



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

March 2022 Administrator report
From: Linda Loomis, Administrator
To: LMRWD Board of Managers

In addition to items on the meeting agenda, the following District projects and issues were addressed during the month:

Other Work

BSWR Grant reconciliation

On February 15, 2022, the LMRWD was notified by BWSR that the LMRWD grant P19-3264 has been selected for financial reconciliation. A fact sheet related to the reconciliation process is attached. Documentation requested was uploaded to the BWSR elink system on March 2, 2022 and BWSR was notified.

2022 Watershed Based Implementation Funding

At the October 2021 BWSR Board meeting, the Board adopted the FY 2022/2023 Watershed-based Implementation Funding Program. Funds were allocated according to Watershed Planning Areas (WPAs). The Lower Minnesota River WPA corresponds to the boundaries of the LMRWD. BWSR will not convene meetings to set goal and priorities and to choose projects to fund. The LMRWD will host the convene meeting, Wednesday, March 16, from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. The amount of the Lower Minnesota River allocation is \$127,068.

Seminary Fen Work Group

On February 15, 2022, members of this group met to discuss the most effective monitoring plan for Seminary Fen. Some of the wells (which are owned by the LMRWD) are on private property and there is no easement to access to property to measure and/or maintain the wells. Carver County and the DNR have also reported that often these wells are underwater, due to flooding. Sealing these wells was discussed and it was the consensus of the group that these wells be sealed. The DNR provided an estimate for having the DNR seal the wells. Carver County will reach out to the property owners to let them know it is being recommended that the wells are sealed. If the Homeowner agrees Carver County will get permission to access the wells. The LMRWD will contact the MN Department of Health.

The group will reconvene to discuss next steps.

Scott County Water Education Partnership (SCWEP)

On February 23, 2022, the SCWEP met to review accomplishments in 2021 and plan its work in 2022. The Scott Soil & Water Conservation District (SSWCD) informed all the partners that it will be cutting back on its activities due to funding constraints. The partnership asked the SSWCD to pull together a cost accounting of each of the SCWEP activities for the partners to review and share with their respective governing bodies. The Annual Report is on the March agenda to receive and file. The 2022 workplan is attached. Tasks that will not be carried out in 2022 due to cost constraints have been crossed out on the workplan.

Lower Minnesota River East One Watershed One Plan

The Planning Committee met on Thursday, March 3, 2022. The planning committee finalized the request for Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) and discussed firms to invite to submit SOQs for facilitation and drafting of the 1W1P. The group was encouraged to get the MOAs signed and discussed planning the public kick-off meeting for the plan development. The policy committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 17, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Kraemer Quarry

The City of Burnsville held two informational meetings regarding the future of Kraemer Quarry. The LMRWD was invited to attend. YECG has prepared a summary of the presentation made by the City and it is attached for the Board's information.

Gun Club Fen

A deep scar in the peat of Gun Club Fen was brought to the attention of the LMRWD. Young Environmental Consulting Group researched the scar and then scheduled a meeting between the LMRWD, and the DNR. The problem that created the scar and continues to erode the peat is stormwater that enters the fen from a culvert under the Union Pacific Railroad south of the fen.

The scar is growing, and all agreed that there needs to be a project to ameliorate the stormwater concentrations and then some level of restoration of the fen. The group wanted to include policy makers to assist with the decision as to what level of restoration should be attempted. This item will come before the Board at a future meeting. Some pictures provided by the DNR follow at the end of this report.

Watershed Plan Projects

Gully Inventory and condition assessment: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

Eden Prairie Area #3 Stabilization: Work continues on this project. There is information regarding this project in the 2022 Legislative Agenda Report.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/mn-river-corridor-management-project>

Seminary Fen ravine stabilization project: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/bwsr-clean-water-fund-grant-administration>

East Chaska Creek: (Carver County Watershed Based Funding): This project is complete, and reporting is up-to-date. The grant cannot be closed out yet, but this is only one of four projects included in the grant. This project is part of the BWSR reconciliation.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/east-chaska-creek-bank-stabilization>

Schroeder Acres Park (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): The LMRWD received a grant to assist funding this project that was set to expire 12/31.2021. An extension of the grant was received. There is no new information to report since the last update. This project is part of the BWSR reconciliation.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/schroeder-acres-parkeagle-creek-sub-watershed-stormwater-study>

Shakopee Downtown BMP Retrofit (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): The LMRWD received a grant to assist funding this project that was set to expire 12/31.2021. An extension of the grant was received. There is no new information to report since the last update. This project is part of the BWSR reconciliation.

Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/targeted-bmps-downtown-shakopee>

PLOC (Prior Lake Outlet Channel) Restoration (Scott County Watershed Based Funding): The LMRWD received a grant to assist funding this project that was set to expire 12/31.2021. An extension of the

grant was received. Payment to the City was authorized by the Board at the January 19, 2022 meeting. Final reporting to BWSR regarding this grant is complete, however the grant cannot be closed out because this is one of four projects included in the grant. This project is part of the BWSR reconciliation. Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/prior-lake-outlet-channel-realignmentwetland-restorationhis>

Hennepin County Chloride Project (HHCI) (Hennepin County Watershed Based Funding): This group met March 1, 2022. MP+G Marketing Solutions presented the results of their research. The report they presented is attached. There is a smaller subset of this group that has been working with MP + G and will continue to meet to

Brooke Asleson, statewide Chloride noted that the state has loans available that can be used in conjunction with the grant program. This information will be shared on the grant web page.

Members of the Lower MN River Chloride group have met to plan how to distribute the money remaining. An application was received from the Edina school District for a grant. A spreadsheet for the grant received is attached for the Board's information. The MPCA has posted notice of this grant program on its [Statewide Chloride Resources page](#). Grant details for this project can be found on the LMRWD website using this link <http://lowermnriverwd.org/news/chloride-reduction-grants-available>.

Vegetation Management Plan: No new information to report since the last update.

Sustainable Lake Management Plan: Trout Lakes: There is no new information to report since the last update.

Geomorphic Assessment of Trout Streams: There is no new information to report since the last update. Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/geomorphic-assessment-trout-streams>

Spring Creek Cost Share: At the January 19, 2022 Board meeting the Board authorized staff to move ahead with Items 1, 2, and 7 of the work plan presented at the meeting and then report back to the Board before proceeding with the plan. LMRWD has contacted the City of Carver to discuss the findings of the LMRWD investigation. We have not heard back from the City yet. Project website: <http://lowermnriverwd.org/projects/spring-creek>

West Chaska Creek Re-meander: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1695a2cf90b44ddba730aad399196405>

Seminary Fen Ravine Restoration Area C2: No new information to report since last update.

MN River Corridor Plan: The meeting of stakeholders scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2022 was cancelled. LMRWD efforts will be focused on convening the Watershed Based Implementation Funding. LMRWD staff felt pursuing both projects at the same time is asking for too much time commitment from LMRWD partners.

Project Reviews

Many of the project listed below are projects for which the LMRWD has issued permits. Young Environmental provides a list of projects with its monthly invoice, which we are not sure gives the Board a clear picture of the status of each project. This month a spreadsheet is attached to the Administrator report that shows the progression of projects through the permit process. If this is easier for the Board to use, we will continue to provide this format and can delete projects from the "Project Review" list below. The spreadsheet will basically replace this portion of the Administrators Report.

Biff's, Inc.: City of Burnsville – 12547 Dupont Avenue South – This project proposes construction of an office/warehouse building with outdoor storage. Staff is reviewing this application.

10080 Azure Skies: City of Eden Prairie – Residential home construction. The home was constructed prior to implementation of LMRWD permit program. Exposed slope in the backyard needs stabilization.

Backyard is in the steep slope overlay district. When applicant applied to city for permit, he was informed he needed to apply for a LMRWD permit. Staff is reviewing this application.

RSI Marine: City of Chanhassen – 10500 & 10520 Great Plains Boulevard -The City has been asked to consider a request for Conceptual PUD approval for a mixed-use Planned Unit Development (PUD) which would permit the construction of four 20,000 square-foot storage buildings on approximately 8.3 acres with a land use designation of Mixed. The LMRWD has not yet received an application for this project. The LMRWD has received notice under the Wetland Conservation Act.

CHS Savage Terminal: City of Savage -6400 West Highway 13 – CHS is proposing the renovation of the truck staging area, unloading area and access to the terminal and scale. The construction will increase the efficiency of the terminal to process and unload semi-trucks delivering grain to the terminal and reduce back-ups. A Notice of Decision was received from the City of Savage for this project. The LMRWD received an application for this project, which staff is reviewing.

Ivy Brook Parking East: City of Burnsville - 2100 Frontage Road N. – This project proposes to construct a office building and parking lot to park vehicles, equipment and light materials. This item is on the March 16, 2022, Board agenda.

Ivy Brook Parking West: City of Burnsville – 3509 Highway 13 W. – This project proposes to expand the existing truck parking lot at an existing truck parking facility. This item is on the March 16, 2022 Board agenda.

Merriam Junction Trail: Scott County – Scott County is proposing a trail with a river crossing to the City of Carver. The alignment of the proposed trail is in the vicinity of the old Carver Railroad Bridge. No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.scottcountymn.gov/2036/Merriam-Junction-Regional-Trail>

West Creek Apartments: City of Chaska – 401 Hickory Lane N. – This application is for an apartment building and parking lot in the City of Chaska. An application has been received, which staff is reviewing.

Project website: <https://london-group.com/bricks-and-mortar/current-developments/chaska-supportive-housing/>

I-35W Trail Realignment: City of Burnsville – A permit for this project was conditionally approved by the Board at the January 19, 2022, Board of Managers meeting.

Project website: <https://www.burnsvillemn.gov/2207/I-35W-Bridge-Crossing-Multi-use-Trail>

Cliff Road Ramps: City of Burnsville – A permit for this project was conditionally approved by the Board at the January 19, 2022, Board of Managers meeting.

Project website: <https://www.burnsvillemn.gov/2240/Cliff-Road-I-35W-Southbound-Ramp-Improve>

MAC 2022 Perimeter Gate Security Improvements: MSP Airport – A permit for this project was conditionally approved by the Board at the January 19, 2022, Board of Managers meeting.

Shakopee Dental Office: City of Shakopee – A permit for this project was approved by the Board at the December 15, 2021 Board meeting.

Kraemer Quarry/Cemstone: - City of Burnsville – The LMRWD reviewed an application to the DNR to appropriate water for the manufacture of ready-mix concrete. The LMRWD reviewed the application and submitted comments to the DNR and requested a copy of a groundwater technical review the DNR asked to be completed. A LMRWD permit will not be required as there is no land disturbing activity associated with the groundwater appropriation.

I 494 River Crossing Improvement Project: - MnDOT: SP 2785-433 - This project proposes improvements to the 494 bridge over the MN River. It will widen and reconstruct the existing trail, replace lighting, and deteriorated concrete median, repair concrete pavement and reconstruct bituminous shoulder. There

have been additional communications from MnDOT since the last update, however the LMRWD has not received an application for this project.

CenterPoint Energy Nicollet River Crossing Segment 1 and CenterPoint Energy Nicollet River Crossing Segment 2: – Cities of Bloomington and Burnsville – This project is on the March 16, 2022, agenda.

Excel Energy Line 0832: - City of Burnsville – A permit for this project was approved at the September 2021 Board of Managers meeting.

Lone Oak Signal: - City of Eagan – A permit for this project was approved at the October 2021 Board of Managers meeting. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Canterbury Senior Living Center: - City of Shakopee – This project has been renamed Omry. Conditional approval of a permit for this project was given at the September 2021 Board of Managers meeting. The LMRWD has received the additional documentation requested and the permit will be issued. There is no new information to report since the last update.

MN Mash: - City of Savage – Staff is still working with the applicant on this project. LMRWD Staff met with the City and proponent to discuss public improvements the applicant is responsible for as part of the project.

Circle K/Holiday Station Store: - City of Savage – A permit for this project was conditionally approved at the September 2021 Board of Managers meeting. No new information to report since last update.

South Park Jeep: - City of Burnsville – A permit for this project was approved at the September 2021 Board of Managers meeting.

Trunk Highway (TH) 55: - MNDOT - Bloomington Road to TH 52, Mendota Heights - The LMRWD received an application for a permit to resurface the roadway, improve drainage, make pedestrian accessibility improvements, and rehabilitate bridges on MN 55 from the east end of bridge over Bloomington Road in Minneapolis to junction US 52 in Inver Grove Heights. There is no new information to report since the last update. Construction is scheduled for Spring 2022 through fall 2022.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy55mpls-invergroveheights/>

Burnsville Sanitary Landfill (BSL): - City of Burnsville – The Final Environmental Impact Statement has been received.

Project website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/burnsville-sanitary-landfill-expansion-project>

DEM-CON Landfill: - City of Shakopee - There is no new information to report since the last update.

