RILEY PURGATORY BLUFF CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

2025 ANNUAL REPORT


Sunrise at Staring Lake Alyssa Essig.

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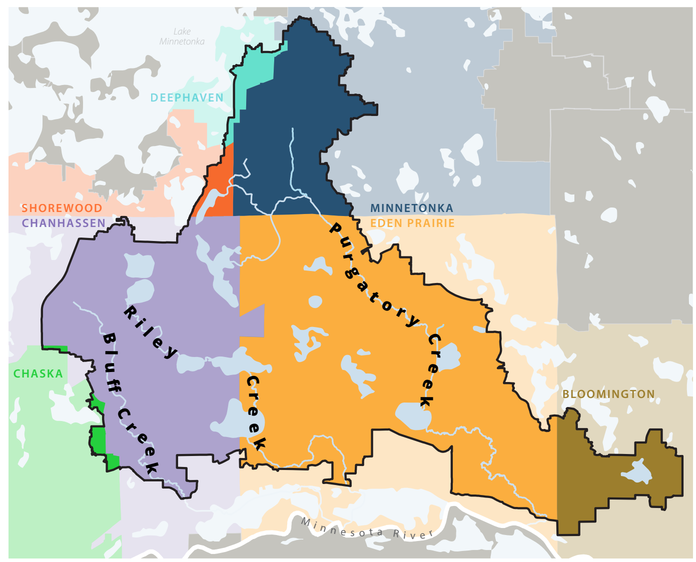
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the annual report is to fulfill the requirements set forth in Minnesota Statute Chapter 103D.351, which requires watershed districts to file an annual report with the Board of Soil and Water Resources and the Department of Natural Resources. Minnesota Regulation MR 8410.0150 requires the report to contain certain information.



DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD or the District) is a local government unit established on July 31, 1969, to protect, manage, and restore water resources. It encompasses some 50 square miles of land that drains into any of the three creeks in its name. The District includes parts of seven cities (Bloomington, Chanhassen, Chaska, Deephaven, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, and Shorewood) and two counties (Carver and Hennepin).

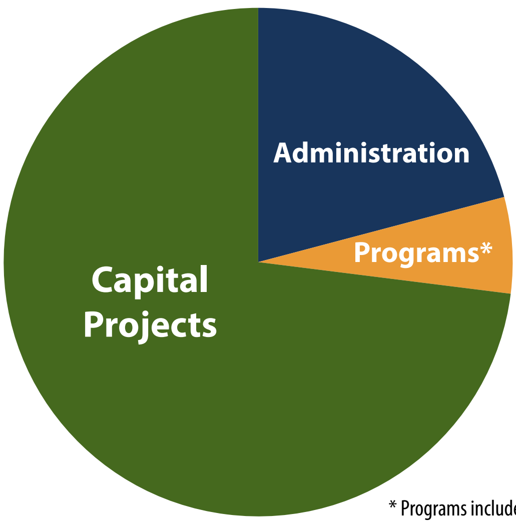
The District is led by five managers (four appointed by the Hennepin County Commissioners and one by Carver) each serving three-year terms directing District activities. The District partners with these local communities and residents to identify issues affecting the water resources and to prioritize projects and regulations to address these issues. In addition, the District works to educate and engage community members regarding the protection of the District's water resources.

TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

Projects and programs of the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District are funded through property tax levies. We thank our community for their part in financing our mission of protecting, managing, and restoring our water resources!

The 2025 levy was $4.25 million, and the board-approved 2025 budget, including funds from previous levies, was $8.6 million. The funds were used for projects, as well as administration, maintenance, lake and creek monitoring, aquatic invasive species management (AIS), education and outreach (E&O), cost share funding, community resiliency, and a reserve fund for emergencies. View current and past budgets at rpbcwd.org/budget.

Figure 1. Distribution of 2025 budget.



* Programs include data collection, AIS monitoring, lake management, cost share, outreach, and more.

The RPBCWD Board of Managers (as of July 31, 2025)				
Name	**Appointed by**	**Position**	**Term ends**	**City of Residence**
Dorothy Pedersen	Hennepin County	President	7/31/2026	Shorewood
Bonnie Nelson	Carver County	Vice President	7/31/2027	Chanhassen
Tom Duevel	Hennepin County	Treasurer	7/31/2028	Minnetonka
Jill Crafton	Hennepin County	Secretary	7/31/2027	Bloomington
Leslie Stovring	Hennepin County	Member	7/31/2028	Eden Prairie

Photos of managers (left to right): Dorothy Pedersen, Tom Duevel, Jill Crafton, Bonnie Nelson, and Leslie Stovring.

