
 - b. 2021 Annual Report Draft **pg. 9-30**
7. Grant and Cost Share Applications
8. Plan Reviews/Submittals
 - a. Plan Review and Submittal Summary **pg. 31-32**
 - i. MN Party Bus-**INFORM**
 - ii. Baylon Boathouse-**INFORM**
 - iii. Jambois Hillside Lift-**INFORM**
 - iv. Burton Walls and Patio-**INFORM**
 - b. Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection Reports **-NONE**
9. Staff Report **pg. 33-35**
10. 1W1P Updates
 - a. Assign New Policy Committee Representative
11. Other
12. Adjourn

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization Member Communities

Afton, Bayport, Baytown, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach, Oak Park Heights, St. Mary's Point, Stillwater, & West Lakeland

Regular Meeting of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
Washington Conservation District/Hybrid Zoom
Thursday, February 17th, 2022
6:00PM

Present: John Fellego, Baytown Township; Mike Runk, Oak Park Heights; Tom McCarthy, Lake St. Croix Beach; Annie Perkins, Afton; Beth Olfelt-Nelson, St. Mary's Point; John Dahl, Bayport; Dan Kylo, West Lakeland Township; Administrator Matt Downing; Cameron Blake, WCD; Amanda Herbrand; Stu Grubb, EOR; Dawn Bulera, Lake St. Croix Beach alt.; Avis Peters, Baytown Township new manager

Call to Order

Manager Zeller is absent and Manager McCarthy is attending via Zoom so Manager Kylo will run the meeting. Manager Kylo called the meeting to order at 6:04PM.

Approval of Agenda

Administrator Downing proposed two items under "Other": Insurance dividend and Agreement for maintenance work at SCC. Manager Runk moved to approve the agenda with this addition and Manager Fellego seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Manager Fellego moved to approve the draft December 9th, 2021 board meeting minutes and Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report and bills to be paid were presented by Manager Kylo. The remaining checking account balance on February 17th for the month of December 2021 was \$463,262.97. First State Bank CDs were valued at \$38,549.15. The ending balance in the RBC savings account for November and December 2021 was \$76,966.87.

Bills to be approved this month are: Short Elliot Hendrickson: \$2,700.00 total; Short Elliot Hendrickson: \$1,800.00 total; Washington Conservation District (EMWREP): \$1,575.00; Washington Conservation District (Water Monitoring): \$6,954.42; Washington Conservation District (Administration-December): \$3,678.00; Washington Conservation District (Technical Services-December): \$1,356.00; Washington Conservation District (Administration-January): \$3,192.00; Washington Conservation District (Technical Services-January): \$4,434.00; Washington Conservation District (Grant Hours): \$2,090.81; Total: \$27,780.23.

Manager Runk moved to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Manager Fellego seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Old Business

There was no old business.

PFAS Funding Options

Stu Grubb presented this topic to the board. He summarized the work that has been done so far with the 3m PFAS Settlement. Phase I funding was to enhance drinking water quality. The MPCA is still working with communities to provide water including West Lakeland Township. Phase II funding is to restore and enhance water resources in the East Metro and Mississippi. The MSCWMO can apply for funding for projects that fall under this category. Since this is outside of the drinking water activities it falls more closely with the type of work the MSCWMO focuses on. Mr. Grubb and Administrator Downing met to discuss potential options like slope stabilizations. Manager Kylo and Perkins agreed it was worth staying tuned for potential projects. Mr. Grubb explained the drinking water is still the first priority and whatever funding remained would go towards this second phase. Manager Olfelt-Nelson expressed concern as one of the communities to the south of the plume but still in its proximity. The PFAS chemicals are “forever” chemicals and the movement of the plume is unpredictable. She asked what would happen if the communities close to the plume end up needing help with drinking water issues and all the funding has been spent. The board echoed this concern. Mr. Grubb explained that this may not be the last settlement. There could be more if more communities than currently identified are impacted. Mr. Grubb explained that he wanted to be ready with potential projects when Phase II funding was available but that the focus was still on Phase I projects. He does not know the timeframe for applications yet but wants to get ready in the next few months.

2021 Permit Review Fee Review

Administrator Downing introduced this agenda item. The board requested a summary of any overages of permit review time over \$500; this totaled \$9,291. The board can approve to invoice the respective communities for these overages. The communities can then choose to invoice the applicants to recover those costs.

Manager Runk moved to invoice the respective communities for the 8 2021 permits listed.

Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Officer Appointments

The current MSCWMO officer appointments are as listed:

Chair- Manager Zeller

Vice Chair- Manager McCarthy

Treasurer- Manager Kylo

Secretary- Manager Perkins

Manager Fellegly moved to keep the MSCWMO officer appointments the same. Manager Runk seconded this motion, Manager Olfelt-Nelson confirmed that manager Zeller was continuing to be on the MSCWMO board and Administrator Downing noted they can always adjust the appointments as needed. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

2022 Community First Half Contribution Request

All 2021 community contributions were received. Administrator Downing is requesting the board approve him sending out the first half 2022 contribution invoices to the communities. Manager Fellegly moved that Administrator Downing send out the first half 2022 invoices. Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

2021 Savings Deposit

The 2021 MSCWMO Budget included \$5,750 for deposit into savings for future costs including water monitoring equipment replacement and repair, and watershed management plan update costs. None of these funds were expended in 2021 and the entire balance can be deposited. Administrator Downing is requesting board approval to deposit the funds into the RBC savings account.

Manager Fellegly moved to approve Staff to deposit \$5,750 from the 2021 Budget to savings and Manager McCarthy seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

2021 Year End Budget Summary

Administrator Downing presented this informational agenda item. The digital copy has been corrected. He explained that the MSCWMO was generally on track for budget aside from the permit review overages which are going to be addressed. There were a few items that were over budget but they had board approval. For example, the new database cost more upfront but will save money overall.

Alt. Manager Bulera joined the meeting at 7:37pm via Zoom

2021 Adopt-a-Drain Summary and 2022 Invoice

Administrator Downing explained that the MSCWMO was part of the original AAD program. It's a good, cost effective program and they are asking for 2022 membership fees.

Manager McCarthy moved to pay the \$500 2022 Adopt-a-Drain membership fee and Manager Fellegly seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

2021 Audit Engagement

Administrator Downing is requesting board approval for 2021 Audit engagement. The MSCWMO budgets \$2,200 for the audit. The cost this year is \$3,300 but he anticipates this decreasing in the future after the auditors see that previously identified issues have been addressed. Administrator Downing noted another explanation of the higher than budgeted cost could be inflation.

