

**MINNESOTA
ASSOCIATION OF
WATERSHED
DISTRICTS, INC**

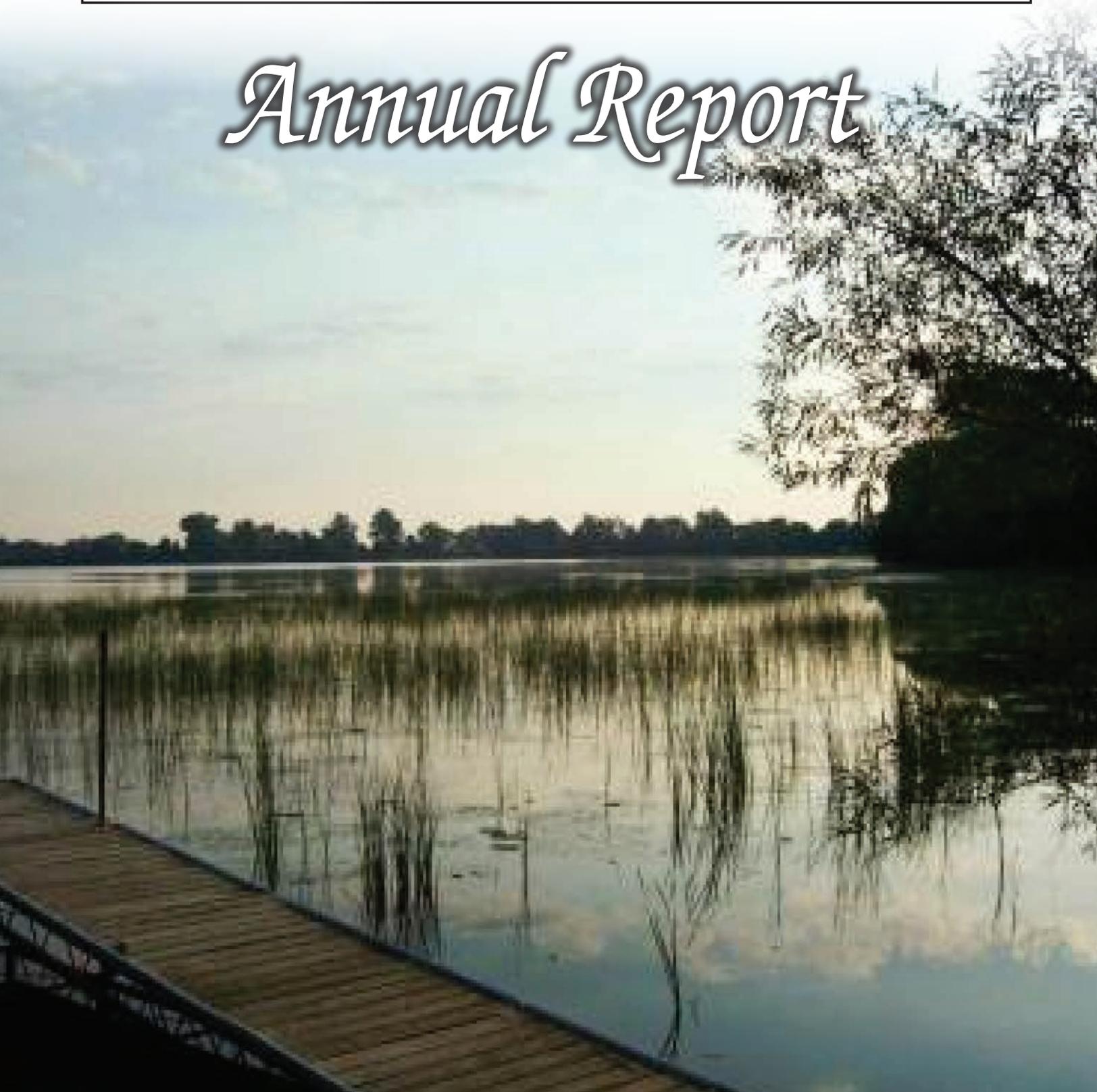


Land and Water Shall be Preserved

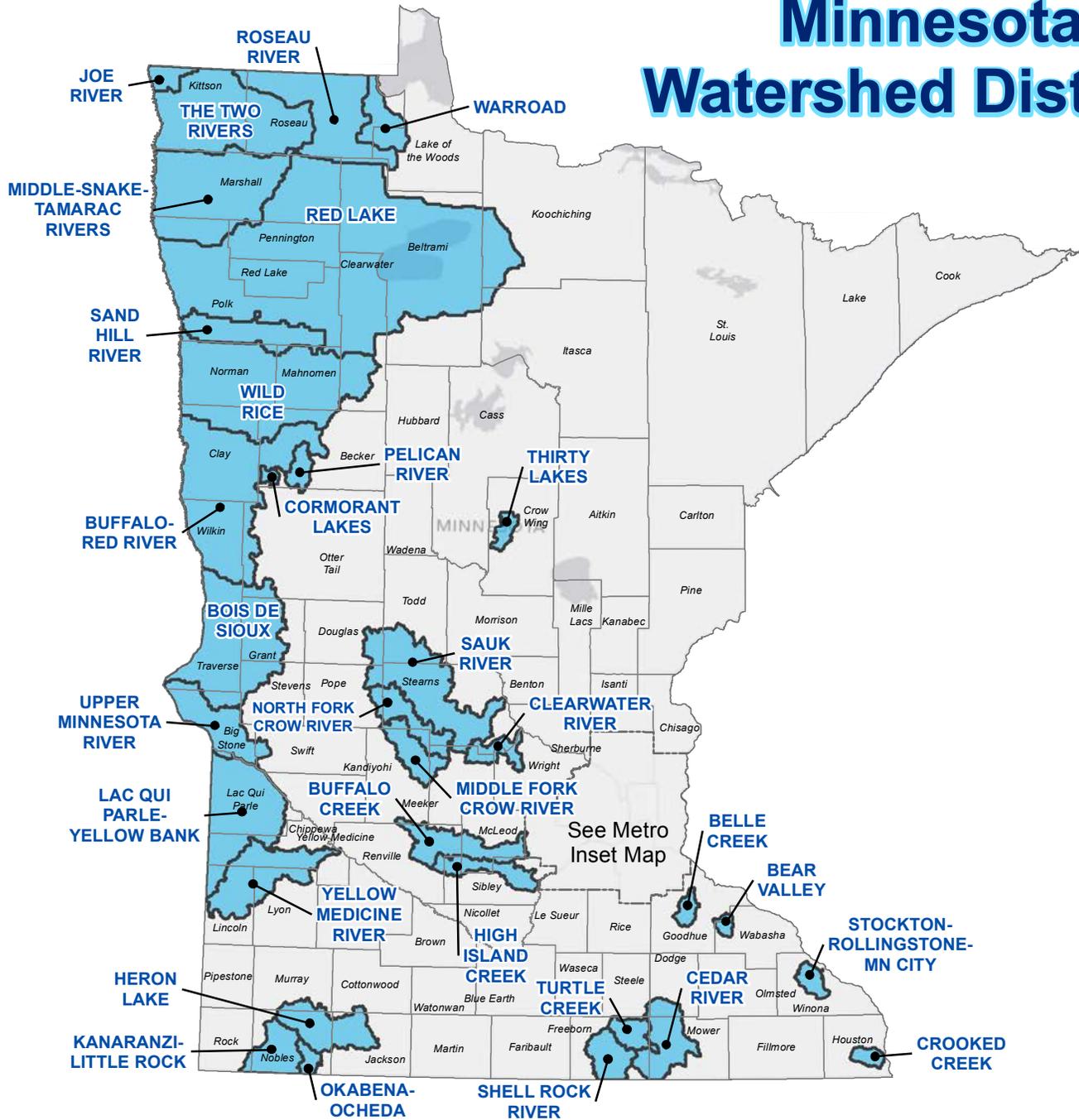
*Minnesota Association
of Watershed Districts*

November 2014 - October 2015

Annual Report

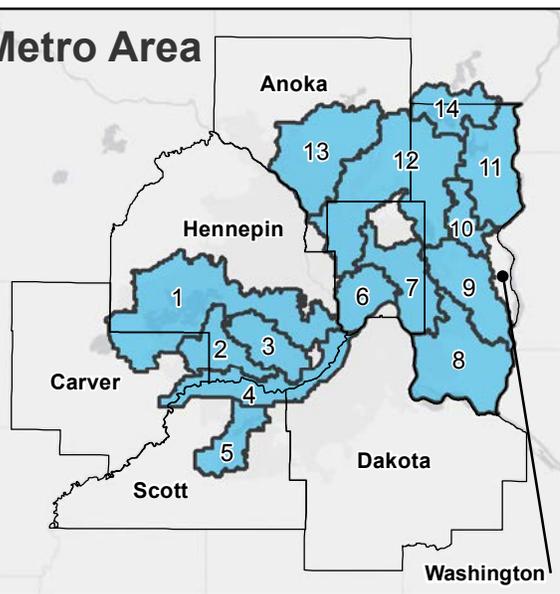


Minnesota Watershed Districts



See Metro Inset Map

Metro Area



Metro Watershed Districts

- 1, MINNEHAHA CREEK
- 2, RILEY-PURGATORY-BLUFF CREEK
- 3, NINE MILE CREEK
- 4, LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER
- 5, PRIOR LAKE-SPRING LAKE
- 6, CAPITOL REGION
- 7, RAMSEY-WASHINGTON METRO
- 8, SOUTH WASHINGTON
- 9, VALLEY BRANCH
- 10, BROWNS CREEK
- 11, CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX
- 12, RICE CREEK
- 13, COON CREEK
- 14, COMFORT LAKE FOREST LAKE



Land and Water Shall be Preserved



Updated July 2012



2015 Board of Directors

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Linda Vavra

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President's Report

By Lee Coe, MAWD President

The MAWD Board of Directors met in January 2015 at our annual planning session to discuss and prioritize our activities and legislation for 2015. We also made appointments to our MAWD committees and interagency advisory committees.

