

RPBCWD Staff Report – January 2022

Administration	Description	Update	Partners
<b>Accounting, Audit &amp; Budget</b>	Coordinate with Accountants for the development of financial reports. Coordinate with the Auditor. Continue to work with the Treasurer to maximize on fund investments.	Staff Bakkum and Interim Administrator Jeffery compiled the monthly treasurer's report.	
<b>Administration</b>	Administrator activities		
<b>Annual Report &amp; Communication</b>	Compile, finalize and submit an annual report to agencies.	The 2021 Annual Communication has been printed and distributed. Staff will continue to meet to develop content for the Annual Report.	
<b>DEI</b>	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	No changes.	
<b>Human Resources</b>	General Human Resources	No changes.	
<b>Internal Policies</b>	Work with Governance Manual and Personnel Committees to review bylaws and manuals as necessary.	No changes	
<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 January 24. The next regular meeting of the CAC will be on February 21.	
<b>Local SWMP</b>		No changes.	
<b>MAWD</b>	Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts	No new updates	
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 changes. Implement a regulatory program.	Soon	

<p><b>Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)</b></p>	<p>Review AIS monitoring program.          Develop and implement Rapid Response Plan as appropriate.          Coordinate with LGUs and keep stakeholders aware of AIS management activities.          Manage and maintain the aeration system on Rice Marsh Lake.          Riley Chain of Lakes Carp Management.          Purgatory Chain of Lakes Carp Management.          Review AIS inspection program.          Keep abreast of technology and research in AIS.          Zebra mussel adult and veliger monitoring.</p>	<p>The Rice Marsh Lake aeration unit was turned on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year and has been working well. Thin ice signs were placed, and pressure gauges were replaced. Staff will check the unit weekly. Staff have nearly completed processing/analyzing all other AIS data collected for the 2021 Water Resources Report.          The 2021 fish data was sent to the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) as part of their reporting requirement.          The District will begin planning/applying for 2022 ais vegetation treatments and fisheries permits in February.</p>	<p>City of Chanhassen          City of Eden Prairie          University of Minnesota          MN DNR          Carver County</p>
<p><b>Cost-Share</b></p>	<p>Schedule and coordinate site visits.          Review applications and recommend implementation.          Evaluate program.</p>	<p>Twenty-three Watershed Stewardship Grant (WSG) cost-share projects were completed in 2021. Twelve projects remain active.          The grant review committee continues review of the 2021 program with development of recommendations for 2022.</p>	<p>Carver County 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</p>	<p>Staff have nearly completed processing/analyzing all water quality data collected for the 2021 Water Resources Report.          WOMP stations: samples were collected 3 times this month for the Metropolitan Council.          Winter sampling will occur on the Riley Chain of Lakes this year per normal rotation.          Rice Marsh Lake sediment cores will be collected in February to assess alum effectiveness.</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><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 Water Quality Feasibility.</p>	<p>District Staff, Barr Engineering, and Eden Prairie will be updating the District's stormwater model for both Purgatory Creek and Riley Creek. Staff submitted water elevation data for Upper Purgatory Creek Recreational Area, Bren Pond, Eden Lake, three purgatory creek sites, and three additional ponds to Barr.</p>	<p>City of Bloomington          City of Minnetonka          City of Eden Prairie          City of Deephaven          City of Shorewood</p>