Manager Olfelt-Nelson moved to approve the 2021 audit engagement and Manager Runk seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

People's Church Reimbursement Request

In November 2021, the MSCWMO Board of Managers approved cost share reimbursement of \$500 for the People's Church native prairie restoration project in Bayport. The Peoples Church of Bayport has completed the restoration of 2 acres of native prairie located at on the South side of 5th Avenue, across from the Bayport Fire Station. The site was originally restored with funding from the Board of Water and Soil Resources Capacity funding and the MSCWMO

Water Quality grant. Part of this larger restoration was damaged when a neighbor drained a low area of his property and discharged the runoff through the restoration. The neighbor graded and seeded the damaged area two years ago, but it has become clear the seed that was used was turf grass seed and not prairie seed. The members of People's Church have worked to restore this area. The site was treated with herbicide this summer and the prairie seed was seeded into the soil this fall. The cost share was used to cover the cost of the seed for this area, totaling \$304.41. Staff recommend approval of reimbursement in the amount of \$301.41. Manager Runk moved to approve a cost share reimbursement in the amount of \$301.41 for the People's Church Prairie Restoration. Manager Fellegly seconded this and the motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

MN Party Bus-INFORM

The applicant was notified after the September MSCWMO meeting by the City of Lakeland Shores that they were not in compliance with their approved site plan and permit. City staff requested the MSCWMO take the lead on enforcement related to permit compliance. MSCWMO staff met with the applicant on September 23rd and informed them that their options were to:

- Remove the impervious and grading that were done to the conditions that were on their approved plan OR
- Revise and resubmit an application showing how the stormwater requirements for the site can be met in a different manner

The applicant retained the designer of the original site plan to make modifications and complete the resubmittal. The resubmittal was reviewed and did not meet MSCWMO design standards to the applicant was requested to revise and resubmit. The designer has requested assistance with design from MSCWMO. The MSCWMO has made suggestions to the designer to help them meet the conditions, but it is outside of the scope of permit review to design the project for them.

255 2nd Street-ACTION

Administrator Downing presented this item from the plan review/submittal report in the board packet. MSCWMO staff recommends project approval.

Manager Runk moved to approve this project and Manager Olfelt-Nelson seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

L68 Lift Station-ACTION

Administrator Downing presented this item from the plan review/submittal report in the board packet. MSCWMO staff recommend project approval with the one condition that the lacking ESC plan items are addressed. Manager Kylo moved to approve this project with the identified condition and Manager Fellegly seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Mass Shoreline-ACTION

Administrator Downing presented this item from the plan review/submittal report in the board packet. MSCWMO staff recommend project approval with the two conditions that the lacking ESC plan items are addressed and upslope vegetation details are provided. Manager Runk moved

to approve this project with the identified conditions and Manager Fellegly seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Chestnut Street Plaza-ACTION

Administrator Downing presented this item from the plan review/submittal report in the board packet. MSCWMO staff recommends conditional approval of the project with conditions to demonstrate soil cells meet flexible treatment option requirements and design/construction standards, SWPPP is amended to meet MSCWMO standards, and a proposed maintenance agreement is provided.

Manager Runk noted that this developer had to remove contaminated soil from the site. Manager McCarthy moved to approve this project with the identified conditions and Manager Dahl seconded this. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Baylon Boathouse-INFORM

Administrator Downing presented this item from the plan review/submittal report in the board packet. There are a number of concerns with the project not meeting the Washington County Lower St. Croix Bluffland and Shoreland Management ordinance and Floodplain Management ordinance. MSCWMO staff recommends revise and resubmit to meet ESC standards and demonstrate compliance or obtain variances to County Development Code. The project location is Lakeland Shores.

Jambois Hillside Lift-INFORM

MSCWMO staff recommends revise and resubmit with an ESC plan meeting MSCWMO standards. Administrator Downing noted this was a low impact project.

Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection Reports

There are none.

Staff Report

Administrator Downing said most of these topics have been covered in the meeting discussion. He noted the Lily Lake alum treatment and volunteer planting coordination for 2022. The MSCWMO have received the payment from the management company from the apartments adjacent to the project as agreed upon. The WBF and LSC Phase one grants have been closed out. There were updates to the Phase two LSC South grant. There will be a database presentation at the next board meeting. The MSCWMO received MCC Crew time as applied for some smaller scale projects they have not gotten grant funding for. Manager Runk asked about an approved Stillwater project in Lake McKusick. Administrator Downing explained it was a sediment removal project from sediment deposited by the BCWD Diversion Drainage.

1W1P Updates

There have not been any recent Policy Committee Meetings. Manager Fellegly is leaving and so the MSCWMO will need to assign a new manager for this role. The group agreed to do this selection at the next board meeting.

Other

Administrator Downing informed the board that they received their insurance dividend of \$900 after paying \$2090 in 2021. This has been deposited.

Administrator Downing informed the board of a contract with MNL for a maintenance burn this spring at the SCC project the MSCWMO is maintaining. This type of activity is not something the WCD currently does and has been identified as being needed at the SCC based on its stage of establishment. Manager Runk moved to accept the MNL contract and Manager Kyllö seconded this motion. The motion carried on a roll call vote with all in favor.

Adjourn

Manager Runk motioned to adjourn the meeting and Manager Felleggy seconded this. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

455 Hayward Avenue N. Oakdale, MN 55128
Phone 651.330.8220 x22 fax 651.330.7747 www.mscwmo.org



MEMORANDUM

TO: Middle St. Croix WMO Board of Managers
FROM: Matt Downing, Administrator
DATE: March 2nd, 2022

RE: 6a.) 3M PFAS Contamination Groundwater Model Technical Services Reimbursement Request

Our consultant at EOR has been reviewing documents and providing technical input on the development of the water supply groundwater model as part of the 3M PFAS settlement. Staff is requesting reimbursement from MPCA totaling \$676.00 (EOR January).

Recommended Board Action- Approve Submittal of 3M PFAS Reimbursement Request Totaling \$676

Invoice

Emmons & Olivier Resources, Inc.
1919 University Ave. W, Ste 300
St. Paul, MN 55104-3455
Phone 651.770.8448
Fax 651.770.2552
www.eorinc.com



Invoice Total \$676.00

Matt Downing
Middle St. Croix WMO
C/O WCD
455 Hayward Avenue North
Oakdale, MN 55128

February 11, 2022
Invoice No: 00405-0011 - 21

Job 00405-0011 3M Groundwater Model Review

Summary of Work Performed:
Attend 3M Work group meeting 1/19/2022.
Project management.

