

WORK COMPLETED TO DATE CONT.

Water Quality Feasibility Study – Lilydale, Mendota Heights, St. Paul, West St. Paul and Sunfish Lake
Seidls Lake Outlet Feasibility Study – Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, and West St. Paul
Approval of South St. Paul Surface Water Management Plan
Approval of St. Paul Surface Water Management Plan
Approval of Sunfish Lake Surface Water Management Plan
Approval of Mendota Heights Surface Water Management Plan

Completed Construction Projects

Mendota Rd./Babcock Trail – Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul and West St. Paul
Akron Avenue – Inver Grove Heights and West St. Paul
Simon's Ravine - West St. Paul and South St. Paul
Ivy Falls Creek – Mendota Heights and West St. Paul
Mayfield Heights – Mendota Heights and Lilydale
Sunfish Lake Outlet – Sunfish Lake and Mendota Heights
Lilydale Stormwater Project No. 2 – Lilydale and Mendota Heights

Most of the above studies and projects from the 1989 plan address stormwater quality issues. More water quality issues will be addressed during the implementation of the LWRWMO's second generation plan.

Upcoming Activities and Projects in Design or Scheduled for Construction

Implementation of the second generation Watershed Management Plan, including:

- Water quality feasibility studies:
Simon's Ravine, Riverview Tunnel, Lafayette 1 & 2, St. Paul 1 & 2, and St. Paul Airport Watersheds
- Annual meeting to set goals, evaluate progress on plan implementation
- Creation of an internet web site
- Support of Dakota County Environmental Education Program (cash contribution)
- Work with member cities to implement plan standards prior to local plan approval
- Thompson Avenue/Ivy Falls Creek Diversion – Mendota Heights and West St. Paul
- Rain water gardens – Mendota Heights
- Seidels Lake Outlet

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Plans are on file at local libraries, and at each of the member cities where they can be viewed during normal business hours. Further information concerning LMRWMO activities can be obtained at member community municipal offices.



Inver Grove Heights
Lilydale
Mendota Heights
St. Paul
South St. Paul
Sunfish Lake
West St. Paul

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

2006 Newsletter

INTRODUCTION

The Lower Mississippi River Management Organization (LMRWMO) was established by a Joint Powers Agreement on October 25, 1985. It was formed to meet the requirements of the Metropolitan Surface Water Management Act Chapter 509, Laws of 1982; Minnesota Statutes 473.875-473.883 (subsequently recodified to 103B.201 to 103B.255). The Act requires, among other things, the preparation of Watershed Management Plans in the Metropolitan area. The Lower Mississippi River Watershed comprises 35,493 acres, and includes all or part of Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota Heights, St. Paul, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul.

FUNDAMENTAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION PRINCIPLES

The fundamental premise behind the Watershed Management Statute is that rainfall and storm water runoff has no regard for municipal boundaries. Rain that falls in one community may run through another city or county causing flooding, erosion, or the degradation of water quality downstream. The LMRWMO was established to address intercommunity storm water issues within the watershed, ensure that any intercommunity storm water projects constructed, or studies conducted, follow accepted engineering standards, and that the costs incurred be allocated proportionately to member cities through a mutually agreed cost share formula. The Watershed Management Organization (WMO) guiding principles also apply to the monitoring, evaluation, and protection of the quality of storm water runoff, groundwater, fish and wildlife habitat, as well as serving as an education resource to the general public in these matters.

HISTORY OF THE LMRWMO

A Joint Powers Agreement established the LMRWMO on October 25, 1985. One of the duties of the LMRWMO when it was formed was the preparation of a WMO plan. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is the governing body that has final approval authority for all WMO plans. BWSR formally approved the original LMRWMO plan on July 26, 1989. Each city was to prepare an individual city storm water management plan that conformed with the LMRWMO plan after approval of the original plan in 1989. Approval of this plan established a procedure to initiate studies to address specific intercommunity drainage issues, and to subsequently fund construction projects to alleviate specific storm water system deficiencies.

