

RPBCWD Staff Report –October 2024

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
<b>Annual Report &amp; Communication</b>	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	No change	
<b>DEI</b>	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Staff Mahon is collaborating with other watershed districts in the Watershed Equity Alliance to gather materials and draft an RFP to begin creating a district DEI Plan.	
<b>Advisory</b>	Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management and emerging topics. Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water conservation, annual budget, and emerging topics.	The CAC held a regular meeting on Oct. 21. Minutes will be provided as part of the board packet. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be Nov. 18; guest speaker will be Karli Wittner, Forestry & Natural Resources Supervisor, City of Eden Prairie. CAC members have been invited to tour the Spring Road property along with the managers on Oct. 22.	
<b>Local SWMP</b>	Review of member cities local surface water management plan.	<p>Bloomington 2018-2027            Chanhassen 2016-2025            Chaska 2015-2024            Deephaven 2015-2024            Eden Prairie 2021-2030            Minnetonka 2020-2029            Shorewood 2019-2028</p> <p>Minnetonka adopted their minor plan amendment.            Chaska submitted a plan amendment for review. They are updating their H&amp;H to include Atlas 14 and some of their rate control regulations. The plan still defers to the district for administration of their regulatory program.</p>	
District-Wide	Description	Update	Partners
<b>Regulatory Program</b>	Review regulatory program to maximize efficiency. Engage Technical Advisory Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee on possible rule change. Implement a regulatory program.	Administrator Jeffery, Staff Nicklay, Engineer Sobiech, and Counsel Welch met to discuss near term updates to the regulatory program. Engineer Sobiech and Administrator Jeffery will meet to draft proposed changes to bring to the board for consideration prior to convening the TAC for further vetting.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie University of Minnesota MN DNR Carver County

<p><b>Cost-Share</b></p>	<p>Schedule and coordinate site visits. Review applications and recommend implementation. Evaluate program.</p>	<p>The Stewardship Grant program currently has 13 active projects. 40 site visits have been or are scheduled to be completed since requests opened March 1<sup>st</sup>. The program closed for applications on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Staff Forbes and Staff Mahon are evaluating the grant program and drafting proposed changes for 2025. Staff Mahon met with staff from NMCWD and the City of Minnetonka to discuss how the WDs grant programs and the City's Resilient Minnetonka program can work together in 2025 and beyond. RPBCWD offered registration reimbursement for the 2024 Salt Symposium to all public works departments of our partner cities. Two cities (Shorewood and Eden Prairie) participated in the offer.</p>	<p>Carver Soil &amp; Water Conservation District</p>
<p><b>Data Collection</b></p>	<p>Continue Data Collection at permanent sites. Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. Identify monitoring sites to assess future project sites. Water Level Sensors. Lake and Stream Monitoring.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council (METC) - Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP): Regular samples were collected this month every other week and after rain events. Regular lake and stream sampling has been occurring every other week and has wrapped up this month. Zooplankton and Phytoplankton sampling occurred once a month on Susan, Riley, Rice Marsh, Lotus, and Staring. Phytoplankton samples were submitted to Barr and results have been received. Additional water sampling parameters for 2024 are total alum on lakes that received alum and TSS on Rice Marsh Lake. These extra parameters will help assess alum and sediment movement in the water column. District staff conducted creek walks on Reach R2-Riley Creek from Lake Riley to Eden Prairie Road and PT1-Purgatory Creek Highway 101 above Hwy 7 to Purgatory Creek mainstem. One more reach will likely be completed this fall. Staff Hartmann recently created a Survey 123™ survey forms for creek walks, score the shore, and aquatic veg delineation surveys. This will allow for quicker processing of the data and better long-term tracking moving forward. Lake level sensors are checked monthly during the summer. They record water level every 30 minutes and assist with modeling and tracking over time. They will be pulled in November. Lotus Lake alum treatment was completed in the first week in October. Staff conducted extensive monitoring for nutrients and vertical profiles throughout the treatment. Staff also collected additional water samples for a grad student in the Finlay Lab at the U of MN who is looking at</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council City of Eden Prairie University of MN City of Chanhassen MN DNR City of Minnetonka Three Rivers Park District</p>