<p><b>Education &amp; Outreach</b></p>	<p>Implement Education &amp; Outreach Plan, review at year end.          Manage partnership activities with other organizations.          Coordinate Public Engagement with District projects.</p>	<p>Staff Bakkum continues to receive inquiries via the district website “Contact Us” form.          Staff Mahon is working with staff at NMCWD and the City of Minnetonka to discuss hosting a raingarden building workshop in the spring.          Staff Forbes, Bakkum and Mahon are building out base content for the new website. Next step is for all staff to review. First draft of the website will be presented to the BOM at their Feb 2 workshop.          The Minnesota Water Stewards 2022 cohort had its kick-off meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Staff Mahon and CAC member Heidi Groven will be going through the program.          Saplings were purchased from Carver County Soil &amp; Water Conservation District to be planted in the office gravel beds and given away in the Fall to district residents.</p>	<p>Adopt-a-drain partners: Cities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie; Hamline University; Nine Mile Creek Watershed District; MPCA; Fortin Consulting          Freshwater Society          City of Chanhassen          City of Minnetonka</p>
<p><b>Groundwater Conservation</b></p>	<p>Work with other LGUs to monitor, assess, and identify gaps.          Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee to identify potential projects.          Develop a water conservation program (look at Woodbury model).</p>	<p>The City of Chanhassen has requested a new groundwater conservation grant to adjust scope and timeline based on new recommendations. The previous grant agreement is voided.</p>	<p>Metropolitan Council          City of Eden Prairie          City of Shorewood          City of Bloomington          City of Minnetonka          City of Chanhassen</p>
<p><b>Lake Vegetation Management</b></p>	<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.          Implement herbicide treatment as needed.          Secure DNR permits and contracts with herbicide applicators.          Schedule regularly scheduled point intercept surveys.          Work with Three Rivers Park District for</p>	<p>Ray Newman is working on an aquatic vegetation proposal which is near completion.          Wenck/Stantec provided the updated Red Rock and Mitchell Lake Vegetation Management Plan. Staff and Eden Prairie submitted comments to the plan which are being incorporated. Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with staff from Eden Prairie and members of the Mitchell Lake Association to coordinate management activities.          Aquatic plant herbicide treatments and surveys planned and applied for starting next month.</p>	<p>City of Eden Prairie          City of Chanhassen          University of Minnesota          MN DNR</p>

	Hyland Lake.		
<b>Opportunity Projects</b>	Assess potential projects as they are presented to the District	No new updates	City of Chanhassen St Hubert School
<b>Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)</b>	Continue working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS). Engage the Technical Advisory Committee.	No new updates	MPCA
<b>Repair &amp; Maintenance Grant</b>	Develop and formalize grant program.	No changes	
<b>University of Minnesota</b>	Review and monitor progress on University of Minnesota grant. Support Dr. John Gulliver and Dr. Ray Newman research and coordinate with local partners. Keep the manager abreast to progress in the research. Identify next management steps.	Along with completing an additional year of monitoring on the iron filing ponds (deadline extended), the U of MN has a new project funded by the Local Road Research Board to study wetlands (historic/converted to pond) and have been conducting in situ monitoring and laboratory studies with sediment cores on a pond in Shorewood and Chanhassen. The district is currently in discussion with the U of MN with a new urban long-term ecological research (LTER) program in the Twin Cities. This study will investigate how urban stressors – climate change, pollutants, invasive species, habitat fragmentation – affect the ecological structure and functioning of urban nature, including pollinators, forests, watersheds, and lakes and streams. It will also address how diverse residents interact with and experience the benefits and burdens of urban nature. The aim is to better understand urban nature and related policies and practices, to improve environmental outcomes for all residents. Historical data will be submitted to the U of MN in February.	Stormwater ponds partners: Cities of Bloomington, Chanhassen, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Shorewood; U of MN
<b>Watershed Plan</b>	Review and identify needs for amendments.	No changes.	
<b>Wetland Conservation Act (WCA)</b>	Administer WCA within the Cities of Shorewood and Deephaven.	Staff Dickhausen has been representing the District on TEP meetings in Chanhassen and Chaska. Annual report of WCA activities is due to BWSR in February. Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Dickhausen are working on the	City of Shorewood City of Deephaven City of Chanhassen