The WMO began preparing its second generation Watershed Management Plan in 1999. The planning process included the formation and involvement of a Citizen Advisory Committee. BWSR approved the second generation plan on May 23, 2001, the LMRWMO Board adopted the plan on September 20, 2001, and the plan was published and distributed in October 2001.



LMRWMO PURPOSES

As stated in its second generation plan, the LMRWMO’s purposes are to:

- Reduce to the greatest practical extent, the public capital expenditures necessary to manage storm water runoff and water resources, while pursuing the goals of this plan.
- Maintain local control – the LMRWMO will not administer a permit program.
- Manage and assist member communities with intercommunity runoff and water management issues. The member communities are responsible for primary management of storm water runoff and water quality issues.
- Classify and monitor intercommunity water resources. Assist communities in monitoring or management plan/studies so communities can manage intercommunity water resources to meet their intended use. Intercommunity water resources are water bodies that have watersheds in more than one community.
- Monitor and evaluate storm water runoff quality.
- Coordinate intercommunity management and planning for storm water runoff, flooding, and other water quality issues.
- Develop policies and facilitate educational programs to be implemented by the cities to protect water resources of the LMRWMO.
- Assess performance of the member Cities in achieving the goals stated in this plan.
- Provide member cities with useful information about the LMRWMO, its activities, and water resources management.

Each municipality within the watershed will be required to develop a specific local management plan that conforms to the LMRWMO second generation plan.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

The Board consists of seven managers appointed by their representative municipalities. Meetings are held every other month on the 3rd Thursday at designated member city offices. The public is invited to attend WMO Board meetings. For specific meeting times and locations, contact your Board of Managers representative. Advisory committees are appointed as needed. LMRWMO Board Members are:

Gary Johnson, Vice-Chairman	Inver Grove Heights	651-450-2571
Jerry Friedmann	Lilydale	651-452-1907
Sue McDermott	Mendota Heights	651-452-1850
Anne Weber	St. Paul	651-266-6245
John Sachi, Secretary/Treasurer	South St. Paul	651-554-3210
Richard Williams, Jr., Chairman	Sunfish Lake	651-554-1201
Diane Englin-Elliott	West St. Paul	651-457-0312

FUNDING

The general operating costs of the LMRWMO is funded by local tax levies applied to all member cities. This revenue also financed the preparation of the original Watershed Management Plan, and the Second Generation Watershed Management Plan of the LMRWMO.

In addition to the funding provided by member communities for projects, the WMO has received funding from the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District, the Dakota County Highway Department, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and grant funds from the Special Water Management Plan Implementation Levy Fund and Urban Lawn Care Grant of the Dakota County Environmental Education Program.

WORK COMPLETED TO DATE

Engineering Studies and Other Non-Construction Related Activities

- Marie Creek Base Flow Study** – Mendota Heights
- Runoff Quality Modeling Study** – Ivy Falls & Interstate Valley Creeks, and Hwy 13 watersheds
- Preparation and Approval of Second Generation Watershed Management Plan**
- Simon’s Ravine** – South St. Paul and West St. Paul
- Akron Avenue** – Inver Grove Heights and West St. Paul
- 110/494 Watershed** – Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul, West St. Paul and Sunfish Lake
- Lexington Avenue/Mayfield Heights** – Mendota Heights and Lilydale
- Ivy Falls Creek** - Mendota Heights and West St. Paul
- Thompson Avenue Diversion** - Mendota Heights and West St. Paul
- Kaposia Dam (19th Avenue)**– South St. Paul
- Seidl’s Lake** – Inver Grove Heights, South St. Paul and West St. Paul
- Mississippi River Storm Water Outfall Sedimentation Reductions** – Inver Grove Heights
- Water Quality Grant Initiative** – South St. Paul
- Storm Water Management Plan Update** – Inver Grove Heights
- Urban Lawn Care Grant** - Dakota County Environmental Education Program
- Local Watershed Plan Approval Conforming with Original 1989 Plan** - Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota Heights, West St. Paul, South St. Paul, and Sunfish Lake