		<p>nitrogen cycling. The treatment went well and secchi disk reading improved from 0.9m to 1.25m post treatment which highlights phosphorus being stripped from the water column upon application. Staff have begun the process of gathering ice out/in data from lake associations members. This data will be helpful in assessing climatic changes over time and how those shifts affect lake characteristics.</p> <p>Lori Haak, Water Resources Coordinator of the City of Eden Prairie will be presenting at National Association of Lake Management Society meeting in Lake Tahoe, Californian on chloride issues facing Eden Prairie. District data will be highlighted from the Purgatory Creek Chain of lakes and credit will be given.</p> <p>District staff went back out to the pond that has pennywort on 10/07/2024 located in Eden Prairie to assess growth. Pennywort was again found in the primary pond along the northwest corner like previously found. The plants near the culvert were creeping out from the water's edge, into the pond. It is noteworthy that we removed two plants that were very close to the upper pond suggesting a potential expansion into the additional pond is a real possibility. Some floating rafts of unattached plants in the middle of the pond were also removed. District staff scanned the pond very meticulously and pulled out every plant that was discovered. While the biomass appears to be much reduced from 2023, there were still numerous plants found. We were able to remove what we found but removals will likely need to occur for the next couple of years and see if a few more MN winters will reduce biomass further.</p> <p>Common carp electrofishing adult monitoring activities were completed this month. Staff Hein entered all fisheries data into the appropriate databases. This data will be processed and submitted to the DNR and annual report.</p> <p>Staff Hartmann and Alaina Portuguese updated the score the shore database to future proof and make it more efficient when updating.</p>	
<p><b>District Hydrology &amp; Hydraulics Model</b></p>	<p>Coordinate maintenance of Hydrology and Hydraulics Model.  Coordinate model update with LGUs if additional information is collected.  Partner and implement with the City of Bloomington on Flood Evaluation and</p>	<p>No updates at this time.</p>	<p>City of Bloomington  City of Minnetonka  City of Eden Prairie</p>

	Water Quality Feasibility.		City of Deephaven City of Shorewood
<b>Education &amp; Outreach</b>	<p>Implement Education &amp; Outreach Plan, review at year end.</p> <p>Manage partnership activities with other organizations.</p> <p>Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.</p>	<p>Staff continue to update the district website as needed. Evaluation is underway to determine organization and content needs.</p> <p>Staff Monahan continues to receive inquiries via the district website “Contact Us” form.</p> <p>Staff Forbes continues to upload open sessions of recorded board meetings to the <a href="#">RPBCWD YouTube channel</a>.</p> <p>Staff Mahon continues to meet monthly with the 2 new RPBCWD stewards in this year’s Minnesota Water Stewards program through Freshwater Society.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery and Seth Ristow, CCSWCD have been working with one of the stewards on the design of a biofiltration basin on the campus of a local church in Eden Prairie.</p> <p>Staff Mahon and Staff Portoghese led a classroom activity with 60 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at St Hubert Catholic School on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Students sorted through macroinvertebrates and used their findings to determine the health of Purgatory Creek.</p> <p>Nearly 100 tree and shrub saplings from the RPBCWD’s Gravel Bed Program were distributed to district residents on October 16<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>The 2024 Photo Contest closed on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Winning photographs will be featured in the RPBCWD 2025 Calendar, currently in development.</p> <p>The shoreland health web map developed by Staff Portoghese from data and information developed by Staff Hartmann and Staff Maxwell has been shared with lake associations. Staff Forbes developed a new webpage, <a href="http://rpbcwd.org/shoreland-health">rpbcwd.org/shoreland-health</a>, to provide background information and to serve as a launching point for the web map. This data will be updated shortly to include Round Lake and work out some kinks to make it easier for updating in the future.</p> <p>Staff Maxwell presented at the Mitchell Lake Association’s annual meeting on Oct. 10.</p>	<p>Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Bolton &amp; Menk Freshwater Society City of Chanhassen City of Minnetonka</p>