GOVERNANCE

The District is governed by a five-person board of managers. Two independent committees, the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), provide advice and comment to the Board as required by Minnesota Statute 103D.331. Daily operations are carried out by a team of employees and consultants led by the District's administrator.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Four managers are appointed by the Hennepin County Commissioners and one by the Carver County Commissioners. Managers serve three-year terms. Appointments are made in July. One manager (Leslie Stovring) was newly appointed in 2025 and replaced David Ziegler. One manager was re-appointed (Tom Duevel) in 2025. One position will be up for appointment in July 2026. The table on this page shows the list of managers, their county of appointment, positions, term end date, and city of residence.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The District has two advisory committees. The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) is a group of community volunteers that advise the Board of citizen interests. The CAC usually meets monthly. At the end of 2025, there were eight CAC members. More information can be found at rpbcwd.org/Citizen-Advisory-Committee.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) includes representatives of cities, counties, and government agencies. The TAC provides technical advice to the District about projects and programs. The board of managers annually appoints members to the TAC. Staff from agencies or local government units are welcome to join us at these meetings. For a current list of TAC members, visit rpbcwd.org/advisors.

STAFF

In 2025, RPBCWD had 10 permanent staff and multiple seasonal technicians. A list of permanent staff is below.

Terry Jeffery
District Administrator
tjeffery@rpbcwd.org

Eleanor Mahon
Community Engagement Coordinator
emahon@rpbcwd.org

Dylan Monahan
Office Administrator
dmonahan@rpbcwd.org

Josh Maxwell
Water Resources & Fisheries Manager
jmaxwell@rpbcwd.org

Zach Dickhausen
Natural Resources Coordinator
zdickhausen@rpbcwd.org

Kayleigh Hein
Water Resources Technician
khein@rpbcwd.org

Liz Forbes
Communications Manager
lforbes@rpbcwd.org

Skye Slater
GIS Communications Specialist
aportoghese@rpbcwd.org

Andrew Hartmann
Regulatory Program Coordinator
ahartmann@rpbcwd.org

Rachel Whittington
Natural Resources Technician
rwhittington@rpbcwd.org

RPBCWD Contact Info

Administrator Terry Jeffery
18681 Lake Drive East
Chanhassen, MN 55317
info@rpbcwd.org
952-607-6512

CONSULTANTS

DISTRICT ENGINEER
Barr Engineering Co.
Attn: Scott Sobiech, CFM, PE
4300 Market Pointe Drive, Suite 200, Edina, MN 55435

LEGAL
Smith Partners PLLP
Attn: Louis Smith
250 S Marquette Ave, Ste 250, Minneapolis, MN 55401

ACCOUNTING
Redpath and Company, Ltd.
Attn: Bonnie Burns
4810 White Bear Parkway, White Bear Lake, MN 55110

AUDITING
Abdo
Attn: Justin Nilson
5201 Eden Avenue Ste 250, Edina, MN 55436

ADMINISTRATION & PLANNING

10-YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

The District's current Watershed Management Plan was adopted in 2018. The plan guides all the District's actions, from monitoring to water quality projects, over a 10-year period. The plan can be found at rpbcwd.org/10-year-plan. If you cannot access it online, contact District staff to obtain a copy.

Each year, a district workplan is developed to guide implementation of the 10-Year Watershed Management Plan. The workplan can be viewed in the next section of this report.

COMPONENTS OF THE 10-YEAR PLAN

Click item/chapter name to open URL.

Appendices

Amendments

LOCAL PLAN ADOPTION & IMPLEMENTATION

The District has received and approved Local Surface Water Management Plans for all cities within the District as required under the District's regulatory program. The District will continue to administer its regulatory program in all municipalities until such time as a city adopts local controls deemed to be equally protective.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The District's fund balance and financial status are included in the District's Annual Audit. The Annual Audit is included as Appendix D to this report. The District's audited financial report was prepared by Abdo, a certified public accounting firm. As required by Minnesota Rules §8410.0150, subp. 2, the Audited Financial Report includes classification and reporting of revenues and expenditures, a balance sheet, an analysis of changes in final balances, and all additional statements necessary for full financial disclosures.