4905 TH Highway 13: - City of Savage – A permit for this project was issued at the August Board of Managers meeting.

TH 169 Pedestrian Bridge: - City of Shakopee – No new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/recreation/parks-trails-projects/highway-169-pedestrian-bridge>

2021 Safety & Security Center Phase 1: - Metropolitan Airport Commission – A permit for this project was approved at the November 2021 Board meeting.

106th Street Transportation Improvement Project: - City of Bloomington – This project was conditionally approved at the June 2, 2021, Board meeting.

Burnsville Cemetery Expansion: - City of Burnsville – A permit for this project was approved at the October 2021 Board of Managers meeting.

Capstone 35: - City of Burnsville – This project was conditionally approved at the May 19, 2021, Board meeting. The LMRWD has received the requested additional documentation and the permit has been issued. No new information to report since last update.

Jefferson Court: - City of Shakopee – A permit for this project was approved at the June 2, 2021, Board meeting.

TH 41/CSAH 61: - City of Chaska - This project is for transportation improvements to TH 41 in downtown Chaska, including the intersection of TH 41 with CSAH 61. On January 6, 2022, staff met with Engineers for this project to discuss the documentation the LMRWD will require in order to issue a permit. There is no new information to report since the last update.

CSAH 61 Drainage Channel Extension: - Carver County – A permit for this project was approved at the October Board of Managers meeting.

Credit River Outfall Repair: - City of Savage - This project is to repair the Credit River outfall where it daylighted after going under TH 13 in Savage. The city has applied for a public waters work permit for this project. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Southbridge Crossing 6th Addition/Core Crossing: - City of Shakopee – A permit for this project was approved at the July 21, 2021 Board of Managers meeting.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/southbridge-crossings>

Quarry Lake Park Improvements: City of Shakopee –Components to this project are; 1) a mountain bike trail in the southern portion of the site, 2) improvements to the park area and changes to accommodate the water-ski club and 3) an outlet of the lake to the Prior Lake Outlet Channel (PLOC). The City has removed (3) from the project. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/recreation/parks-trails/parks-trails-projects/quarry-lake-park>.

Prairie Heights: City of Eden Prairie - This project is a residential housing development in Eden Prairie that is partially in the LMRWD and partially in Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD). It is not in a High Value Resource Area or the Steep Slope Overlay zone. Permitting authority was given to RPBCWD. No new information to report since the last update.

Carver County CSAH 10: City of Chaska – This project is 92% complete. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/public-works/projects-studies/highway-10-study-victoria-chaska-area>

Keyland Development/Whispering Waters: - City of Shakopee – This permit was approved at the June 16, 2021 Board meeting.

Hentges Industrial park: City Shakopee - A portion of this property is being developed as Southwest Logistics Center (SLC). A permit for SLC was approved at the March 2021 meeting of the LMRWD Board of Managers. Additional developments are planned for this property. There is no new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/hentges-industrial-park>

9960 Deerbrook, Chanhassen: No new information to report since last update.

Summerland Place Residential Development: Shakopee - No new information since last update.

Project website: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/summerland-place>

Timber Creek Residential Development EAW: Carver - No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.cityofcarver.com/timber-creek/>

MNDOT TH13 Improvement: This project was conditionally approved by the Board at the February 16, 2022 meeting.

Project website: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy13savageburnsville/index.html>

Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/upperpost/index.html>

Dakota County - MN River Greenway: There are two components to this project the extension of the trail and a bridge over the Union Pacific Railroad. A permit for the trail was approved by the Board of Managers at the November 2021 meeting. An update for this project is on the March 16, 2022 agenda.

Project website: <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/About/TrailPlanning/Pages/minnesota-river.aspx>

City of Burnsville - Freeway Dump and Landfill: No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/freeway-landfill-and-dump>

City of Eden Prairie - Peterson Wetland Bank: No new information to report since last update.

City of Chanhassen - TH 101 Improvements: No new information to report since the last update.

Project website: <https://www.highway101improvements.com/>

MNDOT - I494 from TH169 to Minnesota River: MNDOT – No new information to report since last update.

Project website: <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i494-airport-hwy169/index.html>

MAC/LMRWD/MCWD boundary realignment: No new information to report since last update.

USACOE/USFWS - Bass Ponds, Marsh & Wetland: This project is complete. The Corps of Engineers is planning to hold its August River Resource Forum in Savage and touring this project.

Project website: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Home/Projects/Article/1467604/upper-mississippi-river-restoration-program-bass-ponds-marsh-wetland-habitat-re/>

Upcoming meetings/events

Managers are invited to attend any of these meetings. Most are free of charge and if not the LMRWD will reimburse registration fees.

- UMWA monthly meeting – Thursday, March 17, 2022, meeting will be virtual, contact District Administrator to attend
- Lower MN River East 1W1P Policy Committee – Thursday, March 17, 3:00 to 5:00, LeSueur and virtual
- LMRWD Citizen Advisory Committee meeting – Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 9:00 am, meeting will be virtual, use this link to join
- [Water Connects Us](#) – Freshwater virtual benefit – Tuesday April 26, 2022, 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Pictures of Gun Club Fen scar



Gun Club Fen looking downstream from top of bank



Looking downstream from the west bank



Looking at right bank facing
NE – peat boulders in
foreground



Looking downstream facing
NW peat boulder in mid-
Channel



Panorama view of scar through peat

| Permit No. | Project Name | City | Status | Pre-Permit Meeting | Date Received | Date Application Considered Complete | Board Actions | | | On Hold / Cancelled | Permit Issued | Permit Expiration Date | Renewed | Inspection Date | Date Permit Closed |
|------------|---|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | | Information Only | Conditional Approval | Approval | | | | | | |
| 2019-085 | Minnesota Bluffs LRT Regional Trail Repair | Chanhausen | Active Permit | - | 12/12/2019 | | - | | | - | 5/20/2020 | June 2023 | - | - | - |
| 2020-110 | CSAH 11 Reconstruction | Carver | Active Permit | - | 9/28/2020 | 11/3/2020 | - | 12/16/2020 | - | - | 4/13/2021 | 4/13/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2020-113 | Fort Snelling Redevelopment (2019-057) | Fort Snelling | Active Permit | - | 7/20/2020 | 8/12/2020 | - | 8/19/2020 | - | - | 9/11/2020 | 8/19/2022 | 7/21/2021 | - | - |
| 2020-132 | 77th Street Underpass | Bloomington | Active Permit | 10/18/2020 | 10/21/2020 | 11/12/2020 | 11/18/2020 | 12/16/2020 | - | - | 7/27/2021 | 7/27/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2020-135 | Canterbury Crossings | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 11/19/2020 | 12/3/2020 | - | 12/16/2020 | - | - | 5/11/2021 | 5/11/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-002 | CSAH 61 Drainage Ditch | Chanhausen | Active Permit | - | 2/1/2021 | 10/11/2021 | - | - | 10/20/2021 | - | 10/21/2021 | 10/20/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-003 | Southwest Logistics Center | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 2/11/2021 | 3/12/2021 | - | 3/17/2021 | - | - | 4/21/2021 | 4/21/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-007 | Burnsville Cemetery Expansion | Burnsville | Active Permit | 3/5/2021 | 9/2/2021 | 9/17/2021 | - | 10/20/2021 | - | - | 11/17/2021 | 10/20/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-009 | Burnsville Industrial IV | Burnsville | Active Permit | 4/2/2021 | 3/22/2021 | 3/31/2021 | - | 4/21/2021 | - | - | 4/23/2021 | 4/21/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-011 | 2021 Street & Utility Reconstruction | Shakopee | Active Permit | 3/30/2021 | 3/30/2021 | 4/16/2021 | - | 4/21/2021 | - | - | 4/28/2021 | 4/28/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-012 | Canterbury Park Parking Lots Phase 2 | Shakopee | Active Permit | 4/1/2021 | 4/2/2021 | 4/10/2021 | - | 4/21/2021 | - | - | 5/11/2021 | 5/11/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-013 | Summerland Place | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 4/8/2021 | 5/27/2021 | - | 4/21/2021 | - | - | 4/26/2021 | 4/22/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-015 | Stagecoach Rd Improvements | Shakopee | Active Permit | 4/16/2021 | 4/12/2021 | 4/30/2021 | - | 5/5/2021 | - | - | 5/7/2021 | 5/5/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-016 | Whispering Waters | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 4/14/2021 | 6/4/2021 | - | 6/16/2021 | - | - | 7/13/2021 | 7/13/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-017 | Capstone 35 | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 4/20/2021 | 5/12/2021 | - | 5/19/2021 | - | - | 8/19/2021 | 8/17/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-018 | Jefferson Court | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 4/22/2021 | 5/17/2021 | - | 6/2/2021 | - | - | 6/3/2021 | 6/2/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-019 | Cretex Site | Shakopee | Active Permit | 4/23/2021 | 4/26/2021 | 4/30/2021 | - | 5/5/2021 | - | - | 5/7/2021 | 5/5/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-020 | Core Crossings Apartments (Prev. Southbridge) | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 6/14/2021 | 7/13/2021 | - | 7/21/2021 | - | - | 8/5/2021 | 8/5/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-023 | 106th St Improvements | Bloomington | Active Permit | - | 5/25/2021 | 5/28/2021 | - | 6/2/2021 | - | - | 6/17/2022 | 6/17/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-027 | Minnesota River Greenway Trail | Eagan | Active Permit | - | 8/17/2021 | 11/2/2021 | - | 11/17/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-031 | Caribou Coffee | Savage | Active Permit | 6/1/2021 | 7/9/2021 | 8/10/2021 | - | 8/18/2021 | - | - | 8/19/2021 | 8/19/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-034 | Circle K Holiday Station Stores | Savage | Active Permit | 8/25/2021 | 7/26/2021 | 9/10/2021 | - | 9/15/2021 | - | - | 10/19/2021 | 9/15/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-039 | River Bluffs Improvements | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 7/23/2021 | 8/12/2021 | - | 8/18/2021 | - | - | 10/1/2021 | 8/18/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-040 | Canterbury Independent Senior Living | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 8/11/2021 | 8/19/2021 | - | 9/15/2021 | - | - | 1/7/2022 | 1/7/2023 | - | - | - |