		<p>Administrator Jeffery and Lori Haak, Eden Prairie, have been meeting quarterly with the Mitchell Lake Association. Staff Forbes and Staff Maxwell represented the RPBCWD at the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Administrator Jeffery presented at the Lotus Lake Conservation Alliance annual meeting on Oct. 10.</p> <p>Staff Maxwell provided a water quality exercise and lesson plan to the University of Minnesota Water and Natural Resources Management class. Improvements were made to the exercise for future use.</p> <p>Staff Maxwell presented at the Mitchell Lake Association and answered questions from members. Main presentation topics included shallow lakes and the importance of aquatic plants along with a general lake update.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery presented at the Lotus Lake Association and answered questions from members. Main presentation topics included the Fluridone™ treatment, alum treatment, Lotus Lake stormwater projects, and an update on the general lake condition.</p> <p>Staff Portoghese is developing a public-facing map depicting aquatic vegetation point-intercept data throughout district lakes. This map will be available on the website when completed.</p>	
<p><b>Groundwater Conservation</b></p>	<p>Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps.</p> <p>Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects.</p> <p>Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).</p>	<p>Barr is preparing quote solicitations for well advancement.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery continues working with partner cities to garner agreements to advance wells on municipal owned properties.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech will be meeting with the Public Works Directors, et al for Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, and Minnetonka on 9/27 to discuss objectives and implications of the proposed monitoring program.</p> <p>The communities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Edina, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield, and Saint Louis Park intend to develop a regional, multi-community wellhead protection plan for our shared groundwater resources. The goal of the plan is to work collaboratively to prevent human introduced contamination from entering water supply wells.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council Cities' of Eden Prairie, Shorewood, Bloomington, Minnetonka, and Chanhassen</p>

<b>Lake Vegetation Management</b>	<p>Work with the University of Minnesota or Aquatic Plant Biologist, Cities of Chanhassen and Eden Prairie, lake associations, and residents as well as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on potential treatments.</p> <p>Implement herbicide treatment as needed.</p> <p>Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators.</p> <p>Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys.</p> <p>Work with Three Rivers Park District for Hyland Lake.</p>	<p>Staff Hartmann and Maxwell have been working on compiling all historical Point Intercept data into one place so it can be easily analyzed and compared over time. Staff Portoghese has been mapping this data and creating content that will eventually be available on the website.</p>	<p>Eden Prairie Chanhassen University of Minnesota MN DNR</p>
<b>Opportunity Projects</b>	<p>Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District</p>	<p>Administrator Jeffery and Engineer Sobiech, as presented to the Board of Managers at the Budget Workshops, is recommending that opportunity projects be eliminated. Given that any projects originating from this fund would still need to be included as a plan amendment, it is more efficient to simply put these funds into reserve and use them as opportunities arise that the managers feel are a prudent and efficient expenditure of funds.</p>	<p>All local units of government and all special units of government.</p>
<b>Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS)</b>	<p>Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS).</p>	<p>Draft Mississippi River – Lake Pepin Tributaries Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy Report Update 2024 was released for comment. Comments are due October 3, 2024. Administrator Jeffery, Engineer Sobiech, and Counsel Welch are all reviewing the document and will provide comments as appropriate.</p>	<p>MPCA BWSR Others</p>
<b>Repair &amp; Maintenance Fund</b>	<p>Develop and formalize grant program. Maintenance of RPBCWD BMPs</p>	<p>One common theme heard from all departments of all municipalities is that long-term maintenance of practices installed on city land, especially emerging practices or those requiring special knowledge to maintain creates hesitance in wanting to implement. It may be in the interest of the RPBCWD and the resources we are charged with managing to develop a model to mitigate these concerns.</p>	<p>Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood;</p>
<b>University of Minnesota</b>	<p>Review and monitor progress on University of Minnesota grant.</p>	<p>Professor John Gulliver reached out to Administrator Jeffery on October 30<sup>th</sup> about a proposal for the MN Stormwater Research Council to test the</p>	<p>Stormwater ponds</p>