Professional Services from January 1, 2022 to January 31, 2022

Professional Personnel

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Professional 4				
Grubb, Stuart	4.00	169.00	676.00	
Totals	4.00		676.00	
Total Labor				676.00
				Total this Invoice \$676.00

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Lakeland

Prepared by:

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WMO BOARD OF MANAGERS

APPROVAL DATE: March 11th, 2021

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INTRODUCTION

The Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization encompasses approximately 19.8 square miles and is located in the east-central part of Washington County. A distinction exists between the Middle St. Croix watershed and the other watersheds of Washington County in that the Middle St. Croix watershed has many small, parallel watersheds that all flow to the St. Croix, whereas the other watersheds in the County generally have one major drainage with a headwaters and outlet. Land use in the watershed is evenly distributed between agricultural uses, rural residential, high-density residential and commercial land uses.

The Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) is a Joint Powers Watershed Management Organization composed of ten St. Croix Valley communities that was established under State Statute 103B to cooperatively manage water resources within the watershed. The ten member communities of the MSCWMO are: Afton, Bayport, Baytown Township, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach, Oak Park Heights, St. Mary's Point, Stillwater, and West Lakeland Township.

In general, the purposes of a Watershed Management Organization (WMO) are to conserve natural resources through land use planning, flood control, and other conservation projects in order to ensure continued public health and welfare. The specific purposes of a watershed management organization are:

- Cooperatively manage water resources in the watershed.
- Inventory and assess the resources of the watershed.
- Monitor the water quality of lakes and streams in the watershed.
- Provide education on water related issues in the watershed.
- Review development plans for stormwater management, erosion and sediment control, and provide wetland and shoreland protection.
- Plan and implement capital improvement projects that enhance the water resources of the watershed.

The mission of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization is to jointly and cooperatively manage the water resources of the watershed. The ten member communities will do so to conserve and protect the water resources in an efficient and effective manner.

ORGANIZATION AND BUDGET

MSCWMO Board of Managers

Each member municipality or township within the MSCWMO appoints one member to the MSCWMO Board. The 2021 representatives from each participatory community are listed below.

Annie Perkins
4042 River Road S.
Afton, MN 55001
651-592-3007

Tom McCarthy
16455 20th St. S.
Lake St. Croix Beach, MN 55043
651.436.7031

Brian Zeller (Chair)
55 Lakeland Shores Rd
Lakeland Shores, MN 55043
612.325.3038

Beth Olfelt-Nelson
2990 Itasca Ave. S.
St. Mary's Point, MN 55043
612.417.5394

Mike Runk
5525 O'Brien Ave N
Oak Park Heights, MN 55082
651-439-5458

John Fellegly
5238 Northbrook Blvd N
Stillwater., MN 55082
612.275.2200

Ryan Collins
1467 Benson Blvd E
Stillwater MN 55082
651.246.8264

Joe Paiement
1190 St. Croix Trail South
Lakeland, MN 55043
651-436-4430

Dan Kylo
1891 Oldridge Ave. N.
West Lakeland Township, MN 55082
651.436.1134

John Dahl
775 3rd Ave N.
Bayport, MN 55003
651.439.7312

MSCWMO Contract Support Staff

The MSCWMO does not employ staff but does contract with several organizations for professional services. The organizations providing these services are listed below.

Administrator
Matt Downing
Washington Conservation
District
455 Hayward Avenue,
Oakdale MN 55128
651.330.8220 Ext. 22

Attorney
Troy Gilchrist
470 Pillsbury Center
200 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
612.337.9215
tgilchrist@kennedy-
graven.com

Recording Secretary
Washington Conservation
District
455 Hayward Avenue,
Oakdale MN 55128
651.330.8220 Ext. 27

Table 1: 2021 Budget

Administration Budget	Community Contributions
Administration - General	\$ 31,160
Accounting	\$ 1,550
Legal Fees – General	\$ 1,000
Audit	\$ 2,100
Insurance	\$ 2,600
Office supplies/equipment/postage	\$ 625
Minutes/Clerical	\$ 1,180
Copying/printing	\$ 625
Subtotal	\$ 40,840
Project Budget	
Project Contingency	\$ 2,000
Engineering - Project	\$ 5,700
Development Plan Reviews	\$ 5,040
Erosion Monitoring Program	\$ 2,250
BMP Program Tech. Assistance	\$ 27,768
BMP Program Cost Share	\$ 20,000
Community TA	\$ 3,000
Water Resource Educator	\$ 6,300
Website	\$ 800
Inspection and Tracking Database	\$ 900
Water Monitoring	\$ 22,000
Water Monitoring Equip. Savings	\$ 750
2025 WMP Update	\$5,000
Subtotal	\$ 101,508
TOTAL	\$ 142,348

Table 2: 2022 Budget

Administration Budget	Community Contributions
Administration - General	\$ 31,160
Accounting	\$ 1,550
Legal Fees – General	\$ 1,000
Audit	\$ 2,100
Insurance	\$ 2,600
Office supplies/equipment/postage	\$ 625
Minutes/Clerical	\$ 1,180
Copying/printing	\$ 625
Subtotal	\$ 40,840
Project Budget	
Project Contingency	\$ 2,000
Engineering - Project	\$ 5,700
Development Plan Reviews	\$ 5,040
Erosion Monitoring Program	\$ 2,250
BMP Program Tech. Assistance	\$ 27,768
BMP Program Cost Share	\$ 20,000
Community TA	\$ 3,000
Water Resource Educator	\$ 6,300
Website	\$ 800
Inspection and Tracking Database	\$ 900
Water Monitoring	\$ 22,000
Water Monitoring Equip. Savings	\$ 750
2025 WMP Update	\$5,000
Subtotal	\$ 101,508
TOTAL	\$ 142,348

AUDIT REPORT

Michael Peterson, Certified Public Accountant & Consultant, has been contracted to complete an audit of the financial management of the WMO for the year 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this process has been delayed at the time of this report. The audit will be presented to the State of Minnesota and posted to the MSCWMO website upon completion.

2021 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

2021 Implementation of Performance Standards

The mission of the MSCWMO is to jointly and cooperatively manage water resources within the WMO and to provide effective and efficient services to the residents of the watershed. To work to meet this goal, the MSCWMO adopted Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) developed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The watershed also provided assistance to member communities to integrate MIDS into local ordinance. Rather than create its own separate permit program, the MSCWMO reviews projects that meet the criteria listed in section 7.0 of the 2015-2025 Watershed Management Plan. Member communities do not issue permits until the project has met all applicable watershed performance standards.

Table 3: MSCWMO Project Reviews and Total Phosphorous Load Reductions of Permanent Stormwater Best Management Practices Estimated with the MIDS Calculator.