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| | | | | | | | Information Only | Conditional Approval | Approval | | | | | | |
| 2021-041 | Line 0832 | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 9/7/2021 | 9/7/2021 | - | 9/15/2021 | - | - | 9/17/2021 | 9/15/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-042 | Hwy 13 & Lone Oak | Eagan | Active Permit | - | 8/27/2021 | 9/16/2021 | - | 10/20/2021 | - | - | 10/22/2021 | 10/20/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-045 | Triple Crown Residences Phase II | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 9/22/2021 | 10/27/2021 | - | 11/17/2021 | - | - | 11/19/2021 | 11/17/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-046 | CenterPoint Dakota Station Facility | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 9/21/2021 | 10/15/2021 | - | 10/20/2021 | - | - | 10/22/2021 | 10/22/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-049 | Stump Road Maintenance | Bloomington | Active Permit | 10/20/2021 | 10/22/2021 | 10/29/2021 | - | 11/17/2021 | - | - | 11/19/2021 | 11/17/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2021-052 | Shakopee Dental Office | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 11/3/2021 | 12/14/2021 | - | 12/15/2021 | - | - | 12/17/2021 | 12/15/2022 | - | - | - |
| 2022-002 | 2022 MBL Nicollet River Crossing | Bloomington, Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 1/18/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-003 | Ivy Brook Parking East | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 1/19/2022 | 2/25/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-007 | Engineered Hillside | Eden Prairie | Active Permit | - | 2/15/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-008 | Ivy Brook Parking West | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 2/16/2022 | 2/25/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-010 | Quarry Lake Pedestrian Bridge and Trail | Shakopee | Active Permit | - | 2/24/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-011 | Biffs Inc. | Burnsville | Active Permit | - | 2/28/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-102 | Structures, Inc. | Chaska | Cancelled by Applicant | - | 5/4/2020 | - | 5/20/2020 | 6/17/2020 | - | 6/30/2020 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-124 | Southbridge Crossings 6th Addition | Shakopee | Cancelled by Applicant | - | 8/24/2020 | - | - | - | - | 3/5/2021 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-131 | Watermark at Savage | Savage | Cancelled by Applicant | 10/7/2020 | 9/25/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-014 | Quarry Lake | Shakopee | Cancelled by Applicant | 6/7/2021 | 4/9/2021 | 9/29/2021 | - | 10/22/2021 | - | 11/19/2021 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-021 | Spirit of Truth Church | Burnsville | Cancelled by Applicant | 5/13/2021 | 6/16/2021 | - | - | - | - | 7/16/2021 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-116 | Shakopee Memorial Park Pedestrian Bridge | Shakopee | Closed | - | 8/24/2020 | 10/5/2020 | - | 10/21/2020 | - | - | 10/23/2020 | 10/23/2021 | - | - | 10/5/2021 |
| 2020-123 | Gaughan Companies Demolition | Shakopee | Closed | - | 8/27/2020 | 8/27/2020 | - | - | 9/16/2020 | - | 9/17/2020 | 9/17/2021 | - | - | 10/15/2021 |
| 2020-126 | Texas Roadhouse | Shakopee | Closed | - | 9/17/2020 | 11/5/2020 | - | - | 11/18/2020 | - | 11/19/2020 | 11/18/2021 | - | - | 10/14/2021 |
| 2021-022 | 2021 Safety and Security Center | Fort Snelling | Conditional Approval | - | 5/18/2021 | 10/29/2021 | - | 11/17/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-025 | TH 13 | Savage | Conditional Approval | - | 6/11/2021 | 6/15/2021 | - | 2/16/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-030 | Building Renovation Park Jeep | Burnsville | Conditional Approval | - | 7/9/2021 | 7/16/2021 | - | 9/15/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-035 | I35W Frontage Trail | Burnsville | Conditional Approval | - | 12/15/2021 | 12/22/2021 | - | 1/19/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| Permit No. | Project Name | City | Status | Pre-Permit Meeting | Date Received | Date Application Considered Complete | Board Actions | | | On Hold / Cancelled | Permit Issued | Permit Expiration Date | Renewed | Inspection Date | Date Permit Closed |
|------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | | Information Only | Conditional Approval | Approval | | | | | | |
| 2021-057 | Cliff Road Ramp | Burnsville | Conditional Approval | - | 12/14/2021 | 1/4/2022 | - | 1/19/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-058 | MAC Gate Security Improvements | Fort Snelling | Conditional Approval | - | 12/15/2021 | 12/16/2021 | - | 1/19/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-100 | Peterson Farms Road Maintenance | Chanhassen | Expired | - | 5/6/2020 | 5/6/2020 | - | - | 5/20/2020 | - | 5/21/2020 | 5/21/2021 | - | - | - |
| 2020-103 | Prairie Heights Development | Eden Prairie | Expired | - | 5/27/2020 | 6/5/2020 | - | 6/17/2020 | - | - | 10/23/2020 | 10/23/2021 | - | - | - |
| 2020-112 | Vierling Industrial Project | Shakopee | Expired | - | 6/25/2020 | 6/29/2020 | - | 7/15/2020 | - | - | 7/17/2020 | 7/15/2021 | - | - | - |
| 2020-115 | Quarry Lake Park Improvements and Mountain Bike Trail | Shakopee | Expired | - | 7/23/2020 | 9/8/2020 | - | 9/16/2020 | - | - | Not issued | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-117 | Greystone Headquarters | Shakopee | Expired | - | 7/24/2020 | 9/10/2020 | - | - | 9/16/2020 | - | 9/16/2020 | 9/16/2021 | - | - | - |
| 2020-133 | Shakopee Mix Use | Shakopee | Expired | 10/29/2020 | 11/2/2020 | 11/2/2020 | - | - | 11/18/2020 | - | 11/19/2020 | 11/18/2021 | - | - | - |
| 2020-108 | Hawthorne Ridge (2019-066) | Carver | Incomplete | - | 6/23/2020 | - | 7/15/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-033 | Minnesota MASH | Savage | Incomplete | 6/23/2021 | 9/17/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-004 | CHS Savage Terminal | Savage | Incomplete | - | 1/27/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-005 | Chaska West Creek Apt | Chaska | Incomplete | - | 2/8/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-118 | 10117 1st Ave Demolition | Bloomington | No Permit Required | - | 8/18/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-122 | Cargo Van-Go | Shakopee | No Permit Required | - | 8/20/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-137 | 5501 Warehouse South Improvements | Bloomington | No Permit Required | - | 12/9/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2020-140 | 10029 Trails End Rd | Chanhassen | No Permit Required | - | 12/29/2020 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-001 | Mallard Farms | Eden Prairie | No Permit Required | - | 1/30/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-005 | Jefferson Chiller Project | Bloomington | No Permit Required | - | 3/2/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-026 | TH 55 | Ft Snelling, Mendota, Mendota Heights | No Permit Required | - | 6/30/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-029 | Northland Paving | Burnsville | No Permit Required | 6/29/2021 | 7/6/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-043 | Junction 35W & 13, LLC | Burnsville | No Permit Required | - | 9/2/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-044 | Storage Mart Phase 4 (1900 Stoughton Ave) | Chanhassen | No Permit Required | - | 9/7/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-050 | Spring Valley Cir & Wentworth Ave S | Bloomington | No Permit Required | 10/27/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-051 | Blue Lake Siphon Landscape Restoration | Eden Prairie | No Permit Required | 10/5/2021 | 10/28/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| Permit No. | Project Name | City | Status | Pre-Permit Meeting | Date Received | Date Application Considered Complete | Board Actions | | | On Hold / Cancelled | Permit Issued | Permit Expiration Date | Renewed | Inspection Date | Date Permit Closed |
|------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | | Information Only | Conditional Approval | Approval | | | | | | |
| 2021-056 | Twin Overlook | Bloomington | No Permit Required | - | 12/7/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-001 | Centerpoint Shakopee Pigging | Shakopee | No Permit Required | - | 1/12/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2022-006 | Quality Forklift | Shakopee | No Permit Required | - | 2/10/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-047 | River Valley Industrial Center | Chanhassen | On Hold | - | 9/21/2021 | - | - | - | 10/1/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-004 | TH 41/CSAH61 Improvements | Chaska | Pre-Permit | 2/24/2021; 1/6/22 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-032 | I-35W Auxiliary Lane | Bloomington | Pre-Permit | 5/24/2021; 8/31/21 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-048 | Minnesota River Greenway Railroad Bridge | Eagan | Pre-Permit | 9/28/2021 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-059 | TH 494 SP 2785-433 | Bloomington, Mendota | Pre-Permit | 1/5/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2021-061 | Merriam Junction Trail | Burnsville | Pre-Permit | 1/31/2022 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

STATUS DEFINITIONS:

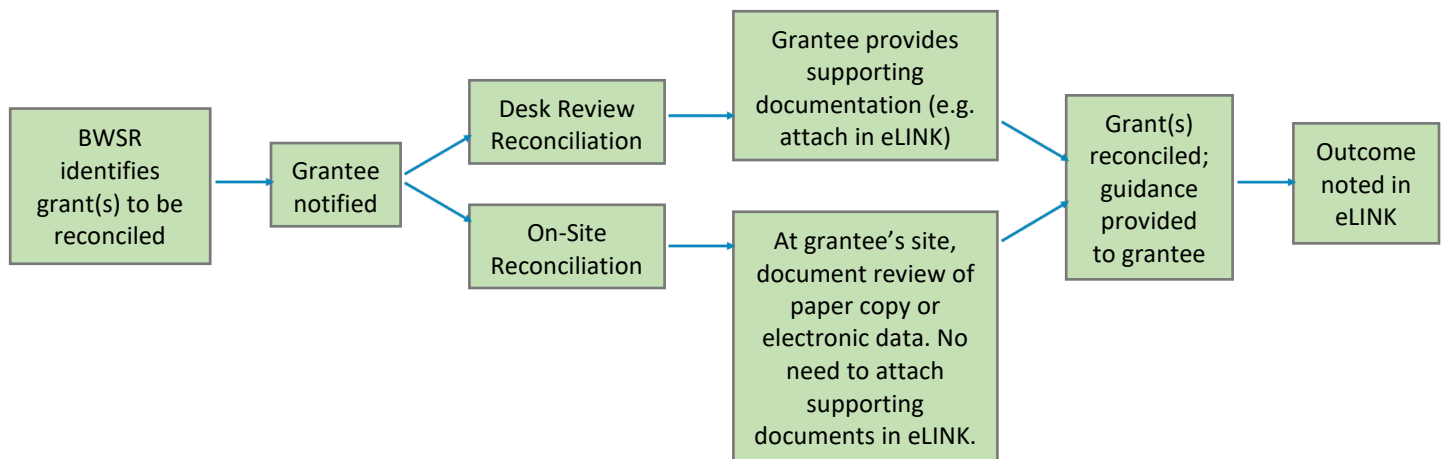
-
- Active Permit:** Applicant has a complete application that is under review or consideration by LMRWD or has a valid permit issued by LMRWD
 - Cancelled by Applicant:** Applicant withdrew their application for a LMRWD permit
 - Closed:** Applicant has indicated the project has completed construction and that the permit file may be closed
 - Conditional Approval:** LMRWD managers conditionally approved the permit application, pending receipt of additional information from applicant
 - Expired:** Applicant either obtained conditional approval, approval, and/or was issued a permit and the expiration date has passed
 - Incomplete:** Applicant applied for a permit, but the application is incomplete
 - No Permit Required:** Applicant applied for a permit, but during the completeness review, it was determined that the project did not trigger the regulatory thresholds
 - On Hold:** Applicant requested their application be placed on hold
 - Pre-Permit:** Applicant has requested pre-permit application reviews or meetings, but has not yet applied for a permit from LMRWD

BWSR Grants Monitoring and Reconciliation

December 2020

What is BWSR's Grants Monitoring and Financial Reconciliation Policy?

As a state agency, BWSR is required to follow the policies for monitoring and financially reconciling grants prescribed by the state's Office of Grants Management (OGM). Monitoring and financial reconciliation are meant to provide guidance to the grantee, increase transparency within the grants process and ensure expenditures claimed are in compliance with the grant agreement. The Grants Monitoring and Financial Reconciliation Policy is intended to ensure BWSR is in compliance with OGM policies and to reconcile grants \$50,000 and over in a timely manner. The process is as follows:



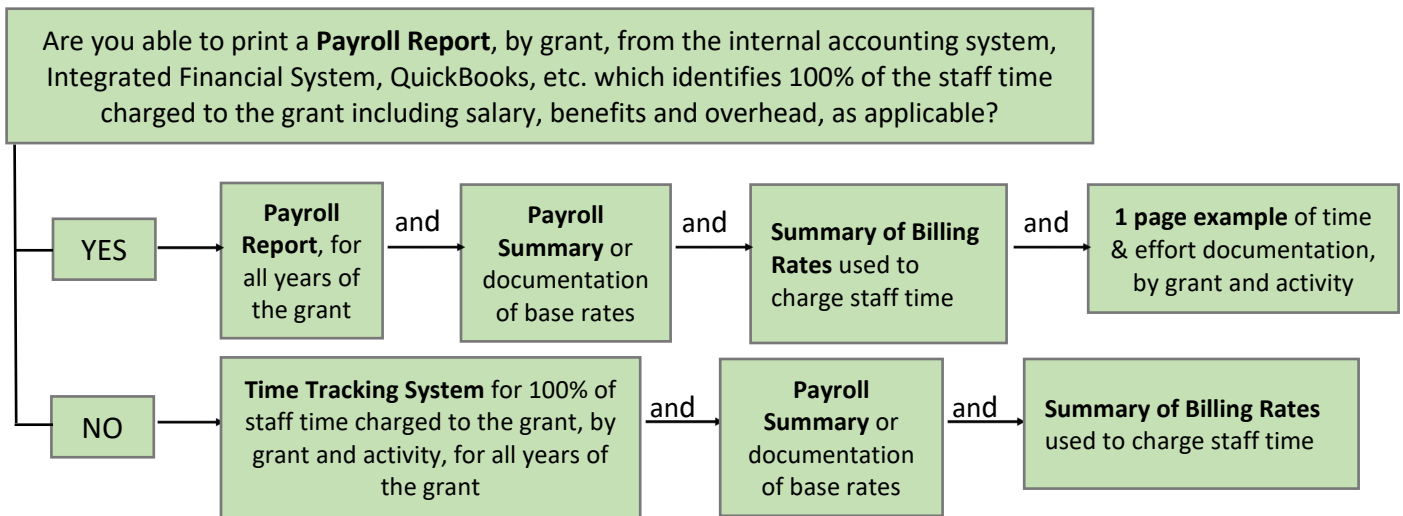
What's in the Grants Monitoring and Financial Reconciliation Policy?

Under the Policy, grantees are required to submit annual reports in eLINK on the grants they administer and BWSR Board Conservationists will review and approve those reports. BWSR will reconcile select payments on grants \$50,000 and over, either when a request for a payment is made, when a substantial portion of the grant is expended and/or before the grant is closed out. Reconciliations can occur either on-site in your office or through a desk review of documents you submit via eLINK.

As a grantee, you can help yourself (and us) by updating eLINK when you have spent a substantial portion (at least 70%) of the grant funds, rather than waiting for the reporting deadline. This allows us to initiate the financial reconciliation process sooner, work with you on addressing any potential issues before the grant is closed out while there is still time to make changes, and may speed the delivery of your final grant payment or closeout.