2025 FINANCE REPORT

Upon completion in late spring of 2026, the 2025 Annual Financial Report will be available at rpbcwd.org/yearly-finance-reports and will be distributed as required by statute.

BIENNIAL SOLICITATION OF INTEREST PROPOSALS

Under Minnesota Statute §103B.227, subd. 5, the District must issue a biennial solicitation for professional services. In early 2023, the District solicited for engineering, legal, accounting, and auditing services through local newspapers, the District website, and professional organization websites. The District selected Barr Engineering for engineering services, Smith Partner for legal services, Redpath and Company for accounting services, and Abdo for auditing services.

Monarch on Swamp Milkweed by Yoko Yamasaki.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that we are on ancestral and contemporary Očhéthi Šakówiŋ land that was stolen from the Waȟpékhute Dakota tribe in the 1851 Treaty of Mendota. We recognize these tribal nations as the original stewards of the land, water, and natural resources within the District, and we honor the importance of protecting the culturally significant resources of this land.

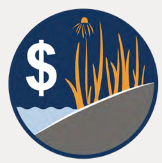
OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Our water monitoring program supports our management plan's goal to remove waterbodies from the MPCA Impaired Waters list. We regularly monitor thirteen lakes, three creeks, and two wetlands in the district. Collected data allows tracking of water quality trends over time and to determine if a waterbody is meeting standards.
rpbcwd.org/water-resources-program

PERMITTING

State law requires us to have water protection standards. We run a permitting program to help meet those standards. Anyone planning a project that triggers District rules must obtain a permit from the District before beginning work.
rpbcwd.org/permits



STEWARDSHIP COST SHARE

The Stewardship Grant program offers financial support for clean water projects to property owners in the watershed district. Project examples include habitat restorations, shoreline restorations, rain gardens, and tree trenches. Residents can earn up to $5,000 for a project! Non-profits can earn up to $20,000!
rpbcwd.org/grants

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There are many ways volunteers can help protect water. RPBCWD fosters an engaged community through an aquatic invasive species monitoring program, support of the Minnesota Water Steward program, working with our Citizen Advisory Committee, and offering events and workshops.
rpbcwd.org/volunteer

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Our capital improvement program identifies large-scale solutions and control measures to attain the District's water resource goals. Over the past 50 years, the District has implemented many projects, none of which would have been possible without our many community partners.
rpbcwd.org/projects

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

To update the District's [10-year Watershed Management Plan](), the District worked in 2018 to evaluate and prioritize its capital improvement projects. Of the 175 projects identified, the District, with input from partners, identified 34 projects to be implemented during the next 10 years beginning in 2018. One new project, Lake Riley Alum Treatment, was identified and added later. The table below provides a summary of the status of the District's Capital Improvement Program as of the end of 2025.

Status of Capital Improvement Projects Identified in Chapter 9 of the 10-year Plan.