	Represent the District on Technical Evaluation Panel throughout the District.	report.	City of Eden Prairie MCWD BWSR MN DNR ACOE
<b>Wetland Management</b>	Assess known existing wetlands, identify previously unknown wetlands, identify wetlands for potential restoration/ rehabilitation and wetlands requiring additional protection.	Staff Jeffery, Staff Dickhausen and Staff Nicklay continue updating the MNRAM Access database. Staff Dickhausen and Interim Administrator Jeffery are continuing to develop biological assessment metrics of wetlands with Barr Engineering staff to supplement District MNRAM assessments.	City of Chanhassen City of Eden Prairie Hennepin County Carver County MN DNR BWSR USFWS
<b>Hennepin County Chloride Initiative</b>	Phase 1: Develop a plan to target commercial and association-based sources or chloride pollution - businesses, malls, HOAs, property management companies and the private applicators that they hire. We will hire a consultant to facilitate focus groups with private applicators, as well as those that execute contracts with private applicators. These focus groups will help identify needs and barriers for our target audience. The consultant will compile information into a plan for implementation.	The HCCI sub-group continues to meet with the marketing consultant to develop interview questions and has reached out to potential interviewees.	Eleven watershed districts/WMOs Multiple cities MPCA Hennepin County Environmental Services Board of Water and Soil Resources
<b>Lower Minnesota Chloride Cost-Share Program</b>	The Lower Minnesota River Watersheds are coming together to offer cost-share grants.	Chloride Reduction cost-share grant remains open and is posted on District website and advertised through Fortin Consulting and the MPCA. Administrator Jeffery, Staff Forbes, and Staff Bakkum met with other members of collaborative in January. One new grant application has been received. Others are working on applications.	LMRWD RBWMO NMCWD
<b>Bluff Creek 1W1P</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>Bluff Creek Tributary Restoration</b>	Implement and finalize restoration. Monitor Project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen

<b>Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Trl/Hwy 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.	The site has been mostly graded. The new outlet structure and emergency overflow (EOF) has been installed. The site has been stabilized for the winter. Additional treatment of the site will occur in the early spring with planting late spring/early summer.	City of Chanhassen MN DNR Carver County
<b>Riley Creek 1W1P</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>Lake Riley Alum Treatment</b>	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Sediment coring occurred in October and results are pending.	
<b>Lake Susan Improvement Phase 2</b>	Complete final site stabilization and spring start up. Finalize and implement E & O for project. Monitor project.	No new updates.	City of Chanhassen Clean Water Legacy Amendment
<b>Lake Susan Spent Lime</b>	2021 startup and monitoring	The spent lime treatment system ran from May to November and was working with removals over 41% across the summer. Staff took the system offline this month. More information will be available in the water resources report. Staff and Barr will be coring the wetland within the Lake Susan Preserve, which drains into the facility to determine phosphorous loading from this wetland. This task order is included within the packet for the 12/8/21 meeting.	City of Chanhassen
<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.	Maintenance of the site has been turned over to the City of Eden Prairie although the District staff will assist with inspections.	City of Eden Prairie Lower MN River Watershed District
<b>Rice Marsh Lake Alum Treatment</b>	Continue monitoring of Lake.	Staff will be conducting sediment core sampling next month to assess treatment effectiveness and prepare for/direct the second dose application.	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.	Interim Administrator Jeffery, Barr staff, Chanhassen staff, and representatives of Meyer Construction met on-site to discuss stabilization and material storage over the winter.	City of Chanhassen
<b>Upper Riley Creek</b>	Work with city to develop scope of work	Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Counselor Welch to	City of Chanhassen

	(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.	develop the term sheet and subsequent cooperative agreement with Chanhassen. A public hearing will be held in December to order the project.	
<b>Middle Riley Creek</b>	Work with Bearpath HOA/Golf Course to develop scope of work (in addition to stabilizing the creek, can we mitigate climate change and provide for an improved recreational experience). Draft feasibility report. Develop cooperative agreement with Bearpath.	No new updates.	Bearpath Neighborhood Association City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
<b>St Hubert Water Quality Project</b>	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.	The project is substantially complete. Interim Administrator Jeffery and Staff Mahon are working with the school to develop curriculum.	CCSWCD Metropolitan Council City of Chanhassen
<b>Purgatory Creek 1W1P</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Update</b>	<b>Partners</b>
<b>PCRA Berm</b>		Interim Administrator Jeffery is working with Eden Prairie to define roles and responsibilities.	City of Eden Prairie MN DNR
<b>Duck Lake Water Quality Project</b>	Work with the City to implement neighborhood BMP. Identify neighborhood BMP to help improve water resources to Duck Lake. Implement neighborhood BMPs.	No changes	City of Eden Prairie
<b>Lotus Lake Internal Load Control</b>	Continue monitoring the Lake. Plan second alum application.	No new updates. Results will be available in the water resources report.	
<b>Silver Lake Restoration</b>	Order project. Design Project.		City of Chanhassen

	Work with the City of Chanhassen for design, cooperative agreement, and implementation.		
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**Professional Development**