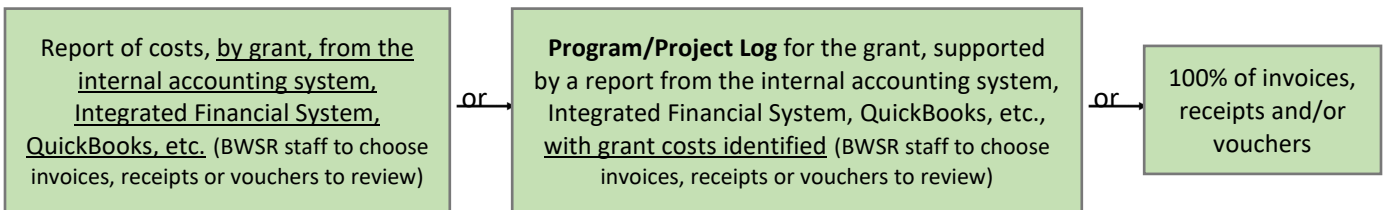
Documentation is required to support claimed expenses and the following flow chart provides an outline of documents needed for the reconciliation process. When submitting information, be sure not to include not public data.

Staff Time



Direct (Program) Costs

Direct costs are costs which can be identified specifically with a particular final cost objective of the grant.



What are some common questions about the Policy?

Q: If we have a BWSR grant under \$50,000, will it be reconciled?

A: Not on a regular basis, but BWSR may visit selected grantees for training, closeouts and/or other monitoring and reconciliation activities. Under the grant agreement and Minnesota Statutes 16B.98, subd. 8, “The Grantee or delegated local unit of government will maintain records relating to the receipt and expenditure of grant funds,” and those records “may be examined at any time by the Board or the Board’s designee and are subject to verification.”

Q: What kind of documentation do we need to keep about grants?

A: The documentation grantees need to keep regarding grants revenue and expenditures is described in the “Records, Program and Project Files” chapter of the BWSR *Grants Administration Manual*.

Scott Clean Water Education Program 2022 Work Plan



Prepared by:
Shelby Roberts, SCWEP Program Coordinator
Scott Soil and Water Conservation District



Introduction

The Scott Clean Water Education Program (SCWEP) began in 2010. This program’s work plan builds off the progress and momentum that has developed since then and focuses on improving and expanding activities that the current partnership believes will provide the greatest, most cost-effective impact to improving water quality in Scott County.

The goal of SCWEP is to make clean water choices second nature for all who live and work in Scott County. SCWEP will utilize the “Clean Water Starts with Me!” message to help create a new “normal” in terms of how citizens of Scott County think of stormwater runoff and their roles in making a difference. The objective throughout implementation of this work plan is to make this message personal. “Clean Water Starts with Me!” can be paired with outreach targeted at agricultural, rural, shoreline, and urban residents, which allows the clean water message to be tailored to reach a wide audience. SCWEP will work towards their goal with consistent and long-term, broad-based messaging, hands-on workshops, and engagement events tailored to target-specific audiences.



Scott County has a bountiful share of natural water resources, including more than 90 lakes totaling over 11,600 acres, thousands of wetland basins totaling more than 33,500 acres, and approximately 280 miles of public rivers, streams, and creeks. This includes all of Eagle Creek and headwaters of the Vermillion River. SCWEP’s partners envision a future where clean water flows throughout Scott County.

Partners

Members of the SCWEP partnership believe more can be accomplished by working together. By collaborating, we eliminate overlapping programs, prevent inconsistent and duplicative messaging, and achieve similar outcomes at lower costs. The 2022 SCWEP partners are:

- Scott County
- Scott Watershed Management Organization
- Scott Soil and Water Conservation District
- Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District
- Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board
- Lower Minnesota River Watershed District
- City of Credit River
- Spring Lake Township
- Jackson Township
- Louisville Township

When and where possible, SCWEP will also collaborate with other agencies and organizations to implement outreach programs with similar goals and objectives in Scott County. This will help achieve an even greater level of overall consistency, reach, and cost effectiveness. Other entities with which collaboration will be sought include but will not be limited to: the Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, Shakopee, Belle Plaine, Elko New Market, Jordan, Credit River, and New Prague; the University of Minnesota Extension Service; Scott County Environmental Services; Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community; and the Three Rivers Park District.

Priorities

As in past years, the SCWEP Work Plan will target and prioritize its “Clean Water Starts with Me!” campaign to three general audiences. These audiences and the respective goals and objectives include the following:

| AUDIENCE: Agriculture/Rural Landowners | |
|---|--|
| Goal | Land management decisions are made with conservation in mind and to minimize detrimental impacts to water resources. |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Educate producers and landowners on local water quality impairments and show them how implementing BMPs can have a positive impact. 2) Promote technical assistance and cost-share opportunities for the adoption of priority practices including but not limited to gully erosion control, cover crops, filter strips and riparian buffers, livestock manure management and appropriate fertilizer use. |
| 2022 High priority items | Promotion of soil health and regenerative agriculture, groundwater protection, runoff reduction, and wetlands |
| AUDIENCE: Community Groups, Schools and Government | |
| Goal | Enhance the quality of and opportunities for conservation leadership, education, and outreach. |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase awareness among community leaders, youth and employees about water quality issues and solutions. 2) Provide speaking engagements and educational opportunities that introduce soil and water conservation topics. 3) Encourage volunteerism and foster relationships that will result in improved water quality and personal accountability. |
| 2022 High priority items | Enhanced local leader engagement and support and chloride reduction via expanded relationships and outreach with maintenance professionals and commercial properties |
| AUDIENCE: Urban and Lakeshore Residents and Businesses | |
| Goal | Landscape design and maintenance choices are made to protect water quality and reduce runoff. |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Educate residents on how water is managed in urban environments and about ways they can positively impact water quality in their everyday lives. 2) Offer information, workshops, and technical assistance on the adoption of suitable BMPs, such as water-wise lawn care, native shorelines, increased natural landscaping, raingardens, and chloride reduction. |
| 2022 High priority items | Promotion of local water quality and aquatic plant species expectations, chloride reduction via expanded relationships and outreach with maintenance professionals, natural landscaping, and stormwater runoff responsibility. |

Programming Highlights

Workshops

Free educational workshops catered to County residents are offered throughout the year. Workshop topics include establishing native prairie, stabilizing shorelines, planting raingardens, proper winter maintenance, and growing cover crops. Workshops also help start the conversation about technical assistance and cost share, which may ultimately lead to conservation practices being installed. Content for workshops continue to change and improve every year through post-workshop surveys and continuous information updates.

Conservation in the Classroom

Developed through funding from the Scott Watershed Management Organization's 2020 Watershed Based Implementation Funds, this program expands on the services provided by Outdoor Education Days by launching a classroom visitation cohort program. Conservation in the Classroom enables delivery of conservation-themed educational lessons to any school at any time for both in-person and virtual learning. This expansion is especially important for under-served and non-traditional education populations. This program began development in 2021 and will continue to be implemented and conceived over the next two years and beyond.

Outdoor Education Day

Every fall middle school students from across Scott County attend Outdoor Education Day to learn about conservation. Students rotate through six stations focused on forestry, wildlife, conservation, agriculture, the water cycle, and pond macro-invertebrates. Outdoor Education Days allow for opportunities to teach the value of clean water from a young age. In 2022, Outdoor Education Days will partner with applicable funds to improve lesson plans and bring them to Minnesota State Education Standards.

Success Stories

News articles, including personal accounts from residents who have installed conservation projects, will be used to promote SCWEP activities and events. Success stories highlight those who are doing their part for clean water and begin to create a new normal by showing that residents are changing their behaviors.

Conservation Leaders Program

Each year, a local resident or organization is chosen as a Conservation Leader and recognized for their land stewardship and contributions to conservation practices that benefit clean water. Many times, the Conservation Leader is also nominated for the MASWCD Outstanding Conservationist Award. Recognizing conservation leaders each year helps show Scott County residents that their neighbors are changing their behaviors, thus creating a new normal.

Project Signage

Signs will be offered to landowners who installed raingardens, shoreline restorations, and native prairie identifying their projects. These signs give landowners a sense of pride in their project and show others in the community that conservation practices are happening all around them. The language on the signs include: "Ask Me How!" inviting neighbors to inquire about the project.

Participation in Community Events

SCWEP participates in community expos and other relevant events, including but not limited to Prior Lake Wellness Expo, Jordan Showcase, Prior Lake Community Fest and the Scott County Fair. These community events involve putting up the "Clean Water Starts with Me!" display, staffing a table with rack cards and

information, and interacting with the community. Attendance at community events gives residents that may not otherwise get exposed to SCWEP messaging a chance to talk with staff and start a conversation.

News Articles and Press Releases

News articles and press releases provide an avenue for marketing messages and allow SCWEP to keep a consistent presence in the public eye and keep water resource conservation at the top of reader's minds.

A timeline of proposed articles for 2022 is provided in the appendix.

Strategies

SCWEP's marketing strategy includes selecting behaviors to change, identifying the barriers and benefits of the change, developing strategies, testing the strategies, and implementing the strategies on a large scale.

SCWEP will continue to apply both passive and active marketing and outreach techniques to connect with the identified audiences in Scott County. Active techniques consist of activities that are hands-on, engage with specific audiences, and happen in accordance to seasonal relevance. They take significant time and resources to plan and implement but are more likely to have a greater impact of desired outcomes. Examples include workshops, field demonstrations, targeted mailings, tours, and one-on-one landowner meetings.

Passive activities, by contrast, are intended to reach large audiences and deliver consistent, base messaging. They have a lower impact relative to active techniques but are comparatively easy and inexpensive to implement. Examples include news articles, social media posts, blog posts, and event displays that focus on the effects of how our decisions impact water quality on Scott County water bodies.

Hands-on approaches paired with the broader spreading of information will help SCWEP reach a wide audience and get residents to make changes.

Digital Engagement Strategies

SCWEP recognizes the effectiveness and long-term benefits of remote communication and outreach and will continue implementing digital outreach to maintain and enhance program objectives. Strategies include online webinars, educational video demonstrations, and increased social media presence.

Changes and adaptations to implementation will be acknowledged in the 2022 Annual Report.

Cooperative Media Plan

Many water resource-related news articles and announcements grab headlines in Scott County throughout the year. For a list of proposed articles for the 2022 news year, see Appendix I. In an effort to reduce potential overlap, staff members from various agencies decided to implement a "Cooperative Media Plan." The plan is a schedule for coordination, writing and timing of articles that address topics of mutual interest/purpose. This approach saves time and improves quality by sharing each other's writing expertise. It also reduces the need for the editor to decide which articles to run and which ones to omit.

Planned Activities for 2022

*New SCWEP activities for 2022 are highlighted.

*Items on past workplans, but unattainable for 2022 are ~~slashed in red~~.

| Events and Activities | Dates | Audience | Objective | MS4 Activity |
|--|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Host Growing Healthy Soils: Part 1 | January 13 | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Host Growing Healthy Soils: Part 2 | March 16 | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Mail postcard to residents who recently purchased 2+ acres about SWCD services | March | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Attend Celebrate Jordan expo | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Host raingarden workshop | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Host Lawns to Legumes workshop | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Attend Prior Lake Wellness Expo | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Attend University of MN Extension Garden Fever | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Host nitrate water testing clinic | April 29 | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| | | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Host tree/native seed mix sale pickup | April 29 | Ag & Rural | 1 | |
| Host shoreline workshop | April | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Host clean-water clean-up, rake the lake event | Spring and Fall | School, Gov, etc. | 3 | X |
| | | Urban & Lake | 2 | X |
| Distribute native prairie door hangers | Spring/Summer | Ag & Rural | 2 | X |
| Promote native planting using demonstration plots | Summer/Fall | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Host native prairie workshop | Spring/Summer | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Attend Scott County fair | July 27-31 | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Develop and send scheduled mailings to natural landscaping participants | Summer | Urban & Lake | 2 | |
| Debut raingarden progression videos and materials | Summer | Urban & Lake | 2 | X |
| Distribute nutrient management information to applicable landowners | September | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Participate in Conservation Leaders/Awards | Fall/Winter | Ag & Rural | 1 | |
| Host Outdoor Education Days | Sept 26-30 | School, Gov, etc. | 2 | |
| Host Scott WMO/SWCD Conservation Tour | September | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | |
| Attend Prior Lake Autumn Fare | October | Urban & Lake | 2 | X |
| Distribute postcards to targeted landowners on areas of interest | Seasonally | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| Promote projects and conservation topics via local library kiosks | Rotated seasonally | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | School, Gov, etc. | 2 | X |

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| Publish conservation success stories | Quarterly | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| | | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | X |
| Rent out storm drain stencil kit | As requested | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Conduct education presentations to community leaders (WPC, Citizen Advisory Committee, etc.) | As requested, | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | X |
| Provide educational lessons for 5-8th grade schools | As requested | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | X |
| Educate residents on pet waste pollution | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Display promotional materials for conservation practices in areas of influence | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| | | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | X |
| Build relationships with Lake Associations and other local improvement districts | Ongoing | School, Gov, etc. | 3 | X |
| Maintain cooperative media plan posting news articles promoting BMP's for conservation projects | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| | | Ag & Rural | 1 | X |
| | | School, Gov, etc. | 1 | X |
| Display project signage: raingarden, native prairie, native shoreline, cover crops | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Promote "unintentional" pollution and illicit discharge prevention | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Promote proper disposal of hazardous waste via HHW facility | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Promote environmentally healthy snow and ice management | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 1 | X |
| Provide technical assistance and cost share for shoreline BMPs | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 2 | X |
| Provide technical assistance and cost share for natural landscaping BMPs | Ongoing | Urban & Lake | 2 | X |
| Provide technical assistance and cost share for erosion control BMPs | Ongoing | Ag & Rural | 2 | X |
| Provide technical assistance and cost share for agricultural BMPs | Ongoing | Ag & Rural | 2 | X |