Capital Improvement Project Name	Anticipated Substantial Completion	Status at end of 2024
BLUFF CREEK		
Bluff Creek Tributary	Completed 2024	Project closed out in Spring of 2024
Bluff Creek Reach 5	2028 or later	Due to budget constraints and impending plan update, this project has been pushed out until after the project prioritization metric is updated with the next 10-year plan.
Chanhassen High School	Completed 2019	Closed out in 2020 and operations turned over to ISD 112.
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Trail	Completed 2022	Substantial completion in July of 2022. Initial vegetation establishment and maintenance completed. Beginning 5-year monitoring and maintenance plan.
RILEY CREEK		
Like Riley Alum Treatment (second)	Completed 2020	Post-treatment monitoring continues including vegetation response. Additional corings and sediment release rate analysis in 2025.
Lake Susan Water Quality Improvement Phase 1	Completed 2019	Completed. Ongoing maintenance and data collection.
Rice Marsh Lake In-lake Phosphorus Load Control	Second dose fall 2025	Sediment analyis performed in 2024. Second dose scheduled for 2025.
Rice Marsh Lake Water Quality Improvement Phase 2	2022	Substantial completion in August of 2022. On-going vegetation establishment and maintenance. Monitoring of BMPs. Intake modifications and SCADA installation scheduled for 2024.
Riley Creek Restoration (Reach E and D3)	2020	Project closed out in fall of 2023. Management turned over to City of Eden Prairie.
Lake Riley and Rice Marsh Lake Subwatershed Assessment	Completed 2021	Assessment completed. Information to be used for holisitic subwatershed management plans begun in 2024.
Upper Riley Creek Stabilization	WInter 2027/2028	100% design complete; permitting finished.
Middle Riley Creek Restoration	Completed 2022	Substantial completion in August of 2022; ongoing vegetation establishment and maintenance as well as E&O.
St. Hubert Water Quality Project	Completed 2021	Substantially completion Sept of 2021; ongoing vegetation establishment; development of education curriculum.
PURGATORY CREEK		
Lotus Lake Kerber Pond Ravine	Completed 2026	The City of Chanhassen completed the stabilization of Kerber Pond Ravine with their 2026 road project.
Purgatory Creek Recreation Area - Berm/Retention Area feasibility and design	Feasibility completed 2022	Design 90% complete; collaborating with City of Eden Prairie; construction liekly to occur in 2027.
Lotus Lake In-lake phosphorus Load Control	Second dose completed 2024	Monitoring; second dose applied in fall of 2024.Study translocation of sediments and alum resulting from wake boat usage in 2025.
Silver Lake Water Quality Improvement Project	Completed 2024	Project closed out in Spring of 2025.
Scenic Heights	Completed 2020	Completed. Maintenance turned over to Minnetonka Public Schools and City of Minnetonka.
Hyland Lake In-lake phosphorus Load Control	First dose completed 2019	Completed; turned over lead to Three Rivers Parks; still partnering as requested.
Mitchell Lake Subwatershed Assessment	Completed 2021	Assessment completed.
Duck Lake Watershed Load	2021	Substantially complete; ongoing vegetation establishment .
Lotus Lake Watershed Load - LL_1, LL_3, LL_7, & LL_8	2028	Partnering with City of Chanhassen to turn LL1 (North Lotus Lake Stormwater Park) into a regional system that the city can rely on for credits for their programmed road projects. Anticipate plan completion in 2026 with construction in 2027.
Round Lake In-lake Phosphorus Load Control	First dose completed 2025	Partnership with City of Eden Prairie. Coring completed in 2024. Plan amendment in 2025. First dose completed fall of 2025.

2025 FINAL BUDGET & WORKPLAN

The District adopted its 2025 Annual Budget in September 2024 and shared it with county assessors in December 2024. A table of 2025 revenue and expenditures, including tasks, goals, and expenses is below. Values are rounded to the nearest dollar. To see complete revenue and expenditures, please review the RPBCWD yearly finance report at rpbcwd.org/yearly-financial-reports.

REVENUE

Item	2025 budget	Actual received
Levy for plan implementation	$ 4,249,905	$ 4,221,342
Permit fees	$ 110,000	$ 156,115
Grant income	$ 4,500	$ 31,087
Investment income	$ 250,000	$ 416,078
Partner funds	$ 0	$ 180
Reimbursements	$ 65,000	$ 0
TOTAL REVENUE	**$ 4,679,405**	**$ 4,824,802**

EXPENDITURES

ADMINISTRATION

Item	Tasks	Done?	Goals	2025 budget	Actual spent
Board administration	• Compensate managers for time and expense for official duties		Admin 1	$ 16,750	$ 37,486
Employees/staff	• Fund staff benefits such as salary and health insurance	X	Admin 1	$ 900,000	$ 948,325
General office	• Pay for office space, utilities, and supplies	X	Admin 1	$ 180,000	$ 220,482
Dues/insurance	• Purchase insurance for general liability, public official liability, property, and workers compensation • Purchase professional dues and publication subscriptions	X	Admin 1	$ 42,000	$ 80,914
Professional services	• Coordinate with auditor for development of annual audit report • Coordinate with accountants for development of financial reports • Work with engineering consultant for oversight of all District Engineering activities. Includes engineer attendance at District meetings, mini case studies, assistance with District water management planning activities and other matters requiring District Engineer, and assistance for the District Administrator as needed. • Work with legal consultant to prepare and review legal documentation • Collect fees for permit application reviews and project inspections • Maintain databases for permitting and cost share programs • Engage professional services for information technology, professional coach, human resources, banking, etc. • Hire professional recorder to take minutes for board meetings	X	Admin 1, EO1, Reg 1	$ 555,000	$ 559,504
Advisory committee	• Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management, regulatory program, and emerging topics. • Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water resources, regulatory program, grant program, E&O program, annual budget, and emerging topics	X	Admin 1, Plan 1	$ 5,000	$ 1,524
Fleet maintenance	• Maintain and repair vehicles for staff use	X	Admin 1	$ 12,000	$ 8,280
LAK lawsuit legal fees	• Legal costs associated with lawsuit brought against the RPBCWD by Larry Koch	X	Admin 1	$ 0	$ 14,741
			SUBTOTAL - ADMINISTRATION	**$ 1,710,750**	**$ 1,871,256**