What started out as a very promising budget year at the legislature turned into disappointment with the allocation of \$22 million from the clean water fund (CWF) instead of the general fund to support SWCDs and the new buffer law. While we supported buffers and the SWCD buffer and capacity funding, we did not support the funding coming from the CWF. Allocating funds from the CWF cut into many of the programs that would have been very helpful to WD's in our quest for matching state funds for our local projects.

While WDs are strong supporters of buffers, the 2015 buffer law was passed without input from either the counties or watershed districts. Particularly disturbing is the punitive defunding provision of state monies if we fail to implement those portions of the law where we evidently hold some responsibility. In addition, no funds were allocated to WDs or counties to help defray some of the costs associated with this new law.

Because of the way this law was written, we are fearful it will be a magnet for lawyers who will, through legal means, stop any efforts being made to actually get buffers on the ground. The legislation was not well written and more importantly does not allow for any rulemaking by the agencies to clarify the statutes.

This legislation is the near perfect example of how to take something that would have been relatively simple to accomplish with existing infrastructure and turn it into a bureaucratic nightmare. We are also very concerned with the role of BWSR in writing and passing this legislation and what that means for the role of local governments in the future.

We are still waiting for more guidance from BWSR before we make recommendations to our membership on how to proceed with this new law. Hopefully we will learn more during the Annual Meeting so we can provide those recommendations.

MAWD legislation that exempted all local governments from sales tax was unexpectedly delayed one year (till January 1, 2017) even though there was not a bill introduced and no tax bill passed.

It somehow found its way into the Education bill totally under the radar until it was too late to stop its passage. We hope to work on a repeal of that legislation during the 2016 Session.

We did however, have some bright spots. A bonding bill was passed that include funding for our Flood Hazard Mitigation projects in the Red River Valley and funding for additional disaster relief for Prior Lake WD and others in that area.

Please review the Legislative Update in this report to get specific details on the 2015 Legislative Session.

MAWD's Legislative Reception & Breakfast was again a great opportunity to meet with local legislators and explain and promote our legislative priorities for the session. Watershed District managers and staff met with their local legislators at the capitol and Embassy Suites Hotel in St. Paul to discuss their watershed district issues. Thank you for your continued support of our legislative program.

The MAWD Summer Tour Committee put together another great Summer Tour in Duluth. We had the opportunity to review what happened during the 2012 floods and the community's response to that disaster. Attendees also spent part of one afternoon on a tour boat hearing from officials in the area discuss what conservation actions have been taken on Lake Superior and the Harbor. It was a very interesting and productive MAWD Summer Tour.

I want to thank the current board of directors who have worked so hard for watershed districts across the state this past year.

- Larry Kuseske, vice-president, Region 2, Sauk River
- Craig Leiser, treasurer, Region 3, Brown's Creek
- Jerome Deal, Region 1, Bois de Sioux
- Darrel Ellefson, Region 2, Lac Qui Parle-Yellow Bank
- Ruth Schaefer, Region 2, Middle Fork Crow River
- Brian Johnson, Region 3, South Washington
- Linda Vavra, Secretary, Region 1, Bois de Sioux
- Barb Haake, Region 3, Rice Creek

Also thanks to Ray and Peg Bohn for their very capable administrative and lobbying service to our organization.

And a big thanks for allowing me to serve as your president for the past year. It has been a wonderful opportunity and we on the board appreciate all of your support over the years.

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts

Websites can be reached through mnwatershed.org - WHERE IS MY WATERSHED?

Bear Valley

25409 County 16 Blvd.
Goodhue, MN 55027-8602
Phone: 612-923-4038
Region III

Belle Creek

Rt. 1, Box 158
Goodhue, MN 55027
Phone: 612-258-4115
Region III

Bois De Sioux

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Buffalo-Red River

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Clearwater River

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Comfort Lake - Forest Lake

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Region III

Coon Creek

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Blaine, MN 55434
Phone: 763-755-0975
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tkelly@cooncreekwd.org
Region III

Cormorant Lakes

10929 County Highway 5
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Phone: 218-532-5025
Administrator: Sherwood Olson
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Crooked Creek

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Heron Lake

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jan.voit@mysmb.com
Region II

High Island

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New Ulm, MN 56073
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Joe River

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Kanaranzi- Little Rock

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Lac Qui Parle-YellowBank

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Ramsey Washington Metro

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Rice Creek

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Riley-Purgatory Bluff Creek

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Stockton- Rollingstone-MN City

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Warroad River

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2015 Legislative Session Report

by Ray Bohn, MAWD Coordinator

The 2015 Legislative Session was certainly a historical ride by anyone's measure. The Clean Water Funding started out well, but turned into a bit of a disaster for WD's, and the Governor's surprise buffer initiative that we all had great hopes for was passed but included some bad public policy and even a worse funding source, the Clean Water Fund, all this calumniated by the postponement of our sales tax exemption from Jan 1, 2016 to Jan. 1, 2017 via the Education Bill. This was all done with little or no input from local governments.

Now all they ask is that we do the work to try and make sense of it all and make it work. I will explain in greater detail a bit later in this update.