Year	Total Projects Reviewed	Total BMP Estimated TP Reduction (lbs./yr.)	Redevelopment BMP Estimated TP Reduction (lbs./yr.)
2016	19	26.7	25.6
2017*	19	133.6	124.7
2018	18	25.8	17.2
2019	13	17.9	6.0
2020	11	51.7	0.2
2021	13	14.0	7.6

*2017 includes the permanent stormwater BMPs installed as part of the St. Croix Crossing project.

2021 Projects Implementation

The MSCWMO 2015-2025 Watershed Management Plan targets goal reductions of Total Phosphorus to each of the three major watersheds draining to impaired surface waters listed on the State of Minnesota 303 D list: Lake St. Croix, Lily Lake, and Perro Creek. From 2015 to 2020, table 6.6 of the MSCWMO Watershed Management Plan identifies a total target of 70.1 lbs. of total phosphorus load reduction to be completed by voluntary retrofitting. To date, 49 water quality improvement projects have been installed totaling an estimated annual total phosphorus reduction of 228.1 lbs. Four projects were installed in 2021.

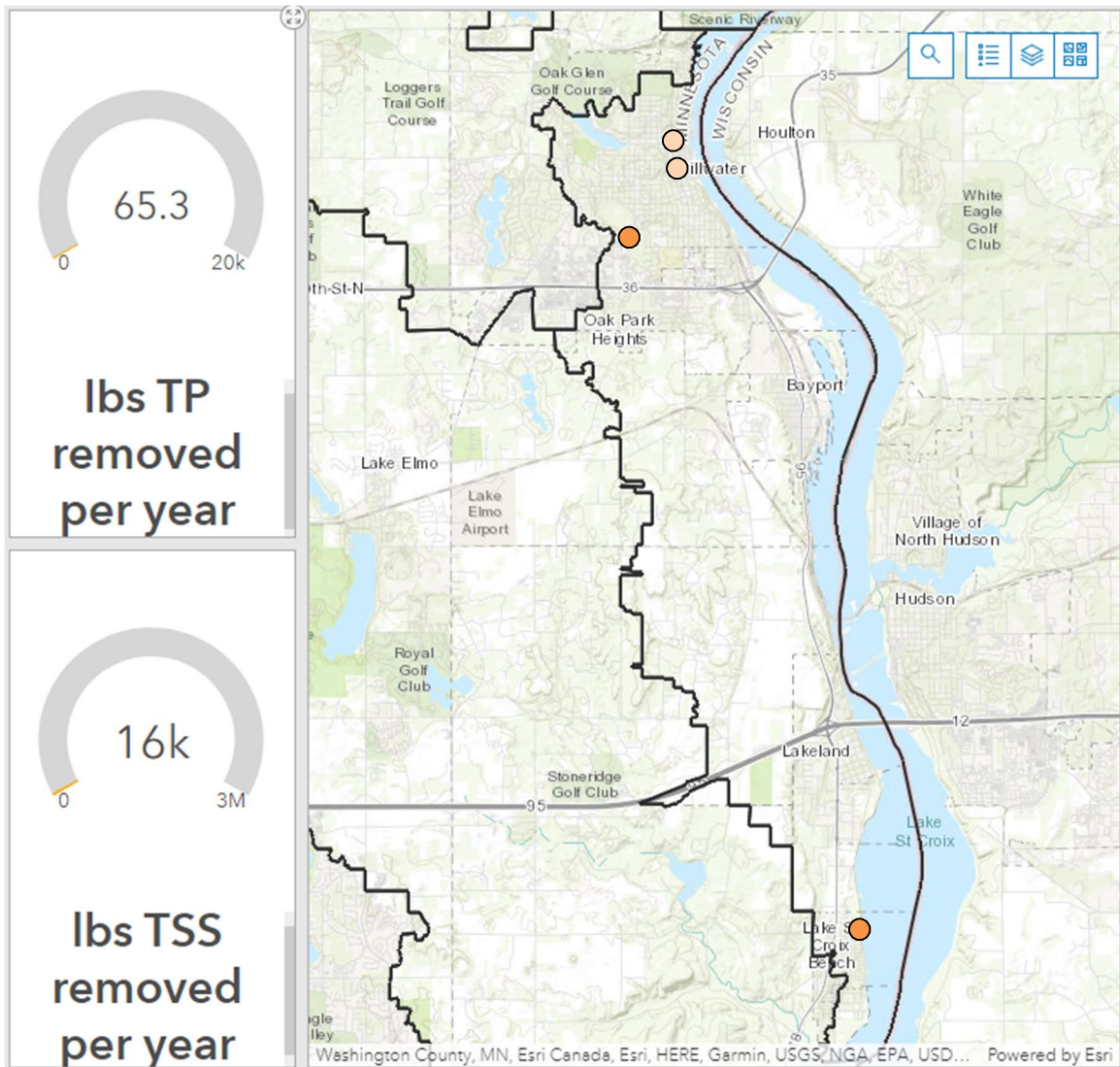


Table 4: MSCWMO Water Quality Retrofits and Total Phosphorous Load Reductions of Permanent Stormwater Best Management Practices Estimated with the MIDS Calculator.

Year	Total Projects Installed	Total BMP Estimated TP Reduction (lbs./yr.)	Targeted Subwatersheds
2015	17	17.3	Lake St. Croix and McKusick
2016	3	48.8	Lake St. Croix and Perro
2017	5	10.1	Lake St. Croix and Lily
2018	6	56.3	Lake St. Croix and Lily
2019	7	39.4	Lake St. Croix and Lily
2020	4	0.8	Lake St. Croix and Perro
2021	4	65.3	Lake St. Croix and Lily

Best Management Practices and Subwatershed Implementation Program

The MSCWMO continues to seek partnerships to construct high-performing and low-cost stormwater best management practices identified in its subwatershed analyses. In 2021, four projects were completed that were either identified in a subwatershed analysis or located in priority direct drainages that were part of these analyses. These projects received state and local funding to design and construct:

Projects that were installed in 2021:

- Lily Lake Infiltration Basin, Lily Lake Subwatershed
- Lake St Croix Beach Bluff Restoration, Lake St. Croix Subwatershed
- 2x Private landowner Native Plantings, Stillwater in the Lake St. Croix Subwatershed

The following is a summary of work that was completed in 2021:

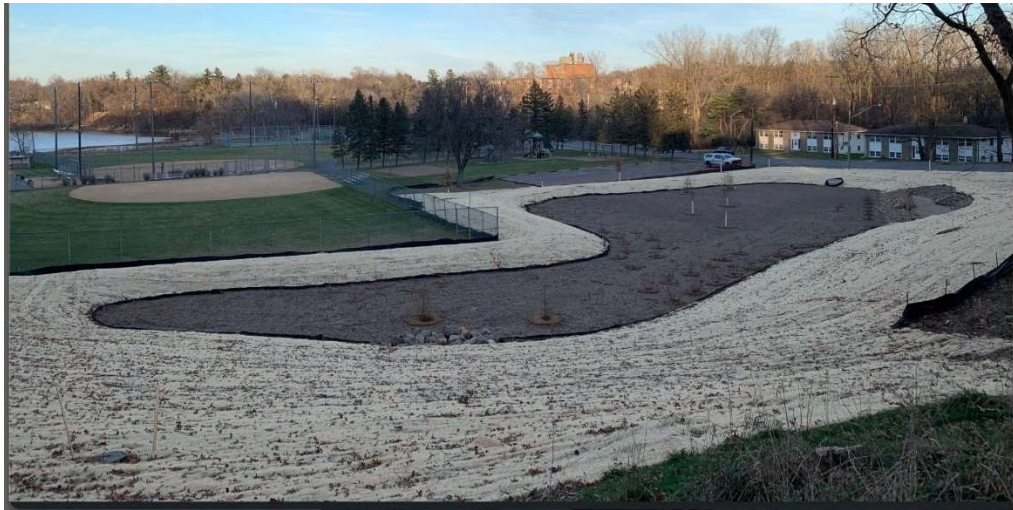
Lake St. Croix Beach – Bluff Toe Stabilization:

In 2018 the MSCWMO completed the Lake St. Croix Direct South Subwatershed Analysis and was successful at securing a 2019 Clean Water Fund (CWF) Grant and a 2019 St. Croix River Association Grant to design and install high priority projects identified in the report. 404 linear feet of bluff stabilization was constructed in coordination with the city of Lake St. Croix Beach utilizing 2019 CWF, 2019 Watershed Based Funding (WBF) and city funds in 2020. The project, finished in spring of 2021, stabilized the toe of the bluff and will reduce total phosphorus (TP) to the river by 34 lbs per year.



Lily Lake Infiltration Basin, Stillwater:

In 2018 the MSCWMO completed the Lily Lake Delisting Roadmap which identifies projects and treatments to complete the total phosphorus load reductions to Lily Lake and remove it from the impaired waters list by 2022. The final report is located on the MSCWMO website: <http://www.mscwmo.org/subwatershed-assessments>. In 2020 the MSCMWO applied for and received a grant from the Clean Water Fund to install a large-scale infiltration basin at Lily Lake Park and complete an in-lake alum treatment in Lily Lake. A 22,000 sq ft infiltration basin was installed at Lily Lake Park in 2021. The basin will remove 31 lbs of TP from the lake annually. The WMO is currently working with city staff and consultants to complete the alum treatment portion of the project in summer 2022. The project itself will be instrumental in avoiding the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process and potentially delisting the lake for phosphorus impairments.



Middle St Croix Mini-Grant Cost Share program:

The Middle St Croix WMO offers mini-grants (up to \$500) to qualifying landowners to install low cost BMPs in priority areas. The program saw 2 installations and 10 inquiries (likely future applicants). These were both pollinator friendly lawn conversions in the Lake St Croix Direct watershed, in Stillwater.



Erosion Monitoring Program

The MSCWMO erosion control inspection program was developed to ensure that the policies and performance standards of the MSCWMO were implemented on the ground for qualifying projects. Staff continue to inspect active projects, which were reviewed by the MSCWMO board. The MSCWMO coordinates its inspection program with its member communities and their building/permit inspectors.

In 2021, staff conducted 35 erosion control inspections at 12 sites, and worked with non-compliant sites to improve compliance. A new project plan review and erosion control inspection database was developed to improve communication among staff and with project contacts. The database also increased efficiency by reducing the time required to conduct inspections by approximately 30%.

BMP Inspections and Maintenance

The MSCWMO BMP Inspection and Tracking Database was developed to ensure that the installed practices are meeting functional and aesthetic expectations. In 2021, 60 MSCWMO projects were inspected. Utilizing the Washington Conservation District Maintenance Crew, Minnesota Conservation Corps, and volunteer effort, maintenance was performed on BMPs that are municipalities' responsibility to maintain.

The watershed also worked in partnership with the East Metro Water Resource Education Program, Sustainable Stillwater, the Lily Lake Association, and the Stillwater Foundation to develop and Pilot an Adopt a Raingarden Program in Stillwater. The program will continue in 2022.



Groundwater

The MSCWMO continued to recognize the Washington County Groundwater Plan during 2021 and continued to participate in County wide technical advisory committee meetings to prioritize implementation and identify responsible parties for specific activities.

Local Government Controls

The MSCWMO continued to work with its member communities to strengthen water quality and natural resource management. Through a Clean Water Fund Accelerated Implementation grant the MSCWMO assisted its member communities to update their local controls. In 2018 all communities except Stillwater adopted Minimum Impact Design Standards (MIDS) into local ordinance and code. All communities will continue to participate in the MSCWMO's project review program. The City of Stillwater has adopted MIDS standards by resolution in 2019 but has not codified.

One Watershed One Plan

In 2021, the MSCWMO has worked collaboratively with 15 local governments participating in the Lower St. Croix One Water One Plan planning efforts. The MSCWMO will continue to work collaboratively to implement a coordinated management plan on the large HUC 8 basin scale.

Information and Education Program

Shared Water Resource Educator

The MSCWMO continues to participate in the shared East Metro Water Resource Education Program (EMWREP). During 2021, EMWREP pivoted to a remote education style in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Emphasis was placed on remote workshops, independent educational events and socially distanced activities when permitted.

In 2021, MSCWMO conducted the following education activities:

- Continuing to promote the Adopt a Drain program and recruit new volunteers
 - There are 158 storm drains adopted in Middle St. Croix WMO
 - Adopters reported collecting 579lb of debris that would have otherwise entered storm drains and been transported to water resources in the WMO.
 - Sustainable Stillwater provided support to the program on implementation and recruitment.
- Continuing to support and train Minnesota Water Stewards
 - Gabriel Currell is a Water Steward for Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization and an active member of the Lake St. Croix Citizens Environmental Group. For his capstone project, Gabriel converted his conventional lawn into a pollinator and water-friendly native landscape that could serve as a model for other homes in Lake St. Croix Beach.
 - Sally Arnesen is a MN Water Steward in Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization with a passion for protecting the St. Croix River. Sally first got involved with the WMO when she was involved in a City of Lakeland project to stabilize an eroding bluff along the river. A native plant enthusiast, she transformed her own property, city right-of-way and public space with native plants. Most recently, she has joined the board of the Wild Rivers Conservancy of the St. Croix and Namekagon (formerly the St. Croix River Association).
 - Barb Bickford and Mike McCarthy are Master Water Stewards for the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization. Since becoming a Water Steward, Barb has become active in the Friends of Lily Lake organization and has put her professional experience in strategic planning and meeting facilitation to good use, helping to lead visioning sessions for both Lily Lake and the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District. Mike developed a plan to divide the woods around the lake into quadrants and engage neighbors to remove buckthorn and "adopt" a section of the woods to care for on a regular basis. In 2021, Barb and Mike have removed buckthorn and planted over 100 trees and shrubs on their lot. They have also been leading the Friends of Lily Lake's public visioning effort about how to enjoy and care for Lily Lake.
- Continuing to coordinate Adopt a Rain garden
 - There are 55 rain gardens adopted in Stillwater and Oak Park Heights.
 - Volunteers commit to removing weeds, litter, and built-up sediment during the growing season and reporting larger maintenance concerns to staff at Washington Conservation District.