DISTRICT WIDE

Item	Tasks	Done?	Goals	2025 budget	Actual spent
10-year management plan	• Review and evaluate regulatory program for improved efficiency • Review and evaluate project prioritization metrics • Facilitate meetings for TAC, CAC, and othe stakeholders • Develop Ecological Health Action Plan (EHAP)	X	Plan1, Plan 2	$ 110,000	$ 20,520
AIS detection and response	• Partner with municipalities and counties to provide watercraft inspections at launches • Provide capacity and mechanics for rapid response to newly discovered aquatic invasive plant populations	X	Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 71,000	$ 36,673
Cost-share/stewardship	• Provide financial incentive to private landowners to implement best management practices on their properties • Provide financial assistance to municipalities to implement and incorporate best management practices into facilities management and capital projects • Provide technical assistance to landowners concerning erosion prevention, sediment control, and surface water management	X	EO 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 200,000	$ 131,442
Data collection and monitoring	• Collect hydraulic, hydrologic, and water quality data on District lakes and streams • Monitor and assess near-bank scour and escarpment erosion • Maintenance of Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP) stations • Monitor flow rates and volumes as well as water quality parameters in areas identified as potential locations for BMPs • Monitor installed best management practices to assess efficacy and to guide future projects • Assist lake associations and municipalities in the development of lake management plans	X	DC 1, Wqual 1	$ 250,000	$ 178,211
District groundwater assessment*	• Work with cities to develop programs aimed at reduction of potable water supply use • Collect data and employ modeling to understand groundwater / surface water interaction		Ground 1, Plan 1	$ 175,000	$ 154
Community resilience	• Develop high resolution hydraulic and hydrologic model throughout the District • Develop flood risk mapping for various climate change impact scenarios • Partner with municipalities and local road authorities to identify and address community resilience practices and projects	X	Plan1, Plan 2	$ 200,000	$ 0
Education and outreach	• Work with local schools and other youth organizations to provide educational programs and curriculum pertaining to surface water management • Develop and disseminate information through written formats, website development, social media platforms, etc • Recruit, engage, and supervise volunteer groups • Engage in partnerships such as the Minnesota Water Steward program and the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative • Partner with municipalities to fulfill their MS4 requirements	X	EO1, Plan 1	$ 115,000	$ 82,031
Repair and maintenance	• Maintenance of best management practices initiated by the District	X	Admin 1, Plan 1	$ 100,000	$ 6,012
Wetland management*	• Assess all wetlands within the District utilizing the MN Rapid Assessment Methodology • Perform Floristic Quality Assessments on all District wetlands • Develop metrics for the assessment of functions and values that can be improved or restored throughout the District for water quality, erosion prevention, sediment control, habitat provision, biodiversity, community resilience • Develop and maintain GIS database of wetland function and values	X	Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wquan 1, Plan 2	$ 135,000	$ 29,329

DISTRICT WIDE (continued)

Item	Tasks	Done?	Goals	2025 budget	Actual spent
Lake vegetation management	• Perform point intercept surveys • Perform aquatic invasive species surveys • Perform turion counts	X	Wqual 1, Wqual 3, Data 1	$ 110,075	$ 49,670
Aquatic vegetation and shoreland plan	• Evaluation of current shoreline conditions and identification of resource areas of concern for mitigative purpose		DC 1, Plan 1, Plan 2, WQual 1	$ 44,170	$ 11,720
Fisheries plan	• Compilation of fisheries data on district lakes and reference lakes		DC1, WQual 3	$ 6,185	$ 1,830
			SUBTOTAL - DISTRICT WIDE	**$ 1,516,430**	**$ 547,592**