We did however, have some bright spots. A bonding bill was passed that include funding for our Flood Hazard Mitigation projects in the Red River Valley and funding for additional disaster relief for Prior Lake WD and others in that area.

There were a number of bills that we worked on or monitored during the session but essentially all were part on one of the three bills noted below during the 2015 1st Special Session. They include:

1. HF2, SF4, Chapter 5, Bonding Legislation;

- * \$10 million for Ottertail County for FHM, \$13.549 million for other projects as prioritized by DNR.
- * \$1.2 million for Prior Lake-Spring Lake WD for the Prior Lake Outland Channel repair.
- * RIM - \$4.7 million
- * Erosion, sediment and water quality control: \$10.6 million
- * BWSR to work with various stakeholders to "foster mutual understanding and provide recs" on water quality and soil conservation protection.
- * Comp Watershed Management Planning Program; 1 Watershed/1Plan program update requiring BWSR to develop policies for coordination and development on comp plans, develop content requirements, and timelines.
- * Modified membership on CW Council to withdraw voting membership from the U of M member and the Met Council, and both now make their own appointment instead of Governor.

2. HF5, SF1, Chapter 2, Legacy/Clean Water Fund appropriations:

- * Appropriates \$56.841 million to BWSR. Follows Clean Water Council recs except where funds were decreased to fund the Govs/BWSR Buffer Program.
 - \$22 million for SWCD's for the Buffer law and other capacity funding
 - \$5.6 million to local governments to help fund the program
 - \$.65 million to DNR for the buffer Maps
- * Program items decreased because of buffer appropriation included: Surface & Drinking water Protection, Watersheds with Multi-year Plans, Community Partners Program, and Riparian Buffer Permanent Conservation Easement, etc.
- * BWSR to work with various stakeholders to "foster mutual understanding and provide recs" on water quality and soil conservation protection.
- * Comp Watershed Management Planning Program; 1 Watershed/1Plan program update requiring BWSR to develop policies for coordination and development on comp plans, develop content requirements, and timelines.
- * Modified membership on CW Council to withdraw voting membership from the U of M member and the Met Council, and both now make their own appointment instead of Governor.

3. HF4, SF5, Chapter 4, Ag, Environment & Natural Resources - Budget & Policy Bill

- After a Governor's veto on the Legislative Session legislation, several provisions were removed or reworked and the following bill emerged:
- *Funding for the various state agencies budgets
 - *AIS .. Modified version of the AIS training that will replace the trailer decal requirement with a requirement for affirmation of the person's knowledge on AIS law when a person purchases a watercraft license and when a non-resident purchases a MN fishing license.
 - *AIS - replaces the word "listed" with "designated" where it refers to species ID'd as prohibited, regulated, unlisted, and unregulated invasive species; allows the DNR to require decontamination, allows DNR to issue decontamination permits under the invasive species law, allows money in the invasive species account to be used for habitat improvement, WCA changes and Buffer legislation.

(2014 Legislative Update continued)

MAWD and the Assn of MN Counties were both left out of the final negotiations and do not own one word in the buffer legislation so I can only report what the end result is. In addition, it is our understanding that three statewide farm groups did sign off on the buffer legislation so I guess our input wasn't needed.

The basic premise behind this legislation is that it is landowner driven and the responsibility for putting in the buffers actual lies with the landowner ... thus Chapter 103F ... but, WD's and counties are clearly expected to participate in and provide guidance in that effort, even though we can legally decide not to participate in the buffers program.

SWCDs actually received funding to work with individual landowners (\$22 m) to assist and encourage them to put in buffers, but we did not support it coming from the Clean Water Fund.

If the landowner doesn't, or refuses to put in buffers, they are referred to the WD or County (if implementing) for penalty through a newly acquired APO authority that allows for a \$500 penalty for violators (if WDs and Counties apply for that authority). But, we are told that local governments can decide if they want to take on the implementation role under Chapter 103F, or County passes on participation in the program, the WD or County then forwards the offending party to BWSR for them to take enforcement action.

WD's and counties have no responsibility under the drainage law under this legislation, but can consider reimbursing landowners back for their buffers on ditches when a redetermination of benefits occurred.

The only mandate that WD's and counties have with this legislation is to place the buffer map that DNR is creating into their local plans.

We have a load of questions regarding how this law will be interpreted, and under what authority are they doing it? Because BWSR believes rules are not needed, I believe they are going to be in for a big surprise when this complex and confusing law is implemented And they and anyone involved is going to face large legal bills unless some serious changes are made in the future.

Presently the MAWD Board recommends that all WDs not take any action in terms of moving toward implementation of this legislation at this point. We need to see a lot more in writing and presently the law puts all state funding provided to WDs at risk of being defunded if you are not properly implementing their buffers program. I am sure we will know more about this program by our Annual Meeting and that will allow us to have some more informed discussions on this legislation and where it is going or not going to take us. I will try to keep you informed of any developments until then.

Other pertinent legislation includes:

* Exempts the need for a public water work permit to replace a culvert of like size and elevation.

* Modifies the dates when the DNR must not restrict groundwater permits, unless the water appropriation will endanger a domestic water supply.