- In 2021, EMWREP updated the adopt-a-raingarden map and continued to collaborate with Sustainable Stillwater MN to engage Adopt a Raingarden volunteers and ensure that gardens are well-maintained.
- In 2021, EMWREP held workshops via webinar on the following topics:
 - Pollinator habitat plantings (Jan. 18) – 95 participants
 - [Shorelines and buffer maintenance](#) (Feb. 25) – 92 participants (+ 303 on YouTube)
 - Building climate resiliency (March 10) – 30 participants
 - Shorelines and buffer maintenance (April 29) – 103 participants
 - [Raingarden design and maintenance](#) (May 11) – 53 participants (+ 51 on YouTube)
 - Shoreline properties for realtors (May 26) – 66 participants
 - [Healthy lawns and lawn alternatives](#) (July 7) – 13 participants (+ 12 on YouTube)
 - [Bee lawns & lawn alternatives](#) (Sept. 15) – 108 participants (+ 90 on YouTube)
 - [Creating pockets of habitat with native plants](#) (Sept. 21) – 100 participants (+70 on YouTube)
 - [Bird-friendly yards](#) (Oct. 5) – 25 participants
 - [Managing woodlands for resiliency](#) (Oct. 20) – 55 participants (+17 on YouTube)
 - [Wetlands habitat and management](#) (Nov. 9) – 50 participants (+21 on YouTube)
- EMWREP published 52 articles in the Stillwater Gazette on a variety of topics. Articles about MSCWMO projects and issues included:
 - [Tracking the health of lakes in Washington County](#) – Feb. 4
“During 2020, Washington Conservation District monitored water quality on 71 lakes in Washington County. Here’s what recent data tell us about five local lakes.”
 - [Two miles, three raingardens, and 100 feet of native buffer: Charting Perro Creek’s journey to cleaner water and better health](#) – March 18
“Local partners including City of Bayport, the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO), and even area Girl Scouts have worked to reduce erosion and improve water quality in Perro Creek through a series of projects including raingardens and native buffer plantings.”
 - [Bee Lawns are Green Lawns](#) – July 22
“Unlike typical lawns, bee-friendly lawns feature a mix of drought-tolerant fine fescue grasses and low-growing flowers such as Dutch white clover, creeping thyme, and self-heal.”
 - [New project aims to take Lily Lake off the impaired water’s list](#) – Sept. 30
“A new regional infiltration basin will collect and filter stormwater from a large area of land that includes commercial and residential property, delivering it to Lily Lake cleaner and with less phosphorus.”
 - [PFAS contamination works its way to the St. Croix River](#) – Nov. 11, 2021
“Six water bodies in Washington County will likely be added to the state’s impaired waters list due to perfluorinated alkylated substances (PFAS), also known as the “forever chemical.” The affected waters include Tanners Lake (Oakdale), Eagle Point wetland and H.J. Brown Pond (Lake Elmo Park Reserve), Clear Lake (City of Forest Lake) and the St. Croix River/Lake St. Croix from Taylors Falls to Prescott.”
 - [Fifty-three Minnesota lakes and streams to be de-listed in 2022](#) – Nov. 18, 2021

“Local lakes scheduled to be delisted next year include East Boot (May Twp), Echo (Mahtomedi), Hay and Jellums (Scandia), Lily and South Twin (Stillwater), and Plaisted (Hugo).”

- **Sustainable Stillwater recognized as Washington County’s 2021 Community Conservationist** – Dec. 16, 2021
“Sustainable Stillwater’s Natural Resources team has helped to recruit 45 raingarden adopters and 218 storm drain adopters. They have also engaged volunteers to stencil storm drains, weed and clean-out a native shoreline buffer at Lily Lake, and install cigarette disposal canisters in downtown Stillwater.”
- Videos about Lily Lake infiltration basin and delisting
 - This [2-min video](#) was also included in the [Lower St. Croix Virtual Tour](#)
 - This [1-min TikTok video](#) gained 10.5k views

The MSCWMO will continue providing funding and staff time to support EMWREP in 2022.

A full report of EMWREP activities completed in 2021 can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.mnwcd.org/s/2021-EMWREP-Annual-Report.pdf>

Website

The MSCWMO continued to update its website in 2021. The website contains up to date meeting dates, agendas, minutes, annual reports, water monitoring information, contact information and more. In addition, the website also contains a section for grant reporting which highlights projects completed as part of the BWSR Clean Water Legacy Program. The website also contains a tab for project review applications which provides all necessary information on the MSCWMO’s project review process. The MSCWMO website can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.mscwmo.org>

2021 Data Collection Program

Water Quality Monitoring Program

In 2021 the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) continued condition monitoring and water quality and elevation biweekly on McKusick Lake and Lily Lake. Information from the Brown’s Creek Diversion Drainage which flows to McKusick Lake is monitored by the Brown’s Creek Watershed District, but resulting information is also provided to the MSCWMO for use in management planning. The MSCWMO established a permanent monitoring station at the storm sewer connection from Brick Pond to Lily Lake. This station will measure the annual volume of water and concentration of phosphorous flowing from Brick Pond to Lily Lake. In 2021 a fully automated monitoring station was established on Perro Creek to better characterize loading from Perro Creek to the St. Croix. The MSCWMO monitored volume and concentration of discharge for both base flow and storm flows from Perro Creek.

Full water monitoring reports can be viewed on our website. The 2021 monitoring report will be available in July of 2022.

<http://www.mscwmo.org/water-monitoring>

2022 WORKPLAN

Best Management Practices Program

The MSCWMO will continue to promote its Best Management Practices Program in 2022. The MSCWMO will continue to work to engage landowners in the Lily Lake, McKusick Lake, Perro Creek, Lake St. Croix Direct Discharge North and South subwatersheds.