	<p>Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners.</p> <p>Keep the manager abreast of progress in the research.</p> <p>Identify next management steps.</p>	<p>efficacy of aeration on phosphorous release from pond sediment.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery has requested additional information.</p>	<p>partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN</p>
<b>Watershed Plan</b>	<p>Review and identify needs for amendments.</p>	<p>Administrator Jeffery and Fred Rozumalski (Barr) presented the draft EHAP at the MN Water Resources Conference.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery and Thrive Consultancy will present a workshop on visioning for the next plan development on December 12<sup>th</sup>. This session will focus on reviewing the existing mission statement and developing the new mission statement.</p> <p>Administrator Jeffery, Staff Maxwell, Staff Hartmann, Engineer Sobiech, and Joe Bischoff will be kicking off the lake management planning effort in late November.</p>	
<b>Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)</b>	<p>Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven.</p> <p>Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.</p>	<p>A pre-work meeting was held to assess the proposed work to be done on the first of the Lake Lucy Lane violations on October 17, specifically work that would be done by the owners of the western property in the violation. This work includes filling of part of the ditch running parallel to Lake Lucy Lane, as well as work on the other ditch at the upstream section within the wooded area. Project plans were discussed, as well as how the landowners should move forward with work given the District and City were waiting for the other landowners in the violation to complete several steps in their permitting process.</p> <p>Second violation identified off Lake Lucy Lane info to-date: The City of Chanhassen/TEP and District noticed a second possible wetland violation/ditching of a wetland in the same area as the above Lake Lucy Lane violation at the time they started investigating and pursuing regulatory action for said violation in 2022. Work done on this probable violation consists of an excavated ditch adjacent to/within a shallow marsh wetland and also within the City's drainage utility easement, causing lateral effects on said wetland. The City had sent a certified letter on October 9, 2022 to the landowner informing them of the probable violation, to which they received an email back from the property owner (October 20, 2022) informing the City that the letter did not apply to them. The City continued to receive complaints about</p>	<p>City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR A COE</p>

work being done on the property. On September 8, 2023, City and Carver County SWCD staff visited the property and left info with contact info (there was no one home). A subsequent email was sent to the property owner on September 13, 2023 requesting them to contact the city to discuss the work being done on their property. No response was received. The TEP reviewed the site during several meetings over the course of this time, reviewing aerial photos of the site and discussing ways to get in contact with the property owner and next steps when the owner did not respond. On May 15, 2024 the City sent another letter summarizing what had happened during the investigation of this probable violation. The certified letter stated the landowner had until May 31, 2024 to respond or the DNR would be issuing a cease-and-desist order. There was an issue with sending the letter and the City had to resend, it with updated respond deadlines, but it was signed for and received. During the June 4, 2024 the TEP discussed next actions seeing that there was no response to the letter and a cease-and-desist would need to be issued. The landowner was located at another property outside of the District. A MnDNR officer served the landowner with a cease and desist order on July 23, 2024. The officer let the City know that the landowner expressed a strong desire Not to speak with the City staff. The City Water Resource Coordinator has since been in contact with the landowner and was able to visit the site with them to review the extent of the work/violation. Upon meeting with them, the landowner assured the City that they only meant to control excess water and invasive vegetation with the work. They are now seemingly ready to work with the City to resolve this violation and restore the wetland as quickly as possible. The City, TEP and District will be discussing how to move forward with addressing this violation and resolving it a quickly and smoothly as possible.

Staff Dickhausen reviewed WCA several applications received by the city of Eden Prairie, include conducting site visits as a part of the TEP.

On October 21, Staff Dickhausen visited the site of a future bridge replacement on Pioneer Trail where the road crosses the Mn River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail, south of Lake Riley. The delineated boundaries represented the actual wetland area. After confirming with other members of the TEP and the City, it was determined that all agreed and the boundaries were accurate.



		<p>On October 29, Staff Dickhausen met on site with the city to review two wetland delineations and a no wetland determination.</p> <p>The first delineation was of two wetlands along Purgatory Creek, one just on the upstream side of Staring Lake, the other just on the downstream side of Staring Lake. Both sites are at points where future walking bridge improvements are slated to happen. Boundaries were not marked at either site, and the delineator did not show up for the visit. Staff Dickhausen and City staff determined that given the position and elevation of the northern wetland, it would fall under DNR jurisdiction. Boundaries seemed easily identifiable, but would need confirmation that their delineated boundaries lined up with what was seen during the site visit. There were some low areas of interest at the southern site that appeared to be outside of the delineated boundaries. Staff Dickhausen and city staff agreed that if these areas were not within the delineated area, they would need to be re-assessed and if determined to not be wetland, the delineator would need to provide defense of why they are not included. This information would then be reviewed again by the TEP.</p> <p>The second delineation was another boundary determination of the wetland at the northeast end of the Eden Prairie City Center Property. It was agreed that the delineated area was accurate.</p> <p>The no wetland determination was on a piece of land at Martin Dr. And Venture Lane. After reviewing the site and areas were sample profiles were assessed, Staff Dickhausen and the City agreed that there was not a wetland on the site.</p>	
<b>Wetland Management</b>	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/ rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Numerous requests for MNRAM scores continue to be made by municipalities and private developers. Any changes in District management classifications for the wetlands (based on QA/QC work and updates due to applications and delineation work done within the District) will be reflected in the future Annual reports.	Chanhassen Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS
<b>Bluff Creek Watershed</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>

