



# LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

## Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting  
Wednesday, May 18, 2022

### **Agenda Item**

#### **Item 5. A. – Metro Children’s Water Festival**

### **Prepared By**

Linda Loomis, Administrator

### **Summary**

The Metro Children’s Water Festival has been virtual the past two years due to the COVID 19 Health Emergency. Organizers of the Festival annually solicit sponsors for the event. The LMRWD has been a sponsor for many years and last contributed to the event in 2020, when the event was virtual. Enough funds were raised in 2020 that sponsors were not sought in 2021.

In 2022, the organizers plan to return to an in-person event that will be held at the State Fair Grounds. They are seeking sponsors for this year’s event. In the past, the LMRWD has provided funds for transportation to the event, historically sponsoring 6 buses. This has been the level of sponsorship in past years. Six buses total \$1,650. There are funds in the 2022 LMRWD budget for this expenditure under education.

### **Attachments**

Metro Children’s Water Festival

### **Recommended Action**

Motion to sponsor 2022 Metro Children’s Water Festival



April 12, 2022

Dear Linda Loomis,

We are kicking off the fund-raising campaign for the **25<sup>th</sup> annual Metro Children's Water Festival (MCWF)**. Our last in-person festival was in 2019, before the Covid-19 pandemic. At that festival, we hosted 1,925 students from 24 schools around the metro area. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the festival switched to a virtual format for 2020 and 2021. The 2021 virtual festival hosted 1,892 students. The planning committee (committee), who organizes the MCWF, is hoping to hold the festival in-person for 2022. The committee is having conversations with school administrators, principals and teachers, along with public health officials, to discuss safe-guards that would need to be put in place for to ensure a safe festival for all. As this planning is taking place, the committee is fully prepared to switch to an on-line festival at any time it is necessary. But we are cautiously optimistic and excited at the idea of hosting at least some student's in-person.

### **What is the Children's Water Festival?**

The festival is an interactive, hands-on, educational outreach program. The festival educates, motivates and challenges children to understand, conserve and protect water resources. It is one of the premier K-12 education events in the metro area and helps teachers achieve state and school district science standards for 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The festival is one of the largest education collaborations in the metro area and has been increasing awareness of water issues and solutions in students and adults for almost 25 years. Since it began in 1998 over 26,100 and 1,003 teachers have attended the in-person festivals.

### **Why sponsor the Children's Water Festival?**

- It provides free education on water resources to 4<sup>th</sup> graders in the metro area.
- It inspires students to learn more about water resources and protect clean water for future generations.
- It provides science enrichment that helps teachers meet state education standards.
- It creates enthusiasm and awareness around one of our most precious resources.
- Be recognized as a business or entity that supports water and environmental learning. Sponsors are recognized at the festival, in the festival booklet, on <https://metrocnwf.org/sponsors/>, through press releases and articles, and receive a certificate of sponsorship. We can provide the CWF logo to put on your website.

### **How will funds be used?**

The festival is provided free to students. Sponsored funds cover rental charges for the State Fair Grounds where it's hosted, presenter fees, food & beverages for volunteers and presenters, materials for certain activities, and website hosting and maintenance. Sponsorship also covers some busing costs for schools that cannot afford transportation. Most organizers and the planning committee members are from public and private agencies that volunteer their time and expertise.

### **How to sponsor**

Fill out and return the enclosed sponsor form. Thank you for supporting this event that gives so much to the children of Minnesota and identifies the metro area as a national leader in environmental stewardship.

Learn more at <https://metrocnwf.org/>

Thank you,

Jessica Collin-Pilarski

Metro Children's Water Festival Planning Committee

651-430-6703 or [jessica.collin-pilarski@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:jessica.collin-pilarski@co.washington.mn.us)

# Metropolitan Conservation Districts



## 2022 METRO CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL SPONSOR FORM

Sponsors will be recognized in the Festival Program, at Festival site, in press releases, on the website and will receive a certificate of sponsorship. The Festival Program will be distributed to all participants (teachers, presenters, sponsors and volunteers) at and after the Festival.

\_\_\_\_\_ We would like to be a Festival sponsor by funding educational materials, presenters and facility rental:  
(Please circle one.)

**\$250**

**\$500**

**\$1000**

**\$2000**

**Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ We would like to donate materials (e.g. t-shirts, food, etc.), services or volunteers. Please ask a Festival organizer to call \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
(contact person) (phone number)

We would like to sponsor a school(s) by paying for transportation costs: (approx. \$275/bus.)

**We would like to sponsor 6 buses**

\_\_\_\_\_ We would be interested in having a company representative help the day of the event.

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**Please make check payable to: Metro Conservation Districts**

CONTACT NAME Linda Loomis DATE May 18, 2022

COMPANY Lower Minnesota River Watershed District  
(Please print this exactly as you wish it to appear in the program.)

ADDRESS 112 East 5th Street, Suite #102, Chaska, MN 55318  
(Street, City or Town, Zip)

PHONE 763-545-4659 E-MAIL naiadconsulting@gmail.com

### PLEASE RETURN TO:

Jessica Collin-Pilarski  
Washington County  
Department of Public Health & Environment  
14949 62nd Street North  
Stillwater, MN 55082



## Metro Children's Water Festival