Subwatershed Analyses and Implementation

In 2022 the MSCWMO will continue working with the City of Stillwater, City of Bayport, City of Lake St. Croix Beach, other member communities, MnDOT, and private landowners to design and install targeted stormwater quality best management practices identified in subwatershed analyses. The MSCWMO received Clean Water Fund Grants to implement the findings of the Lake St Croix Direct Discharge (South) SWA and the Lily Lake watershed. Design and construction for priority locations in the southern half of the watershed will commence in 2022. The Lily Lake grant is moving forward with completion of an infiltration basin at Lily Lake Park and a subsequent in-lake alum treatment.

Water Monitoring

The MSCWMO will continue water quality condition monitoring program for Lily and McKusick Lakes and Perro Creek. The MSCWMO will be expanding the data and water quality samples collected on Perro Creek in 2021 to include a continuous monitoring station. The MSCWMO has contracted with the Washington Conservation District to complete monitoring and reporting again in 2021. The MSCWMO is planning to apply for funding to monitor the volume and concentration flowing out from the Mulberry Ravine and select stormwater outfalls in the City of Stillwater discharging directly into Lake St. Croix.

Public Education and Outreach Programs

The MSCWMO will continue to participate in the East Metro Water Resource Education Program. The activities and programs offered through this partnership will help MSCWMO meet its goals for education and outreach.

Lower St. Croix One Watershed One Plan

The MSCWMO will continue to work collaboratively with 15 units of government charged with water governance in the Lower St. Croix HUC8 watershed to implement a coordinated management plan.

Development Plan Reviews and Erosion Control Inspection Program; MSCWMO Policies and Performance Standards

The MSCWMO will continue to review qualifying projects for consistency with the 2015 Watershed Management Plan, and will continue to coordinate its review process with its member communities. Staff will also continue to inspect current and past projects to ensure erosion control practices are implemented, and stormwater management features are functioning as planned. The MSCWMO will promote trainings and events that will improve performance on future projects.

Website Update and Maintenance

The MSCWMO continues to update and maintain its website.

APPENDIX A

2021 Annual Communications

AFTON

The City of Afton is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Afton to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the MSCWMO watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Annie Perkins, the City of Afton appointed MSCWMO Board Manager at 651-592-3007.

BAYPORT

The City of Bayport is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Perro Creek and Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Bayport to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering Perro Creek and the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Council Member John Dahl the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 651-439-7312.

BAYTOWN TOWNSHIP

Baytown Township is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to Baytown Township to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Township Board Member Avis Peters, the Township appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 651-430-8163.

LAKELAND

The City of Lakeland is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Lakeland to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Mayor Joe Paiement, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 651-206-5200.

LAKELAND SHORES

The City of Lakeland Shores is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Lakeland Shores to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Brian Zeller, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 612-325-3038.

LAKE ST CROIX BEACH

The City of Lake St. Croix Beach is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Lake St. Croix Beach to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Mayor Tom McCarthy, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 651-436-7031.

OAK PARK HEIGHTS

The City of Oak Park Heights is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Perro Pond and Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Oak Park Heights to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering Perro Pond or St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Council Member Mike Runk, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at (651) 439-5458.

ST. MARY'S POINT

The City of St. Mary's Point is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake

MIDDLE ST. CROIX WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of St. Mary's Point to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Council Member Beth Olfelt-Nelson, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 612-417-5394.

STILLWATER

The City of Stillwater is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lily Lake, Lake McKusick, and Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to the City of Stillwater to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering Lily Lake, Lake McKusick, or the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Council Member Ryan Collins, the City appointed Board Manager on the watershed, at 651-246-8264.

WEST LAKELAND TOWNSHIP

West Lakeland Township is one of ten member communities of the Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) that collectively works to improve the water quality of Lake St. Croix. The MSCWMO provides educational, technical, and financial assistance to West Lakeland Township to effectively manage water resources. They also partner with the Washington Conservation District to provide design and cost share assistance for voluntary conservation projects on private lands that reduce sediment and phosphorous pollution entering the St. Croix River. If you are considering a conservation project on your property or have any questions about the watershed please contact Matt Downing, Administrator of the MSCWMO at mdowning@mnwcd.org or Board Member Dan Kylo, the Township appointed Board Manager and Treasurer for the watershed, at 612-436-1134.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Downing, Administrator
FROM: Rebecca Nestingen, PE
DATE: March 3, 2022

RE: 8a) Plan Reviews/Submittals

The following is a summary of recent activity on projects submittals which qualify for plan review under the MSCWMO 2015 Watershed Management Plan (WMP):

- **MN Party Bus.** The applicant was notified after the September MSCWMO meeting by the City of Lakeland Shores that they were not in compliance with their approved site plan and permit. City staff requested the MSCWMO take the lead on enforcement related to permit compliance. MSCWMO staff met with the applicant on September 23rd and informed them that their options were to:
 - Remove the impervious and grading that were done to the conditions that were on their approved plan
 - **OR**
 - Revise and resubmit an application showing how the stormwater requirements for the site can be met in a different manner

The applicant retained the designer of the original site plan to make modifications and complete the resubmittal. The resubmittal was reviewed and did not meet MSCWMO design standards to the applicant was requested to revise and resubmit. The designer has requested assistance with design from MSCWMO.

- **Baylon Boathouse.** Solution Blue submitted a project review application on January 19th, 2022 for a boathouse reconstruction at 165 Lakeland Shores Road, West Lakeland Township, MN. The project is within the St. Croix Riverway but does not add any impervious therefore permanent stormwater management BMPs were not required. There are a number of concerns with the project not meeting the Washington County Lower St. Croix Bluffland and Shoreland Management ordinance and Floodplain Management ordinance. The project will likely require a variance and conditional use permit from the County Zoning Administrator. The ESC plan is also lacking and does not meet all MSCWMO standards. *MSCWMO staff recommends revise and resubmit to meet ESC standards and demonstrate compliance or obtain variances to County Development Code.*
- **Jambois Hillside Lift.** The property owner Louis Jambois submitted a project review application on January 25th, 2022 for a hillside lift at 447 Quixote Ave N, Lakeland, MN. The project is within the St. Croix Riverway but does not add more than 500 square feet of impervious therefore permanent stormwater management BMPs were not required. A MSCWMO project review is triggered by construction within the bluffline. An ESC plan meeting MSCWMO standards was not provided. *MSCWMO staff recommends revise and resubmit with an ESC plan meeting MSCWMO standards.*
- **Burton Walls and Patio.** The MSCWMO received project review submittal materials on August 27th, 2021 for the repair and replacement of failing retaining walls and the construction of a new patio at 313 Quixote Ave N in Lakeland Shores. The MSCWMO staff meet with the project applicant on August 31st and advised the applicant the MSCWMO prohibits construction within 40 feet of the top of blufflines and requires BMPs to achieve volume control when 500 square feet or more of

impervious surface is added. The applicant is attempting to revise the project scope so that less than 500 square feet of impervious surface is added and construction within the 40 foot bluffline setback is limited to repair/replacement of existing retaining walls and minimal soil disturbance/grading. Additional materials were provided for review on March 1st 2022 and are currently under review.