* Allows for a 404 feasibility study to assume 404 authorities by the state. Would allow the state to issue federal permits for draining and filling wetlands under federal jurisdiction.

*Eliminates MPCA Citizen Board

*Directs the MPCA , after consultation with MMB, to contract for an analysis of the increased cost of PCA water quality rules.

* Directs the DNR to develop a proposal to be submitted to the Lessard Sams Council and the LCCMR for significant large-scale flood water retention projects.

* Directs the DNR to submit a report to the LWC on recommending standards for negative impacts to surface water from ground water use.

Misc Legislation: HF1, SF3, Chapter 3, Education Bill, Article 6, Sect 7. Page 162 changes the effective date of special units of government sales tax exemption from Jan 1, 2016 to Jan1, 2017.

Roseau Watershed District awarded DNR Watershed District of the Year 2014

The Roseau Watershed District was awarded the DNR Watershed District of the Year 2014 award based on their effective partnership with DNR and other agencies and organizations on the following projects in 2014.

- 1) Roseau River Wildlife Management Area Enhancement Project. The Roseau River Watershed District has demonstrated effective partnership with DNR to move this project from the concept phase to final engineering by taking a lead role in project design and engineering and a collaborative role in environmental review and permitting. Their efforts to move this project forward and secure funding will ensure successful completion of this project which will have extensive flood damage reduction benefits and will greatly improve the capacity of the WMA to provide important wildlife habitat.



Managers and staff of Roseau River Watershed District accept the DNR Watershed District of the Year award from Deputy Director of DNR Ecological and Water Resources Steve Colvin. From left – District technician, Torin McCormack, manager Carter Diesen, Colvin, and manager LeRoy Carriere.

- 2) Beltrami Island State Forest project development. The Roseau River Watershed District has taken a leadership role in developing and evaluating a series of options for development of projects in the Beltrami Island State Forest which will provide flood damage reduction benefits. Their dedication to working through a comprehensive process to carefully examine the costs, benefits, and environmental issues associated with various project sites will ensure that final projects will have local support, adequate funding, and meet flood damage reduction and natural resource goals.
- 3) Commitment to using the mediation process to develop projects. The Roseau River Watershed District has demonstrated a dedication to working through the 1998 mediation process to work through project development from the problem identification phase through final engineering. This commitment to the process and partnership with other state agencies, local governments, and landowners will ensure the timely development of projects that provide multiple benefits.

What is a watershed district?

Watershed Districts are special purpose units of local government whose boundaries follow those of a natural watershed (an area of land in which all water flows to one outlet).

All other government units, such as states, counties and cities have political boundaries. Water, however, knows no political boundaries and instead goes where it wants to, when it wants to.

Adopt a Storm Drain



Adopting a storm drain is easier than it sounds. It means that you keep watch on a storm drain or two in your neighborhood, and clear them of debris. This time of year, storm drains are often clogged with leaves. Those leaves end up in the nearest lake and creek, adding extra nutrients and pollution. Here are three steps to a cleaner storm drain: Go to <http://www.adopt-a-drain.org/> to find a storm drain close to you, and register it.

Rake or sweep the debris from the surface of the drain. Not just in the fall either! Debris can build up in a storm drain year round.

Get your neighbors involved—the more people who take action, the cleaner our waterways will be.

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District in action
www.ninemilecreek.org

Master Water Stewards program is partnership between the Freshwater Society and Watershed Districts

The Master Water Stewards program is a partnership between the Freshwater Society and participating Watershed Districts.

The new Master Water Stewards certifies and supports community leaders to install pollution prevention projects that educate community members, reduce pollutants from urban runoff, and allow more water to soak into the ground before running into storm sewer systems. Wherever you live, you can make a real difference in the health of our waters. Learn more about how to become a Master Water Steward

What is a watershed?

Just like in your kitchen sink, water runs and drains to the lowest point. A watershed is an area of land that catches rain, snow and other precipitation, and drains all the water to the lowest point, in this case, a lake, river or stream. And just like Minnesota is divided into counties, watersheds are divided into smaller areas of land called sub-watersheds. Minnesota has 81 major watersheds. Your watershed is one of Minnesota's approximately 5600 sub-water



Everything on city streets flows to our water- bacteria, salt, litter, sediment, fertilizer. Each year, more polluted runoff reach our lakes and rivers faster, causing flooding downstream. Pollutants are not being filtered or broken down by passing through the soil, making water dirtier.

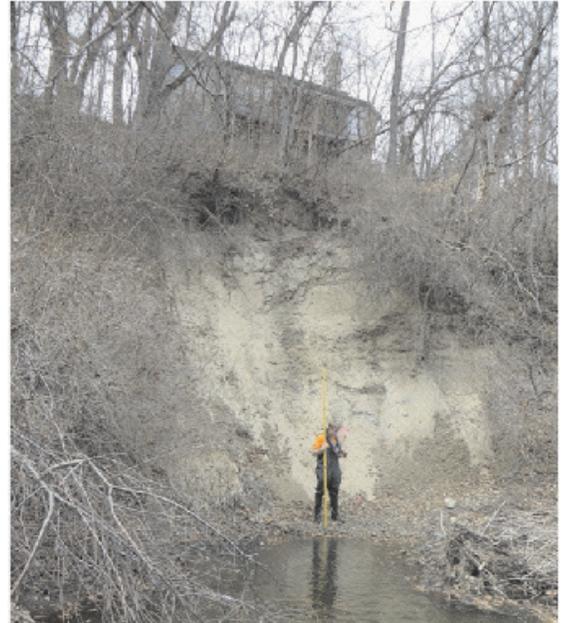
Your yard is connected to rivers, lakes, and streamsheds.