2020 Budget

| Funding Agency | General Program Staff/Supplies |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| SWMO | \$92,831 |
| PLSLWD | \$3,500 |
| LMRWD | \$4,100 |
| VRWJPO | \$1,300 |
| SL TWP | \$2,000 |
| Grand Total: | \$103,731 |

2021 Budget

| Funding Agency | General Program Staff/Supplies | Chloride & Bacteria Grant Staff Time (WBIF FY19) | Chloride & Bacteria Grant Materials (WBIF FY19) | Outdoor Education Days Grant (WBIF FY20) | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|--|------------------|
| SWMO | \$42,820 | \$20,000 | \$5,000 | \$40,000 | \$107,820 |
| PLSLWD | \$3,500 | | | | \$3,500 |
| LMRWD | \$1,300 | | | | \$1,300 |
| VRWJPO | \$1,300 | | | | \$1,300 |
| SL TWP | \$2,000 | | | | \$2,000 |
| Grand Total: | | | | | \$115,920 |

2022 Budget

| Funding Agency | General Program Staff/Supplies |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| SWMO | \$50,000 |
| SWCD | \$10,000 |
| VRWJPO | \$1,500 |
| SL TWP | \$2,000 |
| Grand Total: | \$63,500 |

Other Contributing Funds

| Funding agency | Funding source | Total available in 2022 |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SWMO | 2021 Metro WBIF – K5-8 Enhancements | \$8,000 |
| PLSLWD | General funds | \$3,500 |
| LMRWD | General funds | \$4,000 |
| PLSLWD | 2019 WBF Metro Grant | \$6,000 |
| Total: | | \$15,500 |

Outcomes, Evaluation and Reporting

SCWEP's goal – to make clean water choices second nature for all who live and work in Scott County – will be reviewed throughout the year. It can be difficult to track progress towards this goal because behavior changes are not easily measured. There are, however, some metrics that act as indicators of change, and that is what the SCWEP evaluation is based on. These measurements include:

- Number of participants at SCWEP hosted events and workshops
- Number of direct mailings, brochures and flyers distributed
- Number of published press releases and articles
- Number of requests for technical assistance
- Number of best management practices completed through partner organizations

These numbers can be found in SWCEP's annual reports. They are an important part of SCWEP, as these numbers are used in many partners' MS4 reporting. Evaluation continues to be an important component in understanding the effectiveness of the "Clean Water Starts with Me!" campaign.

MS4 Activity Detail

There are six minimum control measures (MCMs) defined in the MS4 Permit, including:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Participation and Involvement
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Storm Water Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management
6. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

This work plan is designed in part to meet the requirements of MCM 1 for partner MS4 permitted communities. In addition to the public education and outreach, staff at the SWCD and WMO are available to assist MS4 communities in preparing their annual SWPPP and public meetings and MS4 audits when requested.

Goals Beyond 2022

The activities outlined in this report are geared toward achieving positive behavior change for the long term. Many of these activities will be repeated in future years as a constant reminder to the public that "Clean Water Starts with Me!" As new ideas and opportunities emerge, new activities will be added to keep SCWEP relevant and reaching as many people as possible. SCWEP goals beyond 2022 include:

- Providing support and programming to partner agencies and others
- Showing the public that their everyday decisions do matter by including personal success stories in press releases and outreach
- Increasing workshop participation numbers to create greater impact and personal behavior change
- Building and enhancing partnerships between SCWEP and local citizen groups (i.e., lake associations, lake residents, sportsmen's clubs, existing social networks, community service clubs, etc.)

APPENDIX: PROPOSED 2022 PLANNED NEWS RELEASES

| Edition | Article |
|--------------|--|
| Mar/Apr/May | SWCD tree sale pickup April 29 |
| | Nitrate testing for well water on April 29 |
| | Funding available for conservation in local watersheds |
| | Pickup your pets waste |
| | Cover crop workshop March 16 |
| | Jordan family creates balance for cattle and the environment |
| Jun/July/Aug | Landowner success story - Brian and Tia Smith |
| | No-till Drills, Grass Seeders, and More Available for Rent from Scott SWCD |
| | Natural landscaping promotion |
| | Cover crop aerial seeding application promotion |
| Sept/Oct/Nov | Landowner success story – Norma Sticha |
| | Organic waste: what is it and where should it go? |
| | Storm drains: the journey that water takes |
| Dec/Jan/Feb | 2023 Scott SWCD tree sale open |
| | Residential and business food waste prevention |
| | Landowner success story – Conservation Leader |

Technical Memorandum

To: Linda Loomis, Administrator
Lower Minnesota River Watershed District

From: Katy Thompson, PE, CFM
Hannah LeClaire, PE

Date: March 11, 2022

Re: Kraemer Quarry Future Lake Level Informational Meeting

The City of Burnsville (City) invited the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) to attend an informational meeting on Thursday March 3, 2022, to discuss the future of the Kraemer Quarry and groundwater elevations.

Kraemer Mining & Materials (KMM) began operations at the Burnsville Quarry in 1959 to provide material for the I-35W project. As the quarry has gotten deeper, it relies on groundwater pumps to dewater the site and allow the limestone to be harvested, which has artificially suppressed groundwater in the area. In 2009, KMM partnered with the cities of Burnsville and Savage to use the pumped groundwater from the quarry as a source for Burnsville's surface water treatment plant, which serves both cities. Since then, the plant has been treating water harvested from the quarry to supply drinking water to the surrounding communities. Aquifer levels have been increasing despite the groundwater withdrawals from the quarry and other wells in the area.

The City hired Black & Veatch and Barr Engineering in 2016 to study the groundwater in the area and to aid in future land-use decisions. KMM expects to continue mining operations for another 20 to 40 years, depending on the market demand for limestone and construction aggregate materials. The study evaluated two future groundwater conditions:

1. End of mining—immediately after the aggregate deposits are exhausted but with the quarry pumps still active
2. Full lake—the pumps decommissioned and the quarry allowed to fill with groundwater

The final lake elevation is still to be determined, but the City's desire is for the lake to flow via gravity to the Minnesota River to avoid having to pump out water in the future. For the purposes of this study, Barr assumed an elevation of 690.0 so that the lake could discharge to the Minnesota River via gravity, even during flood conditions.

The need for this study is to evaluate the potential impacts of allowing groundwater levels to return to their pre-quarry operations conditions. Because the quarry has been in operation for 63 years, development and infrastructure in the area is now dependent on the quarry pumps for protection. By the end of the mine's operations, groundwater could be more than 30 feet below the ground surface; however, after the lake fills, the groundwater could be within 10 feet of the existing ground elevation near the quarry. Should the quarry be allowed to fill with groundwater, it would increase the local water table as well, potentially encroaching upon sanitary and storm sewers, foundations and basements, and the nearby unlined Freeway Landfill and Dump. The increased groundwater levels may also affect the area's potential for future land development and could decrease the drinking water quality, particularly if the levels inundate the landfill waste.

Discussion

The quarry is expected to reach depths of 140 feet when the limestone resources are exhausted. The modeling suggests it could take up to six years for the groundwater to completely fill the quarry to an elevation of 690, approximately 112 feet deep. There are several unknowns at this time that will require additional discussion and outreach:

- Determining the final lake elevation and extents
- Creating a vision for land use around the lake
- Balancing safety concerns with a former quarry turned recreational lake
- Determining if the City can continue to use the lake as a drinking water source, particularly if the lake will be used for recreation and if the Freeway Landfill waste is inundated
- Determining impacts on city utilities, building structures, and foundations

The final technical memorandum will be released to the public for comment following the City's informational meetings. The City is particularly interested in collecting comments on the following:

1. Who should set the future Quarry Lake elevation?
2. What is the ideal elevation, and what are its implications?
 - a. What are the benefits of increased groundwater levels?
 - b. What are the barriers to allowing increased groundwater levels?
 - c. Are there ideas for mitigation of increased groundwater levels?

Benefits of the higher groundwater elevations discussed included potentially increasing the groundwater flows to nearby Black Dog Lake Fen, however the water may also become contaminated if the Freeway Landfill and Dump are not lined or moved by the time KMM ceases quarry operations. The MPCA said on the call that the [Dig and Line Option](#) is currently proposing an impermeable bottom liner at elevation 690, the same elevation as the lake. No pollutant fate and transport modeling has been completed, however given the proximity to the landfill sites, it would be beneficial for the City to know what percentage of ground and surface water may be contributing to the lake and how those inflows may affect future water quality.

Future tasks of the study will evaluate water quality and quantity after the lake is created to determine if the current water supply to Burnsville and Savage can be maintained. The City intends to manage the lake as a high value resource, not as a stormwater pond, but modeling efforts should consider the frequency the lake may discharge to the Minnesota River to mitigate potential erosion concerns. Finally, future work should evaluate climate change impacts and the effect on the lake, downstream natural resources, and water supply.

Recommendations

No action is required at this time. The LMRWD staff will continue to participate in these discussions and will review the technical memorandum when it is made available for public comment.

Attachments

- Attachment 1—Burnsville City Council Working Session Presentation

Burnsville City Council Working Session

Quarry Reservoir Study

Introductions

- Tony White - Utilities Superintendent
- Bo Johnston – Engineering Manager with Black & Veatch
- Brian LeMon – Project Manager with Barr (Zoom)

Background

- Kramer Quarry
 - Operation of Quarry for Limestone since 1959
 - Since 2009, Source Water for Surface Water Treatment Plant
- Continued Mining Operations into the Future
 - 20-40 years (highly dependent on market)
- Preparing for Future & Due Diligence Now

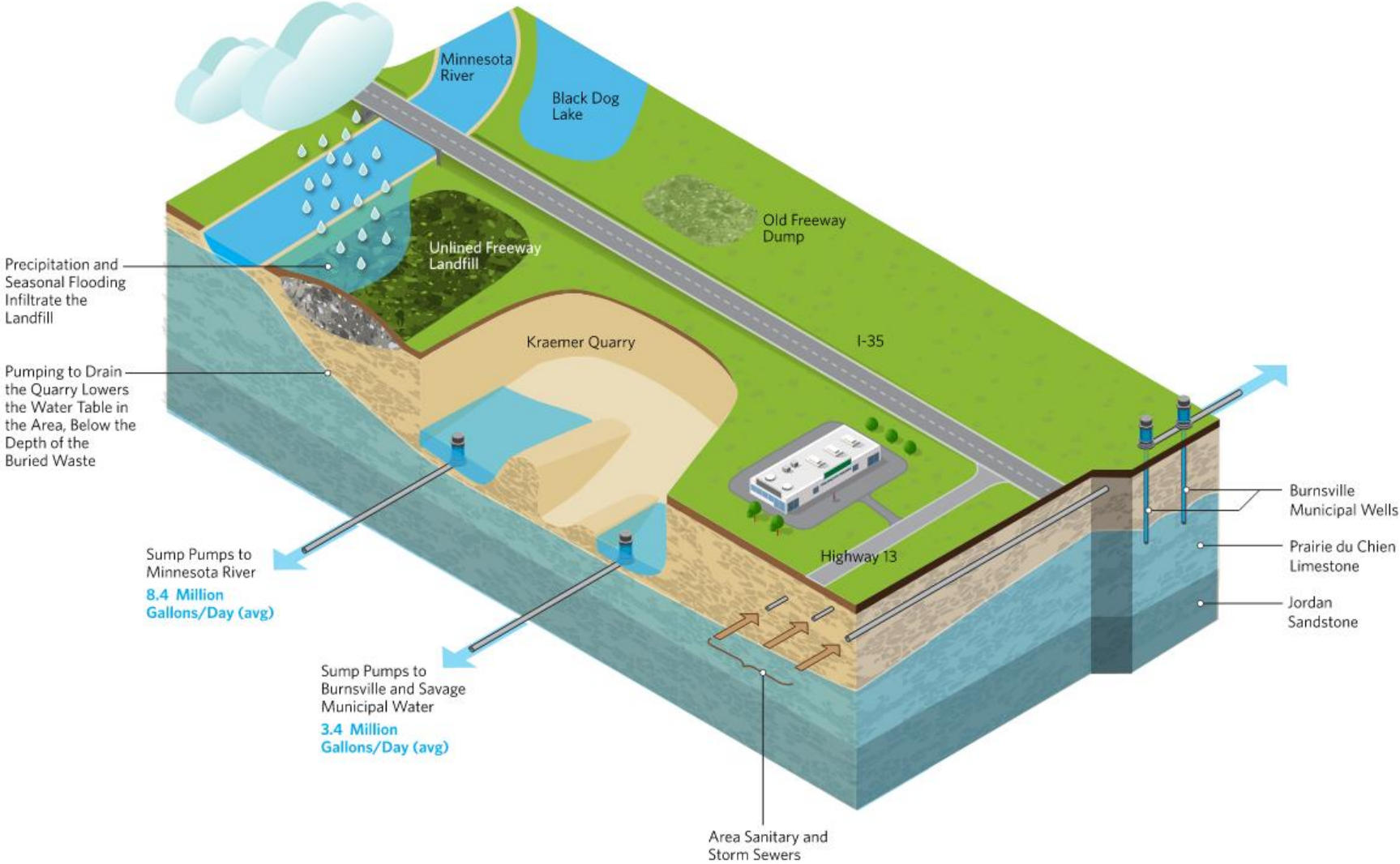


Project Scope

- Questions

- How long will the quarry take to fill up to a lake?
- What is elevation of future lake?
 - Who decides this?
- How high will groundwater rise?
 - What are implications of higher groundwater?
- Are there water quality implications from Landfills for Surface Water Treatment Plant?
- What public and stakeholder input will we receive?