Staff Report- February 2022

Administration

- Prepared March meeting materials
- Coordination of Grant and Permit Program
- Completed 2021 Annual Report Draft
- Worked with staff and board transitions

Project Reviews

- MN Party Bus-**INFORM**
- Baylon Boathouse-**INFORM**
- Jambois Hillside Lift-**INFORM**
- Burton Walls and Patio-**INFORM**

Lily Lake Phosphorus Reductions for Delisting – CWF Grant C20-6055

Description: Awarded \$513,500 for in-lake alum treatment and filtration basin to remove 120lbs of phosphorus from Lily Lake.

Activities This Month: Basin is 95% constructed, made partial payment to the contractor. Preliminary planting was done last fall, final planting and minor punchlist items will be done in the spring. Coordination with Sustainable Stillwater for planting started. Alum treatment monitoring plan has been finalized.

Staff: Bryan Pynn-WCD; Matt Downing-MSCWMO

Watershed Based Funding- Lily Lake Raingardens/LSCB Bluff

Description: \$39,636 CWF Watershed Based Funding was reallocated to Lake St Croix Small Communities Phosphorus Reduction CWF grant in 2020.

Activities This Month: Grant has been closed and final payment received.

Staff: Bryan Pynn - WCD

Lake St. Croix Small Communities Phosphorus Reduction Grant – PHASE I

Description: \$200,000 grant for stormwater quality improvement south of Bayport (2019-2021). Partnership with City of Lake St. Croix Beach to stabilize the bluff on the north side of town.

Activities This Month: Grant has been closed and final payment received.

Staff: Bryan Pynn - WCD; Matt Downing – MSCWMO

Lake St. Croix Small Communities Phosphorus Reduction Grant – PHASE II

Description: \$158,000 grant for stormwater quality improvement south of Bayport (2021-2023). Implement practices in the LSCD South SWA area to achieve a load reduction of up to 7lbs of TP/yr.

Activities This Month: SEH completed survey work late December. WCD is working on concepts and will be reaching back out to participants to gauge final interest and get

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contracts signed. Final design and bid packet will proceed after that (mid-March bidding target)

Staff: Bryan Pynn - WCD; Matt Downing - MSCWMO

3M PFAS Settlement MPCA Staff Reimbursement Grant

Description: Up to \$40,000 reimbursement of staff time for both the Administrator and consultant (Stu Grub with EOR) to participate in the development of the groundwater model for the PFAS contamination in the southern portion of the watershed.

Activities This Month: No updates since last meeting.

Staff: Matt Downing, MSCWMO; Stu Grub, EOR

Water Monitoring Program

Description: The MSCWMO water monitoring program includes the monitoring of flow at three sites. These sites have that equipment serves to collect data on the total volume of water flowing into Lily Lake at the Greeley Street Inlet, through Perro Creek at the Diversion Structure, as well as, the Perro Creek Diversion Structure Overflow. Water quality is also collected at the Greeley Street Inlet and the Perro Creek Diversion Structure on a monthly basis, as well as during storm events.

Additionally, the MSCWMO monitors two lakes, Lily and McKusick for several parameters from April-October. Data is collected on both lakes on a biweekly basis and includes: water level, clarity, pH, temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles, an aesthetics and user profile, and field conditions. Additionally, water quality samples are collected from the surface of the lakes and analyzed for total phosphorus, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, and chlorophyll.

Activities This Month: Equipment is being prepared for deployment next month. One stage-velocity sensor was sent to the manufacturer for evaluation and found to be fully functional. Additionally, special planning has been undertaken for pre and post alum treatment sampling on Lily Lake this spring. Data analysis of 2021 lake samples is complete and stream sample analysis is underway. All sample results will be presented in the 2021 monitoring summary.

Staff: Rebecca Oldenburg, WCD; Aaron DeRusha, WCD

Erosion and Sediment Control Inspections

Description: The MSCWMO has contracted with the WCD to conduct erosion and sediment control inspections for construction projects that have been reviewed and recommended for permit approval by partner communities.

Activities This Month: None.

Staff: Aaron DeRusha, WCD

BMP Maintenance

Description: The MSCWMO has a maintenance obligation for its Capital Improvement Projects and projects funded by Clean Water Fund grants. The MSCWMO partners with the Washington Conservation District to fulfill this maintenance requirement.

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Activities this Month: 2021 Inspection Reporting and 2022 Inspection and Maintenance planning with MSCWMO/WCD staff continued to some extent this month. Maintenance for the Stillwater Country Club was discussed for the year and a confirmed burn contract was approved.

Staff: Cameron Blake, WCD

Erosion and Sediment Control Inspection, BMP Project, and Plan Review Database

Description: The MSCWMO has partnered with WCD to develop a new erosion control inspection, BMP project tracking, and project plan review applicant database via ESRI's ArcGIS Online. The database will increase efficiency of erosion control and BMP project reporting, the application process for project plan reviews, and serve as a replacement to the current Mapfeeder software.

Activities this Month: The BMP implementation and summarization module and dashboards are complete. Work on the BMP inspection and maintenance module continues. The plan review and erosion control modules continue to function as designed.

Staff: Rebecca Nestingen, WCD; Aaron DeRusha, WCD

Small Scale Habitat & Water Quality Enhancement Projects

Description: The MSCWMO has requested Conservation Corps crew time under FY22 Clean Water Funding to support small-scale habitat and water quality enhancement projects in 2022. Projects will include a vegetative buffer enhancement along Perro Creek in Bayport, a 215-foot buffer expansion between Riviera Avenue S and the St. Croix River in Lake St. Croix Beach, and a dune/floodplain enhancement along the St. Croix in St. Mary's Point. The MSCWMO has partnered with WCD to develop proposals for each project.

Activities This Month: In process of drafting action plans and proposed budgets for all planned 2022 activities. Will reach out to partners at that point to garner support and sign contracts.

Staff: Bryan Pynn – WCD; Brett Stolpestad – WCD

Meetings

- SCC Maintenance Meeting – February 18th
- BWSR Intro Meeting – February 22nd
- LSC Steering Team – February 23rd
- Lily Lake Basin – March 3rd