<b>Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration</b>	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	Annual maintenance of vegetation establish continues. CRAS scores significantly improved from pre to post restoration signaling the restoration is successful (Previous Tier 1 Score = 22; Post Tier 1 Score = 10).	City of Chanhassen
<b>Bluff Creek Reaches B5 and B6</b>	Develop Feasibility Study regarding potential creek and wetland restoration.	Due to added costs to address utility conflicts, the board decided the project is no longer cost effective. Administrator Jeffery spoke with Public Works Director Charlei Howley of Chanhassen. He is having his design engineer contact the culvert manufacturer to determine if fabrication has begun and the cost to restock the item if it has. Administrator Jeffery met with a landowner along the project corridor, west of Galpin Boulevard. At this meeting, the landowner showed the extent of refuse that was left behind in a promiscuous dump site from the previous agricultural land use. Heather Lau of Barr Engineering will be presenting on this area at tonight's meeting. Project is still scheduled to have bid solicitation in the summer of 2025 for construction in 2026.	
<b>Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Tr and MN TH 101</b>	Remove 3 properties from flood zone, restore a minimum 7 acres and as many as 16 acres of wetlands, connect public with resources, reduction of volume, rate, pollution loads to Bluff Creek.	No updates.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
<b>Riley Creek Watershed</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>Lake Riley Alum Treatment</b>	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff submitted all required data to the MPCA for delisting. The lake now meets all the nutrient criteria following all the integrated lake management activities/projects that have occurred.	
<b>Lake Susan Park Pond</b>	Complete final site stabilization and spring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	The structure and pump have been installed. The suction assembly was installed on 8/23. A punch list was provided to Peterson for completion on 8/30.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
<b>Lake Susan Spent Lime</b>	2022 startup and monitoring	The unit was turned on and material mixed (tilled). The unit will run 8am-5pm M,W,F. The unit was switched to only sampling M & F to fully drain the unit between operation in hopes to increase removal efficiencies.	City of Chanhassen

		Removal efficiencies have declined significantly in the facility. Administrator Jeffery, Staff Maxwell, Engineer Sobiech, and Brandon Barnes of Barr will meet to discuss possible causes and solutions.	
<b>Lake Susan Preserve Wetland Loading</b>	Sediment release rates and water chemistry study to determine loading rates and potential treatment from wetland area.	Sediment cores were collected in the spring of 2024 and sent to UW Stout for analysis which have been received. The cattail areas of the pond have little phosphorus release while the open water areas have very high phosphorus values.	
<b>Lower Riley Creek Stabilization</b>	Coordinate agreement and acquire easements if needed for the restoration of Lower Riley Creek reach D3 and E. Implement Project. Continue Public Engagement for project and develop signage for restoration.	The project is closed out. CRAS scores significantly improved from pre to post restoration signaling the restoration is successful (Previous Tier 1 Score = 26; Post Tier 1 Score = 14).	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District
<b>Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment</b>	Continue monitoring of Lake. Prepare for second dose.	Depending upon budgeting considerations, 2025 is the projected 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose. This dosage will be combined with Round Lake treatment (requested and paid for by the City of Eden Prairie) to realize cost savings. A plan amendment may be needed.	City of Eden Prairie City of Chanhassen
<b>Rice Marsh Lake Watershed Load Project 1</b>	Install proprietary BMPs. Install soil corrections and plant areas in native vegetation for long-term study of impact on soil health and runoff parameters. Install curb-cut rain garden.	No updates	City of Chanhassen
<b>Upper Riley Creek</b>	Work with city to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek can we mitigate climate change). Conduct feasibility. Develop cooperative agreement with the City of Chanhassen. Order project and begin design.	There has been ongoing discussions between staff and legal counsel of both the city of Chanhassen and the RPBCWD. A final draft will be brought to the Board at the December 11 <sup>th</sup> meeting for approval. Chanhassen City Council will be reviewing and acting on the agreement at their November 18 <sup>th</sup> meeting. Design is complete. Administrator Jeffery continues working with property owners to secure rights to enter on to their properties for completion of this project. Thus far two agreements have been agreed to and are awaiting signatures and execution. All property owners have been engaged and have provided at least tacit approval. Agreements are being drafted for all owners for their consideration.	City of Chanhassen