Current Situation



Mining Plan

- KMM Plan Unit Development Permit



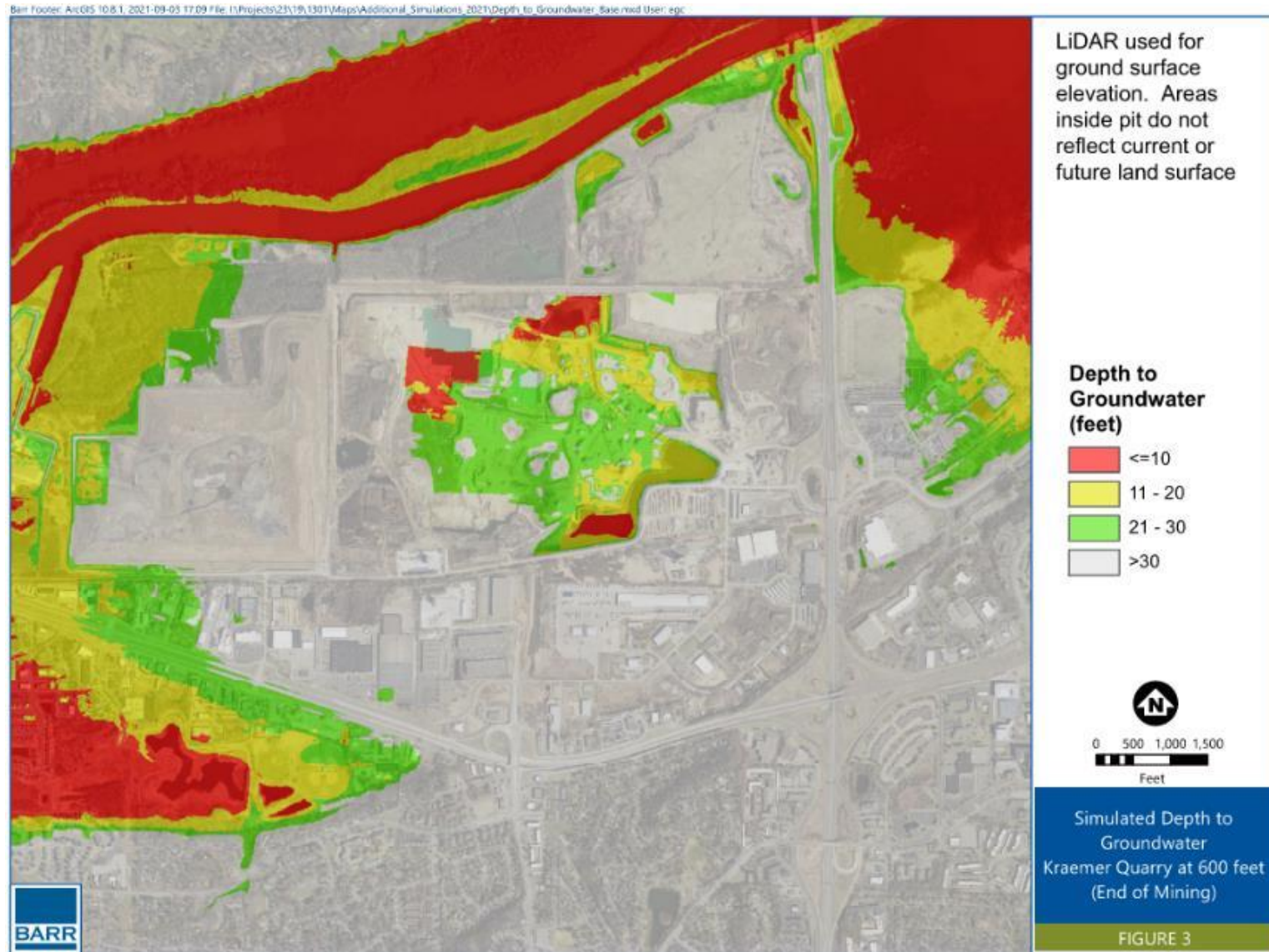
End of Mining Water Levels

- Model Results
- Ground Water Levels in Blue



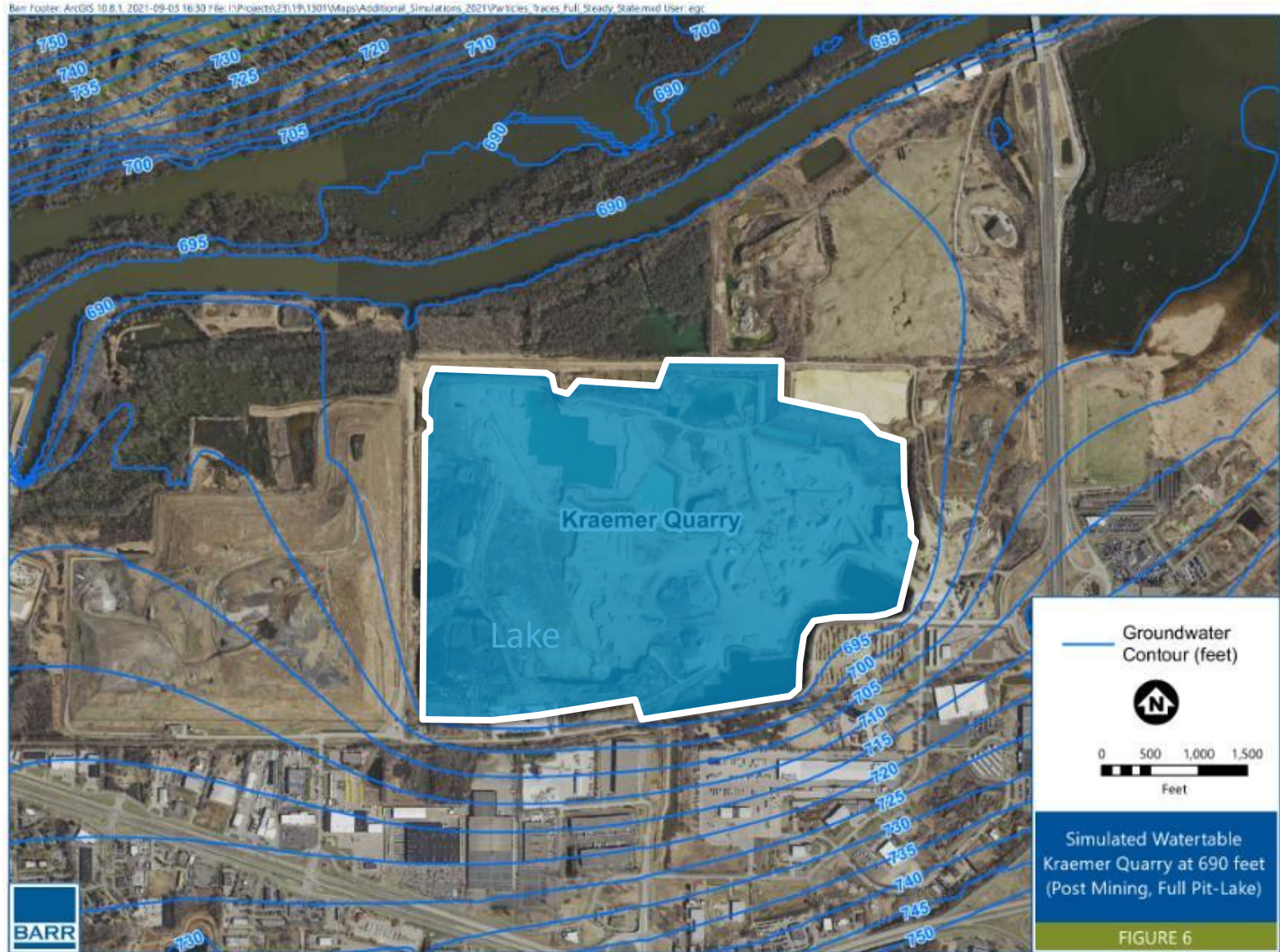
End of Mining Heat Map

- Red – Water Level Estimate within 10 feet of surface
- Yellow – Water Level Estimate between 11 and 20 feet below surface
- Green Water Level Estimate between 21 and 30 feet below surface
- Gray – Below 30 feet



Lake Fill

- How long will it take to fill?
 - Up to 6 years
- What will Lake Elevation be?
 - Exact Unknown
 - Initial Evaluations at 690
 - Need stakeholder input
 - Determine who sets this
 - Any improvements required?