Creek assessment tool gives insights

Prioritizing creek restoration projects can be challenging, especially when the sites in need of help are located in multiple creeks. The Creek Restoration Action Strategy (CRAS) is a tool for identifying stream reaches in greatest need of restoration, beginning with consistent assessment of creek conditions.

In developing the CRAS, eight important prioritization categories were identified and grouped into two tiers: infrastructure risk, channel stability, public education, ecological benefits, water quality, project cost, partnerships, and watershed benefits.

This tool developed, by the District and Barr Engineering, is being implemented across the three creeks within the District. The CRAS study has allowed the District to focus efforts on high-benefit projects in a cost-effective manner. This tool is a living document that is updated as the District continues to assess changes in the creeks over time.



Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District
www.rpbewd.org

AIS Junior Inspector engages students

Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Jr Inspector program has engaged over 500 children this year in learning about the importance of AIS. The program includes a table-top toy activity, a life-size boat activity, and an activity that can be used by inspectors at boat launches. Children learn about the aquatic invasives in our area, why they are a threat, and how to inspect a boat before it leaves a boat launch. The activity has also been adopted by educators in other organizations.



Volunteers monitor for AIS

A new District program launched in 2015 enlisted community members to help monitor for Aquatic Invasive Species. Fourteen lake shore residents volunteered for the Adopt a Dock program in its first season. Volunteers hung monitoring plates off of their docks, and checked them monthly for possible invasive mussel growth. The District is happy to report that no mussels were detected. Monitoring efforts by staff at public boat ramps and in water samples, also did not detect mussels.

Buffalo Red River Watershed District administrator awarded BWSRWD Employee of the year

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is pleased to announce that Bruce Albright, District Administrator for the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (WD), has been honored as the 2014 Outstanding Watershed District Employee of the Year.

Bruce has served more than thirty years as the WD's administrator, a role that requires that he be not just the primary staff for the district, but its public face. He supports the Board of Managers, manages the district's daily operations, budget, outreach efforts, and partnerships with other government agencies, nonprofits, consultants and the public.

In 2014, Bruce managed the successful completion of the multi-year Manston Slough project. This 1,500-plus acre wetland restoration that spanned six square miles brings significant benefits to the district. Better flood control, habitat restoration, increased water clarity to the downstream river, and other associated benefits from a wetland restoration are expected thanks to the project. Albright worked closely with the Department of Natural Resources and US Fish and Wildlife Service, who have significant land ownership within the project's boundaries, as well as 32 private landowners, to make sure the project was a success. His ability to work with both government agencies and these landowners was key.

Buffalo-Red River Watershed District Administrator Bruce Albright speaks at the Manston Slough groundbreaking ceremony in September, 2013.

Bruce's commitment to conservation and bringing everyone to the table has been a hallmark of his career. He's worked with hundreds of landowners, negotiating all kinds of easements and buyouts and managing water problems. A good number of the district's projects center around flood control or flood damage, which can be especially challenging. Bruce's honesty and fairness have earned him the respect of landowners, government staff at every level, and other conservation professionals.



Bruce Albright, Administrator of Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, was awarded the Outstanding Watershed District Employee of the Year by the Board of Water and Soil Resources Executive Director John Jaschke .

"Bruce's leadership is evident in the work of the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District," BWSR Executive Director John Jaschke said. "His careful stewardship of the Manston Slough project is just one example of the great work he's done in the watershed, work that benefits not just local citizens, but the whole state."

The Outstanding Watershed District Employee of the Year is awarded at the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts' convention, held annually in December

MAWD provides educational opportunities, information and training for watershed district managers and staff through yearly tours and meetings.



Clearwater River Watershed District undertakes Kingston Wetland Restoration leading to healthier environment

If you gaze west of the state highway 15 crossing of the Clearwater River (about 3 miles south of Kimball), you'll see the Kingston Wetland Complex, a large wetland and river ecosystem. This seemingly unremarkable wetland provides important habitat for a variety of creatures, as well as water quality benefits for the Clearwater River and downstream lakes.

However, historical ditching as well as legacy pollutant loading from upstream had resulted in the degrading of this important wetland's ecological and water quality functions.

Over the past five years, the Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) undertook a large restoration effort to improve the ecological health of the wetland while addressing these legacy impacts. Previous studies showed the decay of organic matter in the wetland was causing a dissolved oxygen (DO) impairment in the river, and the wetland was exporting soluble phosphorus to downstream lakes (several of which are listed as impaired). The wetland was still somewhat protective of downstream water quality by trapping particulate phosphorus.