CAPITAL PROGRAM

Item	Tasks	Done?	Goals	2025 budget	Actual spent
BLUFF CREEK					
Upper Bluff Creek	• Feasibility and design of creek restoration in upper Bluff Creek near headwaters • Evaluation of headwater wetland for restoration, flood storage, and habitat restoration	X	Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3, Wquan 1, Plan 2, EO 1	$ 200,000	$ 24,767
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Trail*	• Removal of three homes from floodplain of large wetland complex • Restoration of seven acres of hydrologically altered wetland. • Flood storage, rate control, and stream protection for Bluff Creek • Work with volunteer organizations and local government to develop and provide for educational opportunities	X	Plan 2, Wquan 1	$ 15,000	$ 19,422
			Subtotal - Bluff Creek	**$ 215,000**	**$ 44,189**
RILEY CREEK					
Spring Road Conservation Project	• Acquisition, preservation, and restoration of 27 acres of prairie, woodland, wetland, and shrub savanna adjacent to Riley Creek and tributary to MN River for water resource protection, education, and scientific research	X	Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 500,000	$ 5,909,744
Upper Riley Creek Stabilization	• Feasibility, design, and construction of upper Riley Creek from TH 5 to Lake Susan.	X	Wqual 1,Wqual 3	$ 1,200,000	$ 22,697
RML 12A: Rice Marsh Lake water quality improvement project	• Installation of two inline manufactured treatment devices • Construction of bio-infiltration practice • Restoration of prairie area as well as soils correction for infiltration and for data collection of efficacy as treatment practice	X	Wqual 1, DC 1	$ 15,000	$ 12,149
Rice Marsh and Round in-lake phosphorus (P) control	• Sediment coring	X	Wqual 1, DC 1	$ 200,000	$ 365,431
Lake Riley in-lake phosphorus (P) control	• Continue monitoring of Lake Riley to determine future actions	X	Wqual 1, DC 1	$ 0	$ 22,697
St. Hubert water quality project	• Work with school staff to develop educational curriculum and opportunities for students at St Hubert's and elsewhere • Final plant establishment and punch list item completion for stabilization of St. Hubert Water Quality Project	X	EO 1, Wqual 1	$ 27,000	$ 0
Lucy, Ann and Susan watershed study	• Development of holistic plan evaluating pollutant loading, floodplain storage, resilience, priority resources, and source identification		Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 135,112	$ 55,498
Lake Susan Preserve internal phosphorus (P) load	• Data collection of sediment cores for phosphorous release and loading to Lake Susan		DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 50,000	$ 0
			Subtotal - Riley Creek	**$ 2,127,112**	**$ 6,388,216**

CAPITAL PROGRAM (continued)					
Item	**Tasks**	**Done?**	**Goals**	**2025 budget**	**Actual spent**
PURGATORY CREEK					
Purgatory Creek Rec Area berm repair	• Partnership with Eden Prairie to repair of berm for flood control, water treatment, and recreational access.		Wqual 1, Wqual 3, Plan 2	$ 135,000	$ 0
Lotus Lake in-lake phosphorus (P) control	• Dosing calculations for future alum treatment; will carry over to next year	X	Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 20,000	$ 0
North Lotus Lake Stormwater Park	• Design and feasibility of stormwater treatment practice in concert with Chanhassen		Wqual 1, DC 1, Plan 1	$ 200,000	$ 61,627
Mitchell and Red Rock watershed study	• Development of holistic plan evaluating pollutant loading, floodplain storage, resilience, priority resources, and source identification.		Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 129,645	$ 50,131
Kerber Pond ravine - Lotus Lake	• Partner with City of Chanhassen to stabilize tributary to Lotus Lake		Wqual 1, Plan 1	$ 75,000	$ 0
Silver Lake Water Quality BMP	• Final vegetation establishment and punch list items for project that installed iron enhanced sand filter ditch checks and channel stabilization		Wqual 1	$ 4,000	$ 0
Duck Lake Road Partnership	• Partnership with Eden Prairie to reconnect fragmented Duck Lake, protect lacustrian wetland areas and provide flood storage.		Wqual 1, Plan 1, Plan 2	$ 235,000	$ 0
			Subtotal - Bluff Creek	**$ 798,645**	**$ 111,758**
			SUBTOTAL - CAPITAL PROGRAM	**$ 3,140,757**	**$ 6,544,163**

	2025 budget	Actual spent
TOTAL — ALL EXPENDITURES	**$ 6,367,937**	**$ 8,963,011***

* Actual spent greater than budget because BOM amended the plan to include the Spring Road Conservation Project, which was paid for with a combinations of bonds, reserves, and LSOHC grant funds.