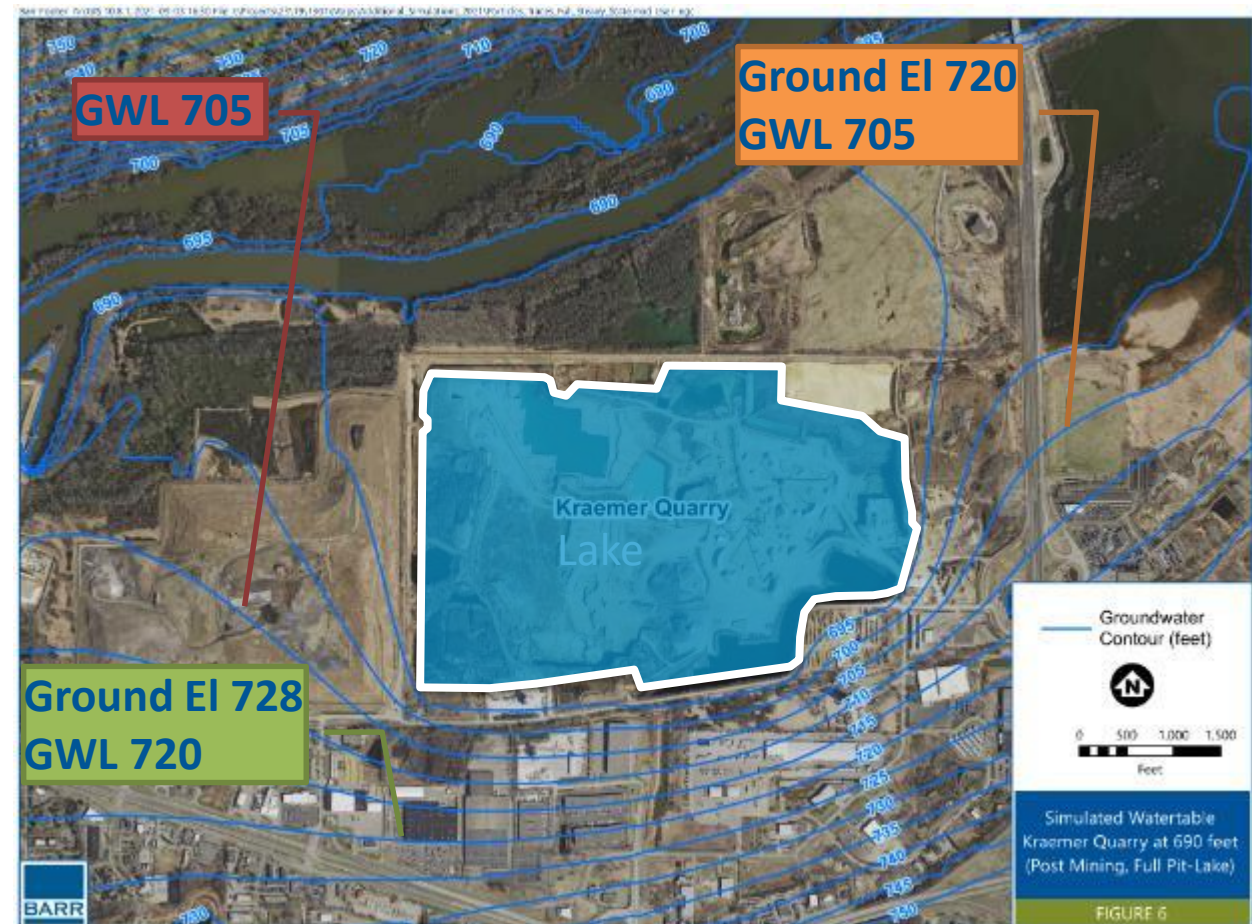


Groundwater Level – Point Comparisons

Need context with Surface EL



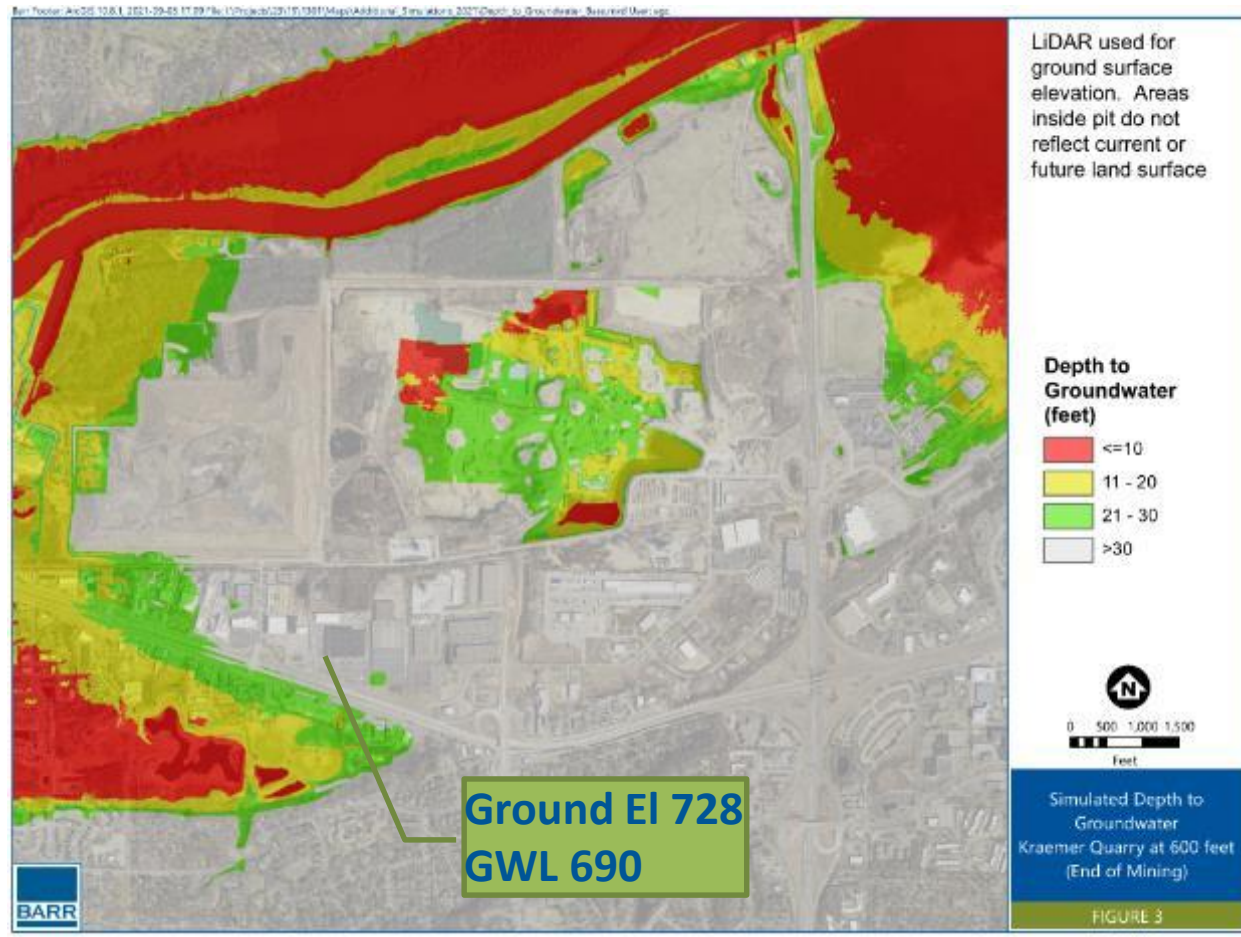
Empty Quarry



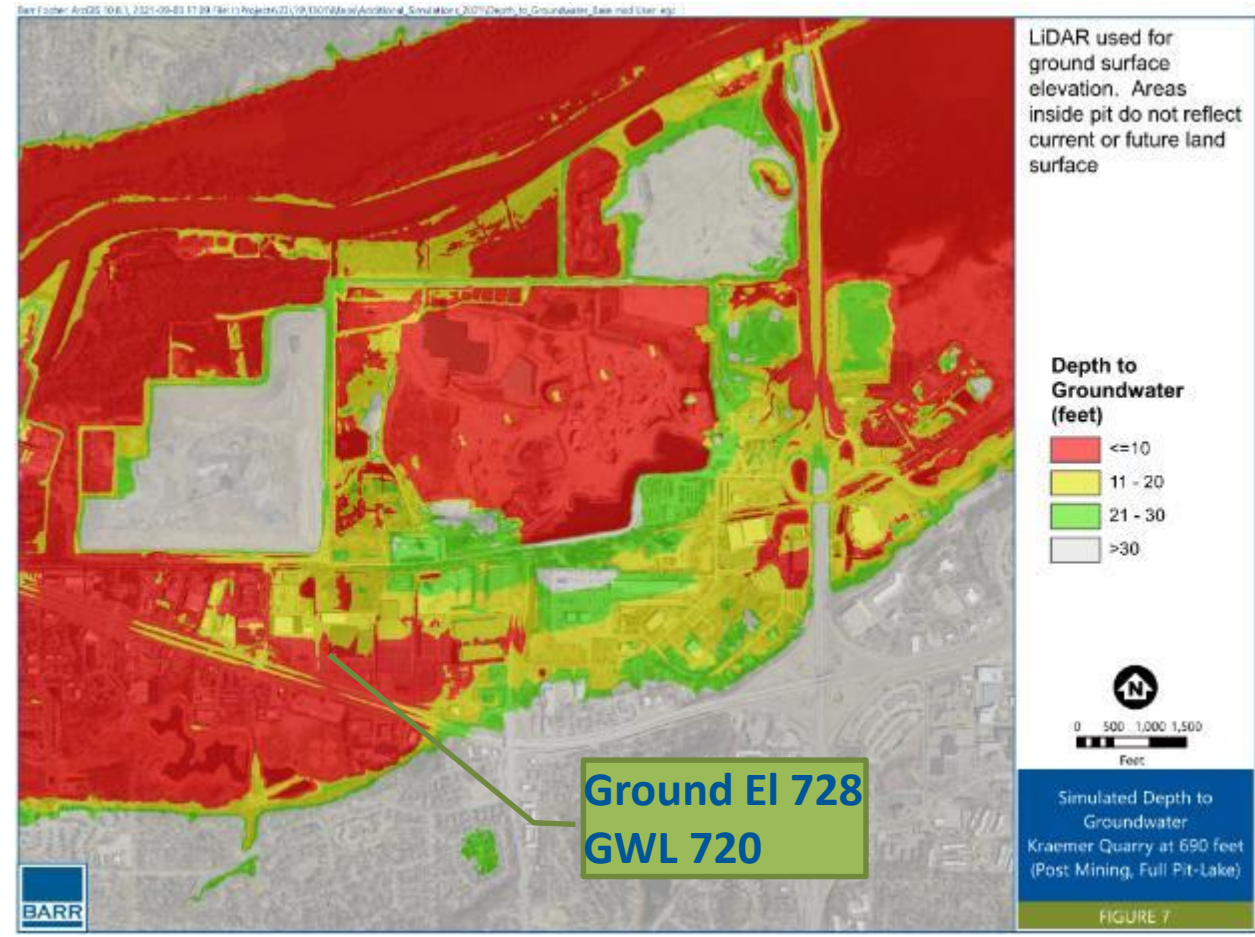
Lake Water Elevation - 690



Groundwater Level Heat Map – Comparisons



Empty Quarry

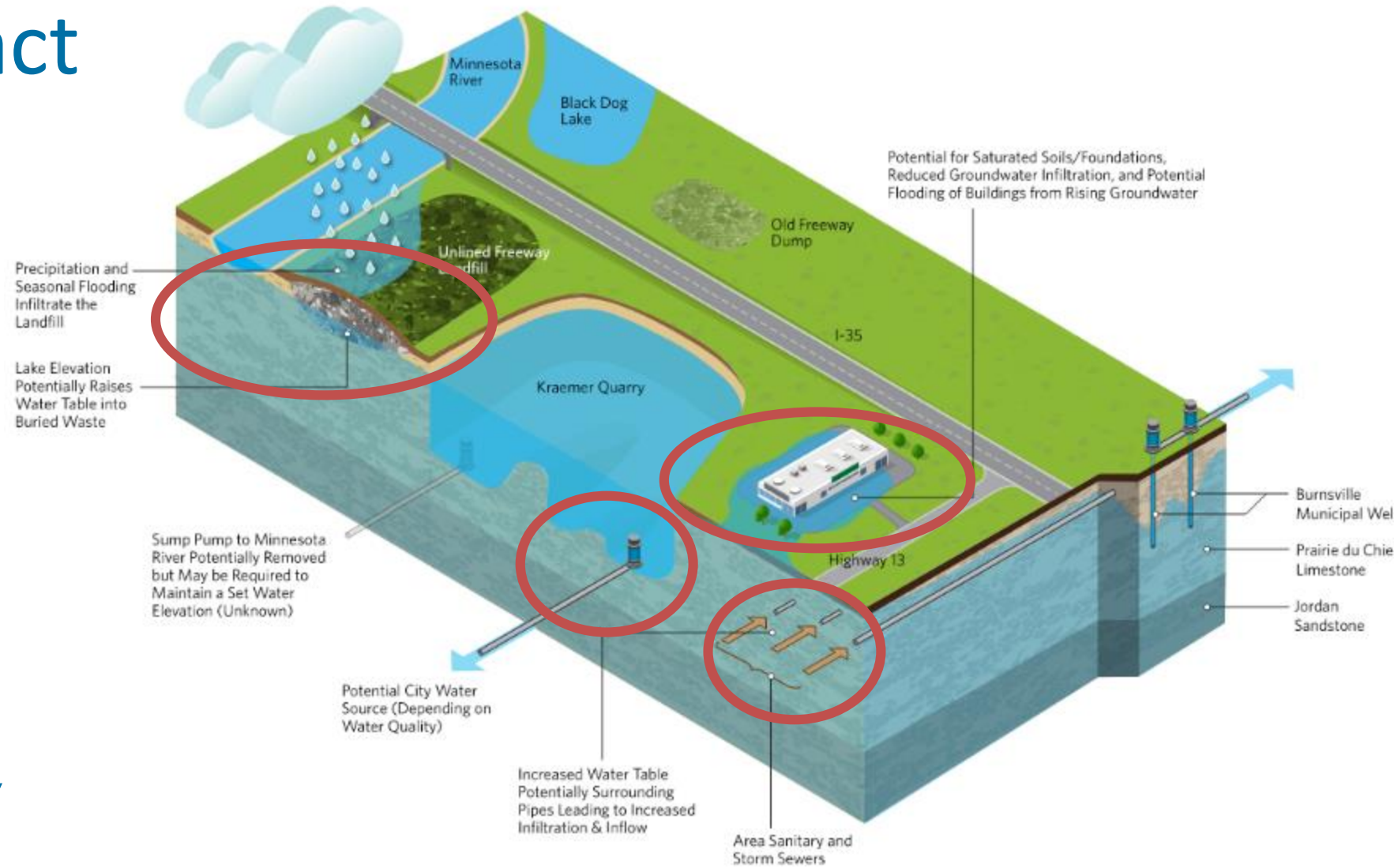


Lake Water Elevation @ 690



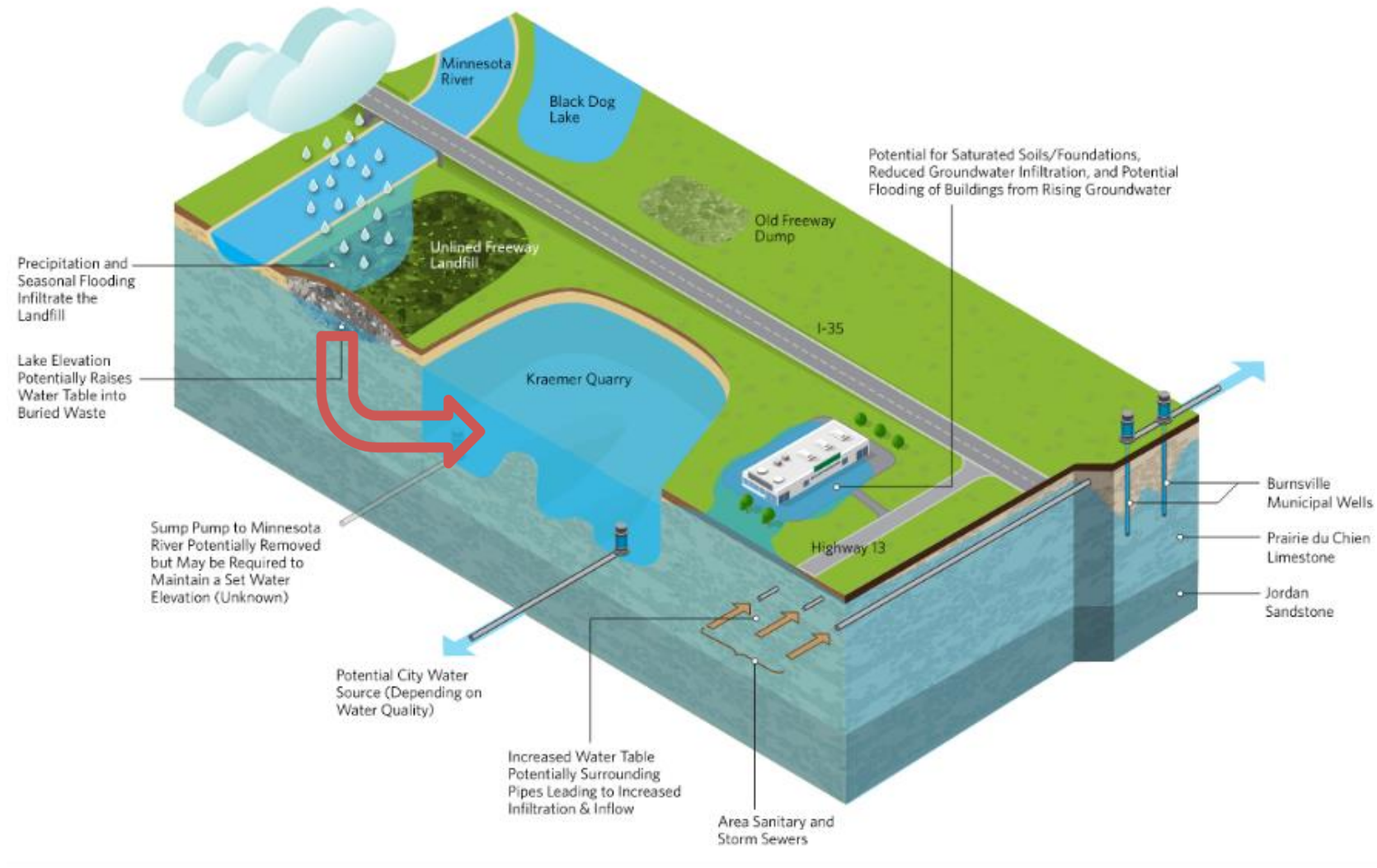
Potential Impact

- Water Elevation in groundwater depends on lake level.
- Implications TBD
- Five Concerns
 - Groundwater into Landfill
 - City Utilities
 - Structure Foundations
 - Drinking Water Quality
 - Future Land Development



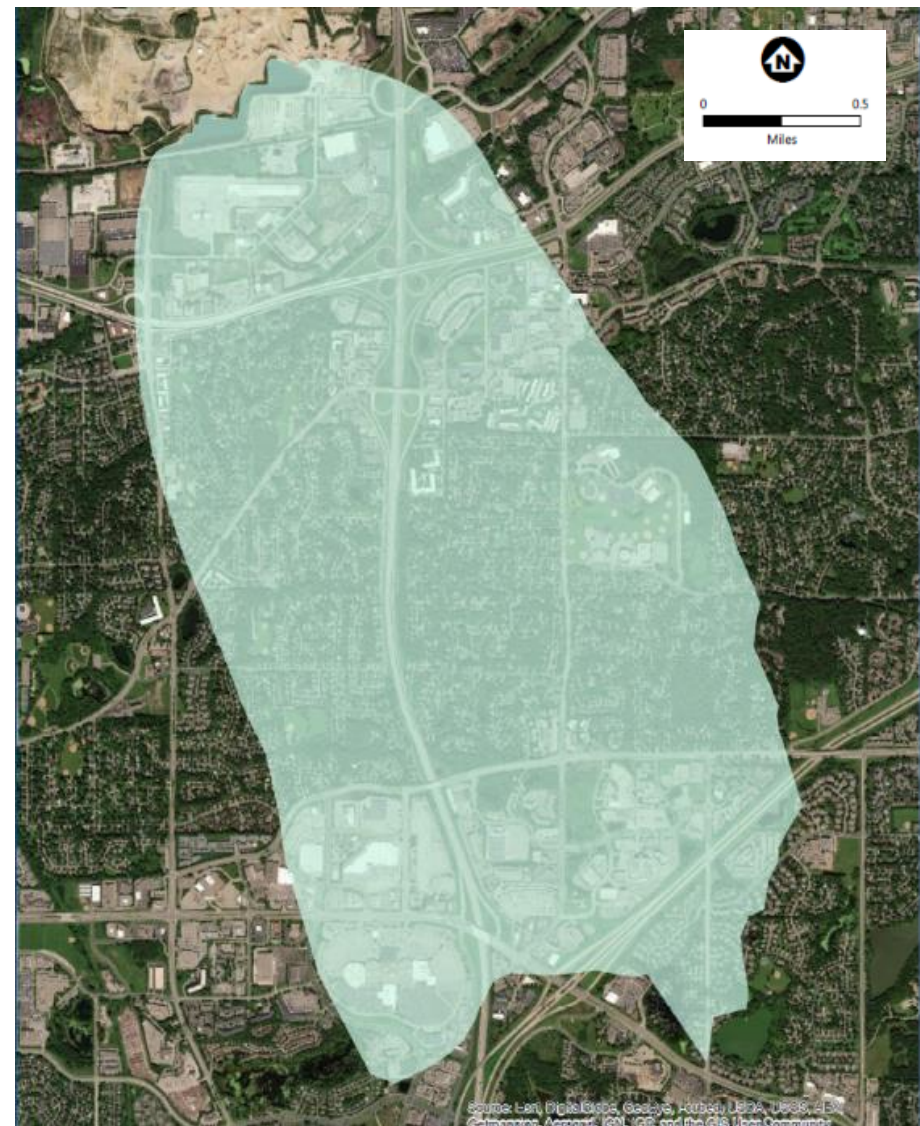
Impacts – Groundwater & Surface Water Source

- Water Elevation into Landfills
 - Landfills installed when water level was low.
 - Will water level rise into stored trash?
 - If so, issues with dissolved chemicals in water
- Concerns especially in unlined landfills



Current Surface Water Supply Area

- Current Water Source
 - Tested Frequently
 - No issues with source water quality.
- Flow from South and enters into Quarry



 Capture Zone



Future Lake Water Supply

- Where is flow coming from?
- What does it mean?
 - Clean up of Freeway Landfill & Dump
 - May need future mitigation measures



Next Steps

- Agency & Public Communication & Input
- Continued Public and Private Infrastructure Evaluations & Implications
- Attempt to Determine Lake Elevation with Stakeholders
- Determine next study phase

Thank You
Questions?



MARKETING SOLUTIONS
"Building Resilient Brands!"



February 27, 2022

Market Research Report - Draft

HENNEPIN COUNTY CHLORIDE INITIATIVE

PREPARED FOR

Laura Jester | Administrator
Bassett Creek Watershed Management
Commission c/o Keystone Waters, LLC
16145 Hillcrest Lane
Eden Prairie MN 55346

PREPARED BY

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Executive Summary

- **Condo and townhome association board members** make the decisions about winter maintenance in condo and townhome associations.
 - Safety and cost are the top drivers for these decision makers.
 - Protecting the environment, asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, and carpeting/floors are additional, but secondary considerations.
 - Concerns about liability are fundamentally concerns about safety.
 - Coping with problem areas causes greater salt use.
- **Faith community facilities managers** make the decisions about winter maintenance in faith communities.
 - Safety and protecting the environment are the top drivers for these decision makers. Protecting the environment was sometimes framed as “protecting God’s creation.”
 - Lowering cost, protecting asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, and carpeting/floors are additional, but secondary considerations.
 - Concerns about liability are fundamentally concerns about safety.
 - Coping with problem areas causes greater salt use.
- **Property managers** advise many of their clients about winter maintenance.
 - Cost, safety, and concerns about liability are the top drivers for this audience. Ensuring safety and mitigating liability are linked concerns.
 - Protecting asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, and carpeting/floors are additional, but secondary considerations.
- **Message building blocks across all audiences include:**
 - *Emphasize ensuring safety.* It is important that this is communicated as HCCI’s central focus; it is the primary reason for salting across all audiences.
 - Highlight the parallel benefits of minimizing cost and protecting the environment.
 - Include, but don’t prioritize, discussion of protecting asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, carpets/floors, and pet paws.
 - Recommend practical alternatives and best practices. Provide written “how-to” information about dealing with different problem areas.
 - Persuade with examples of associations and faith communities that have been successful minimizing salt use.
 - Inform about programs available to subsidize the cost of abatement measures (such as water diversion loans/grants) (written handout).
 - Forego discussion of liability unless a) Smart Salting legislation becomes law, or b) the audience raises the issue (be prepared to respond). If discussed, express understanding and compassion for their concerns, and emphasize that safety can be protected while minimizing salt use.

Complete research findings are detailed in the attached report.

Project Background

Deicing salts are commonly used in Northern climates to improve winter safety and improve driving and walking conditions. The overuse of these deicing salts (chlorides) has accelerated in recent years, and has had a negative impact on rivers, streams, lakes, and other water resources, including drinking water. It only takes one teaspoon of salt to permanently pollute just five gallons of water such that it can no longer harbor freshwater aquatic life. Salt also causes premature and expensive damage to property including impacts to infrastructure, landscaping, and flooring. Once in the environment, there are limited options for treating or removing chloride from waters or soils; the most effective control is simply to use less.