View of restored low-flow river channel looking west

With a \$404,000 grant from the MN Pollution Control Agency through a grant from the US EPA, Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Fund, the CRWD devised and executed a plan to solve the problems of phosphorus exportation and oxygen demand while maintaining existing wetland benefits. This is the first project in the state to tackle DO impairments without removal of a wastewater treatment plant or a dam.

The restored wetland and river channel comes close to pre-agrarian hydrology by re-meandering the low flow channel through the wetland. This addressed the DO impairment while lowering the frequency of times the wetland was exporting soluble phosphorus downstream. It also preserved access to the floodplain during high flows, which maintains the particulate phosphorus trapping capabilities of the wetland. In addition, a limestone filter berm was installed across the outlet of the wetland as it reenters the river to provide soluble phosphorus removal during low flow conditions.

By restoring the main channel and meander, the river goes from being a ditch through a wetland to a more significant recreational resource. Data collected post-construction shows the project meets its goals of addressing water quality issues and improving wetland and riverine habitat to support a broader range of species. The project has attracted media attention, with a St. Cloud Times article (see: <http://www.sctimes.com/story/sports/outdoors/2015/10/17/wetland-restoration-cleaning-clearwater/74131172/>) that was picked up by The Associates Press.

For more information on this project, check out the CRWD's website at <http://www.crawd.org>. Also be sure to check out an informational sign on this project at Willow Creek Park in Kimball, MN, next to the playground.

www.crawd.org

Clearwater River Watershed District awarded Program of the Year for Targeted Fertilizer Application Reduction Program

Agricultural runoff is a significant source of polluting nutrients to waters of the CRWD. This project seeks to lessen this source of pollution by assisting farmers with changing the fertilizer application rates for their fields.

Many farmers apply fertilizers to their fields at standard rates, even though field fertilizer requirements vary significantly. By testing the soil throughout a given field to determine fertilizer requirements, the farmer can apply the fertilizer at variable rates throughout a field. This results in excess fertilizer (which previously could runoff the field into the District's water) not being applied, a significant monetary benefit to the farmer, and a benefit to the District's waters.



MAWD Awards Committee Co-chair Ruth Schaefer (right) presents the Program of the Year award to Rebecca Kluckhohn, district engineer from Wenck Associates, administrator Cole Loewen and manager Kathy Jonsrud at the MAWD Annual Meeting banquet in 2014.

Clear Water River Targeted Fertilizer Application Reduction Program



After a successful pilot phase (known as the Fertilizer Field Trial), this project received a grant in the amount of \$300,000 for the enrollment of 16,000 acres into this systematic soil testing program.

The result of this project is estimated to be about 17% of the required load reduction for Clear Lake from agricultural sources. This project will have a trickle-down effect for all waters downstream of Clear Lake.

www.crawd.org

2014 MAWD Project of the Year

Capitol Region Watershed District awarded Project of the Year for Green Line Green Infrastructure

The Green Line Green Infrastructure Project, an effort between Metropolitan Council, Capitol Region Watershed District, Saint Paul and Ramsey County, successfully manages stormwater runoff along the light rail corridor in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The project implemented four types of green infrastructure practices, including an innovative, integrated tree trench system along five miles of University Avenue and rain gardens, stormwater planters and infiltration trenches on eleven side street locations that achieve significant, measurable reductions in stormwater volumes and pollutant loads to the Mississippi River. The project provides other environmental and social benefits including enhancement of the City's tree canopy with over 1000 trees, creation of wildlife habitat, and improved aesthetics.

With anticipated light rail ridership of 40,000 per weekday, CRWD is using the project to raise the awareness of stormwater to a large, diverse audience. "Greening" the Green Line serves as a regional and national model for sustainable stormwater management in a transit corridor.



www.capitolregionwd.org



Managers and staff of Capitol Region Watershed District accept the 2014 Project of the Year award at the MAWD Annual Meeting banquet.

2016 Calendar

**MAWD Legislative Reception
and Day at the Capitol**
March 30-31, 2016

MAWD Summer Tour
Watch for Details

**MAWD Annual Meeting
& Trade Show**
December 1-3, 2016

Minnesota Legislature On-Line

**Keep up on legislation affecting water-
shed districts**

www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/legis.aspx

Who is my Legislator?

[http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/
districtfinder.aspx](http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/districtfinder.aspx)

**Capitol address and phone number of
legislators**

[http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/
leginfo/memroster.pdf](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/leginfo/memroster.pdf)

Minnesota Legislature on TV or computer

[http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/htv/
liveweb.htm](http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/htv/liveweb.htm)

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Statement of Revenue and Expenditures November 1, 2014 to October 31, 2015