2026 ADOPTED BUDGET & WORKPLAN

REVENUE

Item	2026 budget
Levy for plan implementation	$ 4,245,208
Permit fees	$ 100,000
Grant income	$ 0
Investment income	$ 250,000
Partner funds	$ 0
Reimbursements	$ 0
TOTAL REVENUE	**$ 4,595,208**

The District adopted its 2026 Annual Budget in September 2025 and was shared with county assessors in December 2025. A table of 2026 revenue and expenditures, including tasks and goals, is below. Values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

2026 budget: Carry over and expendable funds

Item	Amount
Past levies (carry over)	$ 5,287,397
Expendable funds	$ 9,882,605

EXPENDITURES

ADMINISTRATION

Item	Tasks	Goals	2026 budget
Board administration	• Compensate managers for time and expense for official duties	Admin 1	$ 37,500
Employees/staff	• Fund staff benefits such as salary and health insurance	Admin 1	$ 1,176,840
General office	• Pay for office space, utilities, and supplies	Admin 1	$ 201,350
Dues/insurance	• Purchase insurance for general liability, public official liability, property, and workers compensation. • Purchase professional dues and publication subscriptions	Admin 1	$ 53,000
Professional services	• Coordinate with auditor for development of annual audit report • Coordinate with accountants for development of financial reports • Work with engineering consultant for oversight of all District Engineering activities. Includes engineer attendance at District meetings, mini case studies, assistance with District water management planning activities and other matters requiring District Engineer, and assistance for the District Administrator as needed. • Work with legal consultant to prepare and review legal documentation • Collect fees for permit application reviews and project inspections • Maintain databases for permitting and cost share programs • Engage professional services for information technology, professional coach, human resources, banking, etc. • Hire professional recorder to take minutes for board meetings	Admin 1, EO1, Reg 1	$ 622,500
Advisory committee	• Engage with the Technical Advisory Committee on water conservation, chloride management, regulatory program, and emerging topics. • Engage with the Citizen Advisory Committee on water resources, regulatory program, grant program, E&O program, annual budget, and emerging topics	Admin 1, Plan 1	$ 5,500
Fleet maintenance	• Maintain and repair vehicles for staff use	Admin 1	$ 12,500
		SUBTOTAL - ADMINISTRATION	**$ 2,109,190**

DISTRICT WIDE

Item	Tasks	Goals	2026 budget
10-year management plan	• Review and evaluate regulatory program for improved efficiency • Review and evaluate project prioritization metrics • Facilitate meetings for TAC, CAC, and other stakeholders • Develop Ecological Health Action Plan (EHAP)	Plan1, Plan 2	$ 230,000
AIS detection and response	• Partner with municipalities and counties to provide watercraft inspections at launches • Provide capacity and mechanics for rapid response to newly discovered aquatic invasive plant populations	Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 75,000
Cost-share/stewardship	• Provide financial incentive to private landowners to implement best management practices on their properties • Provide financial assistance to municipalities to implement and incorporate best management practices into facilities management and capital projects • Provide technical assistance to landowners concerning erosion prevention, sediment control, and surface water management	EO 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 275,000
Data collection and monitoring	• Collect hydraulic, hydrologic, and water quality data on District lakes and streams • Monitor and assess near-bank scour and escarpment erosion • Maintenance of Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP) stations • Monitor flow rates and volumes as well as water quality parameters in areas identified as potential locations for BMPs • Monitor installed best management practices to assess efficacy and to guide future projects • Assist lake associations and municipalities in the development of lake management plans	DC 1, Wqual 1	$ 200,000
District groundwater assessment*	• Work with cities to develop programs aimed at reduction of potable water supply use. • Collect data and employ modeling to understand groundwater / surface water interaction	Ground 1, Plan 1	$ 175,000
Community resilience	• Develop high resolution hydraulic and hydrologic model throughout the District • Develop flood risk mapping for various climate change impact scenarios • Partner with municipalities and local road authorities to identify and address community resilience practices and projects	Plan1, Plan 2	$ 200,000
Education and outreach	• Work with local schools and other youth organizations to provide educational programs and curriculum pertaining to surface water management • Develop and disseminate information through written formats, website development, social media platforms, etc • Recruit, engage, and supervise volunteer groups • Engage in partnerships such as the Minnesota Water Steward program and the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative • Partner with municipalities to fulfill their MS4 requirements	EO1, Plan 1	$ 105,000
Repair and maintenance	• Maintenance of best management practices initiated by the District	Admin 1, Plan 1	$ 105,000
Wetland management*	• Assess all wetlands within the District utilizing the MN Rapid Assessment Methodology • Perform Floristic Quality Assessments on all District wetlands • Develop metrics for the assessment of functions and values that can be improved or restored throughout the District for water quality, erosion prevention, sediment control, habitat provision, biodiversity, community resilience. • Develop and maintain GIS database of wetland function and values	Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wquan 1, Plan 2	$ 70,000
Lake vegetation management	• Perform point intercept surveys • Perform aquatic invasive species surveys • Perform turion counts	Wqual 1, Wqual 3, Data 1	$ 125,000
		SUBTOTAL - DISTRICT WIDE	**$ 1,560,000**