		<p>The schedule is to solicit bids as soon as possible after the Cooperative Agreement is executed – likely mid-December. The goal is to begin construction yet this winter although the delay in bid solicitation may impact that schedule.</p> <p>Information about the project may be found on the <a href="#">project webpage</a>.</p>	
<b>St Hubert Water Quality Project</b>	<p>Repair eroded ravine tributary to RML. Install BMPs to provide water quality and quantity benefits for site. Develop curriculum to be used with teachers and students at St. Hubert. Establish native vegetation and monitor soil development, water quality/quantity benefits, and ecological changes.</p>	<p>Landbridge Ecological treated the prairie area on 9/5 and seeding will occur in the spring of 2025. Staff Forbes and Staff Portoghese are developing interpretive signage for the St Hubert BMPs. St Hubert’s has not yet been invoiced for their portion of the project. Administrator Jeffery intends to do so upon completion of the planting in the spring of 2025.</p>	<p>CCSWCD Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen</p>
<b>Purgatory Creek Watershed</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>PCRA Berm</b>		<p>No changes. At the last WBIF convene meeting, it was discussed including this in the next cycle of WBIF funding. The RPBCWD will need to amend the 10-year plan to include this project and develop a cooperative agreement with the City of Eden Prairie.</p>	<p>City of Eden Prairie MN DNR</p>
<b>Lotus Lake Internal Load Control</b>	<p>Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.</p>	<p>Project completed the first week in October.</p>	
<b>Silver Lake Restoration</b>	<p>Order project. Design Project. Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.</p>	<p>Prairie Restoration has performed vegetative maintenance including treatment of garlic mustard on the site but outside of the grading area to prevent it from migrating further.</p>	<p>City of Chanhassen</p>
<b>Lotus Lake Watershed Water Quality Improvement Project</b>	<p>Feasibility Study/Preliminary Engineering Report  Issue Identification  Partnership Opportunities and CIP Alignment</p>	<p>Information about the project may be found on the <a href="#">project webpage</a>. A Request for Qualifications for artists went out on October 18<sup>th</sup> with proposals due on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Staff Forbes and staff from Barr held an open house on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at North Lotus Lake Park. This open house served the purpose of allowing the artists to see the space and ask questions and for the RPBCWD to solicit input from park users. Additional outreach efforts are being planned. Administrator Jeffery is coordinating with staff of the City of Chanhassen on this project. An open house will be held at North Lotus Lake Park on Nov. 2 to collect input on preliminary concepts for the <a href="#">North Lotus Lake water quality</a></p>	<p>City of Chanhassen</p>

[project](#). The event is also an information session for artists interested in the RFQ due Nov 15.

### Professional Development

Staff Maxwell and Liz Forbes worked with the EP News to release an article regarding the importance of lakeshores and aquatic vegetation. The link is attached: <https://www.eplocalnews.org/2024/08/30/lakeshore-homeowners-play-key-role-in-lake-health/>

Staff Mahon attended the 3-day Summer Institute for Climate Change Education hosted by Climate Generation.

Administrator Jeffery and Fred Rozumalski presented at the MN Water Resources Conference on the EHAP.

Staff Dickhausen, Maxwell, Monahan, and Whittington also attended the MN Water Resources Conference.

Staff Whittington attended an Introduction to Wetland Delineation and Regulation Training hosted by BWSR. Staff Whittington also attended an In-Field Soil Health Assessment Training and Basic Soils for Conservation Planning Training, both hosted by NRCS.

Staff Dickhausen attended one day of BWSR Academy, BWSR's annual training event. He attended sessions on: strategies for successfully evaluating and restoring drained wetlands; linking forestry practices to water quality through watershed based forest land protection and management.

Staff Monahan attended one day of BWSR Academy and attended sessions on Human Resources Management and Accounting.

Staff Maxwell attended one day of BWSR Academy; sessions included lake chlorides, urban native plants, drone use, and climate tools.

Staff Portoghese attended one day of BWSR Academy; sessions included lake resilience considering climate change, conservation in urban agriculture, climate adaptation tools, and drone use.