The Treasurer's Report	Actual 11/1/2014 to 10/31/2015
REVENUE	
Dues	103,834
Interest	39
Annual Meeting	51,861
Summer Tour	15,530
Drainage Seminar	5,015
Trade Show Fees	16,285
Legislative Breakfast	10,083
ADA Training	535
Managers Training/Basic Water Mgmt Fees	2,250
Communication/Public Education	
Staff Development	
Other	2,815
AIS Symposium	32,315
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>240,562</u>
EXPENDITURES	
General Administration & Lobbying	74,566
Clerical & Administrative	
Round Table Administration	
Lobbyist, Administrative Expenses	4,282
Supplies & Equipment	42
Dues	185
Telephone	439
Committee Meeting/Work Per Diem/Expense	18,594
Directors Meeting Expenses	1,600
Payroll Taxes	1,377
Legal Fees	
Accounting and Audit Fees	4,100
Watershed District Handbook	
Liability Insurance	1,552
Leadership & Development	
WD Messaging	
Website/Social Media/Internet	1,815
Credit Card & Bank Charges	3,434
ADA Seminar Expenses	367
Trade Show Expenses	4,932
Annual Meeting Expenses	37,161
Summer Tour Expenses	18,367
Legislative Breakfast Expenses	7,233
Communication/Public Education	
AIS Symposium	33,606
Drainage Seminar Expenses	1,258
Managers Training Expenses	559
Aquatic Invasive Species Conference	
Memorials	
Salary Survey	7,110
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>222,579</u>
REVENUE MORE (LESS) THAN EXPENDITURES	<u>17,983</u>
Reverse previous year deferrals	(15,371)
Deferred Income	2,005
Deferred Expense	673
Adjust for rounding/small balance	14
	<u>(12,678)</u>
Subtotal	5,305
BEGINNING CASH BALANCES	<u>116,859</u>
ENDING CASH BALANCES	<u>\$ 122,164</u>

Real-time technology helps protect water quality in Capitol Region Watershed District

You can remotely start your car, turn on your lights and get your coffee started in the morning. But did you know that innovative technology can automatically check the weather and activate water management structures that protect your neighborhood from flooding?

Last month, CRWD and the City of Falcon Heights installed a forecast-based control system – called OptiRTC (Real Time Controller) – in a small, landlocked stormwater pond at Curtiss Field Park in Falcon Heights. The system monitors National Weather Service data through an internet connection. When the system detects a large amount of rain approaching, it opens a valve that drains the pond of previously collected water, lowering it as much as two feet which creates space to store more stormwater. At any time, staff can remotely monitor the system to and modify what's happening.

The OptiRTC controller works with an underground stormwater infiltration system (see photo below) that was designed and installed by CRWD and City of Falcon Heights.

For years, Curtiss Field Pond had been prone to flooding that limited park use, damaged infrastructure and created public safety concerns. In 2011, the City asked CRWD for help with a feasibility study to determine how to limit flooding in the park. After three years of study, planning and design, a 390-foot network of 10-foot diameter perforated pipe was installed underneath Curtiss Field. The pipes are fed by overflow from the pond, and stormwater is delivered there to percolate into the ground. The system will reduce flooding in the park and reduce the risk of damage to surrounding properties.

www.capitolregionwd.org



The OptiRTC system controls water levels of Curtiss pond by responding to weather forecasts.



In 2014, CRWD completed construction on an underground stormwater infiltration system to reduce flooding at Curtiss Field Park.

Welcome New Administrators

Clearwater River

Cole Loewen
Email: cole.loewen@crwd.org
Phone: 320-274-3935

Cedar River

Justin Hanson
Email: justin.hanson@mowerswcd.org
Phone: 507-434-2603

Minnehaha Creek

Lars Erdahl
Email: lerdahl@minnehahacreek.org
Phone: 952-641-4505

Thirty Lakes

Tracy Giza
Email: tracy.giza@crowwing.us
Phone: 218-824-1125

Turtle Creek

Steve Lawler
Email: steve.lawler@mowerswcd.org
Phone: 507-434-2603

In Memoriam



Warren Seykora
Wild Rice manager and former MAWD President

- Roger Ellefson - Buffalo Red
- Don Oerter - Yellow Medicine
- Calvin Schrupp - High Island
- Geoff Nash - Nine Mile Creek
- Jack Frost - Ramsey Washington Metro

Watershed District Anniversaries

- 10 Years** Middle Fork Crow River
- 40 Years** Clearwater River
Ramsey-Washington Metro
- 45 Years** Heron Lake
Middle-Snake-Tamarac
Prior-Lake-Spring-Lake
Red Lake
- 55 Years** Buffalo-Red-River
Lower Minnesota
Okabena-Ocheda



Bev Nordby, left, receives a plaque of appreciation upon her retirement as administrator of Cedar River Watershed District. District managers (from left) Steve Kraushaar, Jason Weiss, Sue Olson, and Jim Gebhardt.

After 28 1/2 years with the Mower SWCD, Bev is ready to relax, enjoy her home in Rice, MN and to spend more time with her kids, grandchildren and husband, Dave, at their cabin in Alexandria.

BLANK ON PURPOSE



MAWD
540 Diffley Road
St. Paul, MN 55123-1601

Land and Water Shall be Preserved

Inside:

- Minnesota DNR Watershed District of the Year
- BWSR Watershed Employee of the Year
- 2015 Legislative Report
- Watershed District Directory
- MAWD Board
- MAWD Award Winners