

## ABOUT the Watershed

The Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District was established on July 31, 1969, by the Minnesota Water Resources Board acting under the authority of the Watershed Law. The District is located in the southwestern portion of the Twin Cities metropolitan area consisting of a largely developed urban landscape, and encompassing portions of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka and Shorewood (see map on backside of calendar).

This area is close to 50 square miles and includes three watersheds: Riley Creek, Purgatory Creek and Bluff Creek Watershed. Four Managers are appointed by the Hennepin County Commissioners and one Manager is appointed by the Carver County Commissioners. Each of the District's five Managers serves a three-year term.

## MONITORING our waters

The spring of 2013 brought about more changes for the District. Two new employees, Jeff Anderson and Lindsey Albright, were hired as the new Water Quality Specialists to work alongside District Administrator Claire Bleser. In this capacity, the Water Quality Specialists are responsible for monitoring both lake and stream



sampling sites across the District, as well as undertaking a project

evaluating the phosphorus removal efficiency of District stormwater ponds.

During the 2013 Summer season eight lakes, 11 locations along the three creeks, and over 90 stormwater ponds throughout the District were monitored. In addition to

time spent in the field collecting water quality samples and taking flow measurements, Lindsey and Jeff represented the District at a variety of local water resources events including the Native Plant Market, the Minnesota State Fair, the Clean Water Summit, and the Metro Children's Water Festival. If you're out on one of the District lakes and creeks, make sure you look for Jeff and Lindsey out in the field!



## MANAGERS, Staff & Consultants



Board of Managers from Left to Right:

**Leslie Yetka**, Minnetonka  
Term Expires: July 2016

**Mary Bisek**, Minnetonka  
Term Expires: July 2014

**Perry Forster**, Eden Prairie  
Term Expires: July 2015

**Jill Crafton**, Bloomington  
Term Expires: July 2015

**Ken Wencl**, Chanhassen  
Term Expires: July 2015



### District Office:

Eden Prairie City Center  
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### Contact Information:

Tel: 952-294-5976  
Email: [info@rpbcwd.org](mailto:info@rpbcwd.org)  
Website: [www.rpbcwd.org](http://www.rpbcwd.org)

### Staff:

Jeff Anderson  
Water Quality Specialist  
Lindsey Albright  
Water Quality Specialist  
Claire Bleser  
Administrator

### Consultant:

Louis Smith  
Legal Advisor  
612-344-1400

Scott Sobiech  
Engineering Advisor  
952-832-2755

The Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers meets the first Wednesday of each months at 7:00pm at Eden Prairie City Hall.

## CASANOVA Retires, Yetka Appointed

Manager Michael Casanova retired from serving on the board of managers after serving 9 years. During his term, he advocated the management of the invasive common carp without the use of chemicals. Manager Casanova advocated cost-effective solutions for restoring the lakes in the District.

In August, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners appointed Leslie Yetka to the Board of Managers. Leslie comes to District with over 12 years of experience in natural resource management and water resources. The District is looking forward to continue to manage, restore and protect our water resources.

## CAC Updates

2013 welcomed returning and new Citizen Advisors. The Board of Managers appointed a total of 11 Citizen Advisors. The Citizen Advisors meet monthly and advise the board on matters of the District. The CAC has been busy this year. They have reviewed Cost-share Applications, participated in the Rulemaking process and provided AIS recommendations. The CAC meets the third monday of each months at Eden Prairie City Center.

## PROTECTING waters

In 2012, a revision of the Lake Lucy and Lake Ann Use Attainability Analysis (originally done in 1999) was completed in order to assess the water quality in both lakes and identify possible in-lake and watershed best management practices (BMPs) that could be undertaken to improve and/or protect current water quality levels. At this time, neither lake is listed on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) impaired waters list and ensuring that Lake Lucy is not listed is a high priority for the District in 2014. The UAA revision showed that the water quality in Lake Lucy was most negatively impacted by runoff from the surrounding watershed and the release of phosphorus from the sediment (internal loading). Alternatively, for Lake Ann, the major sources of phosphorus is internal loading, watershed runoff and inflow from Lake Lucy. The Board members agreed that the District should install a spent lime treatment system on the eastern side of Lake Lucy in order to catch and treat the waters flowing into the lake from the surrounding watershed. Since the lakes are connected by a small channel, it is an important management issue to note that by improving Lake Lucy, Lake Ann will be protected in turn as well as other lakes further downstream. This study is available on our website [www.rpbcd.org](http://www.rpbcd.org).



## RESTORING waters

In 2010, Lake Susan was listed as an impaired water body for nutrients by the MPCA. At the end of 2012, it was determined that an update of the Use Attainability Assessment (UAA) for Lake Susan was needed (originally completed in 1999) in order to establish an appropriate water quality goal and identify best management practices (BMPs) that could be undertaken in order to facilitate a "delisting" of the lake. The report showed that watershed runoff and upstream contributions to the lake impacted the phosphorus level in Lake Susan the greatest, but internal loading is still a considerable issue. The report also outlined several remediation options to help reduce the phosphorus levels in Lake Susan. The Board decided to implement a wetland restoration in the southwest corner of Lake Susan. For more information on this project, please visit our website [www.rpbcd.org](http://www.rpbcd.org).

In 2002 and 2004, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency listed Bluff Creek for turbidity and for low fish biological scores respectively. A TMDL report and implementation plan were finalized and approved in 2013. In this report, Site 1 located south of the Southwest Regional LRT Trail was identified as a severe grade site. It was also listed as a high priority site needing a culvert restoration and bank repairs. Currently, the culvert is roughly 8ft above the creek creating a disconnection where fish can no longer move upstream. The culvert is also showing signs of failure. In addition, the stream channel is incised and banks are severely eroded and thus contributing to sediment load to the Minnesota River. The District with the City of Chanhassen will be restore the site in 2014.



Bluff Creek -Site 1- Creek disconnectivity and high erosion site

## WATERSHED District Awarded Clean Water Funds

In September 2012, the District applied for a Community Partners Grant to develop a cost-share program for non-profits to implement medium size best management practices to improve our water resources. The Board of Water and Soil Resources awarded the District \$150,000 to develop this program. The District launched their cost-share their program in April. To apply, check our website [www.rpbcd.org](http://www.rpbcd.org)



## GRANTS for water quality

The District is excited to announce that they are now offering a Cost-share Program. The program provides funding assistance for efforts to protect, restore and conserve water resources within the District. Cost-share funds may be used for public or private landowners implementing project that support one or more of the following:

- improve watershed resources;
- increase awareness of the vulnerability of watershed resources;
- increase familiarity with and acceptance of solutions to improve waters;
- foster water resource stewardship.

Examples of eligible projects include: raingardens, pervious asphalt and pavers, shoreland and streambank restoration projects, volume reduction and runoff treatment practices, or wetland restoration. "These types of project help reduce the amount of pollution reaching our waters and at the same time they look great; it's a win-win situation" explains Claire Bleser, Administrator for the Watershed District.

For more information on this project, please visit the District's website at [rpbcd.org](http://rpbcd.org). The funding for the community partners comes from Clean Water Legacy Funds. Deadline for application is April 15, 2014.