CAPITAL PROGRAM

Item	Tasks	Goals	2026 budget
BLUFF CREEK			
Upper Bluff Creek	• Feasibility and design of creek restoration in upper Bluff Creek near headwaters • Evaluation of headwater wetland for restoration, flood storage, and habitat restoration.	Wqual 21, Wqual 2, Wqual 3, Wquan 1, Plan 2, EO 1	$ 680,000
Wetland Restoration at Pioneer Trail*	• Removal of three homes from floodplain of large wetland complex • Restoration of seven acres of hydrologically altered wetland. • Flood storage, rate control, and stream protection for Bluff Creek • Work with volunteer organizations and local government to develop and provide for educational opportunities	Plan 2, Wquan 1	$ 17,100
RILEY CREEK			
Spring Road Conservation Project	• Acquisition, preservation, and restoration of 27 acres of prairie, woodland, wetland, and shrub savanna adjacent to Riley Creek and tributary to MN River for water resource protection, education, and scientific research.	Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 590,000
Upper Riley Creek Stabilization	• Feasibility, design, and construction of upper Riley Creek from TH 5 to Lake Susan.	Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 1,342,500
RML 12A: Rice Marsh Lake water quality improvement project	• Installation of two inline manufactured treatment devices • Construction of bio-infiltration practice • Restoration of prairie area as well as soils correction for infiltration and for data collection of efficacy as treatment practice	Wqual 1, DC 1	$ 0
St. Hubert water quality project	• Work with school staff to develop educational curriculum and opportunities for students at St Hubert's and elsewhere • Final plant establishment and punch list item completion for stabilization of St. Hubert Water Quality Project	EO 1, Wqual 1	$ 11,000
Lucy, Ann and Susan watershed study	• Development of holistic plan evaluating pollutant loading, floodplain storage, resilience, priority resources, and source identification.	Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 10,000
Lake Susan Preserve internal phosphorus (P) load	• Data collection of sediment cores for phosphorous release and loading to Lake Susan	DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 100,000
PURGATORY CREEK			
Purgatory Creek Rec Area berm repair	• Partnership with Eden Prairie to repair of berm for flood control, water treatment, and recreational access.	Wqual 1, Wqual 3, Plan 2	$ 150,000
Lotus Lake in-lake phosphorus (P) control	• Dosing calculations for future alum treatment; will carry over to next year	Wqual 1, Wqual 3	$ 5,000
North Lotus Lake Stormwater Park	• Design and feasibility of stormwater treatment practice in concert with Chanhassen	Wqual 1, DC 1, Plan 1	$ 350,000
Mitchell and Red Rock watershed study	• Development of holistic plan evaluating pollutant loading, floodplain storage, resilience, priority resources, and source identification.	Plan 1, Plan 2, DC 1, Wqual 1, Wqual 2, Wqual 3	$ 10,000
Kerber Pond ravine - Lotus Lake	• Partner with City of Chanhassen to stabilize tributary to Lotus Lake	Wqual 1, Plan 1	$ 0
		SUBTOTAL - CAPITAL PROGRAM	**$ 3,265,600**

TOTAL — 2026 ALL EXPENDITURES	**$ 6,934,790**

APPENDICES

A. Acronyms

B. Annual Communication

C. Water Resources Summary & Water Quality Factsheets

D. Wetland Program Report

E. Projects Report

F. Regulatory Program Report

G. Soil Health Program Report

H. Grant (Cost Share) Program Report

I. Education and Outreach Report

Appendices are available at
rpbcwd.org/annual-report