As this issue has come to the forefront in the past few decades, cold-weather states, cities, counties, and other public institutions have taken numerous actions to limit the amount of road salt applied to streets and highways to the bare minimum needed. However, on private properties, extra salt is routinely overapplied to roadways, parking lots, and walks, usually to demonstrate that care was taken on property. Although some salt is needed to maintain a safe winter environment, overuse has become a strategy to protect a property from liability lawsuits. We are seeking to educate homeowners' associations and faith-based organizations that more salt does not equal higher levels of safety, and that it does result in harm to the environment. In turn, we want them to reduce requests for over-salting made by these groups to their property management companies.

The Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (HCCI) is a collaborative of all eleven watershed organizations in Hennepin County, the county, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and many cities from across the county. HCCI's goal is to reduce the amount of chloride entering our waterways from the overuse of winter deicing materials. While each of the HCCI members work in their own jurisdictions on this issue, the HCCI project uses Clean Water Funds through a state grant to collectively address this issue by pooling ideas and resources and promoting common messages and strategies, with an emphasis on private property owners and managers, from large retail centers to small properties or residences.

HCCI contracted with MP+G Marketing Solutions to conduct audience research and develop a campaign for outreach to townhome and condominium boards and faith communities to promote best practices for minimizing salt use.

Purpose of the Research

The purpose of the research is to better understand the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, behaviors, policies, and other factors that increase willingness to adopt Smart Salting practices among homeowners' associations, faith-based organizations, and property management companies, as well as those factors that decrease willingness. In addition, we are seeking insights into the communication messages, methods and engagement tools that might increase or decrease willingness among the target audiences.

Research Approach

Qualitative data was collected through a series of interviews with board members of homeowners' associations, board members (or facilities managers) of faith-based organizations, and property managers at property management companies. Secondary research is also being conducted into promising programs, methods, and messages found at existing Hennepin County initiatives at HCCI member organizations, as well as other water quality programs; secondary research will be incorporated into the development of program branding, presentations, and materials.

The data was analyzed for themes, potential messages, messengers, and other factors influencing decisions of use of deicing salt. The findings are presented in this report.

Limitations of the Research

The research is qualitative and descriptive, not quantitative, so results cannot be measured or extrapolated. Research participants were identified through networking and participated by selective invitation, and are therefore participation was not randomized.

Participants

Research participants were identified and recruited through HCCI with assistance from MP+G Marketing Solutions. Participation was voluntary. Interviewees were given a \$25 gift card as a token of appreciation for their time.

- **Townhome and condominium association board members.** Eight board members participated in interviews.
- **Faith community members.** Five faith community members participated; this group was the hardest to reach and recruit.
- **Property managers.** Five property managers were interviewed.

How Decisions are Made

Decisions: Townhome and Condominium Associations

Townhome and condominium association board members who participated said that board members at their associations make the decisions about winter maintenance vendors and practices. In some instances, they consult and/or get bids through their property management company.

Only rarely do homeowners directly influence the decision-making at these associations; when residents have concerns about icy conditions in problem areas or snow removal, they most often interact with the property management company, or association maintenance person. Comments from homeowners include both compliments and criticism.

Some associations have buckets of salt and/or sand near problem areas where homeowners are free to apply it.

The majority of these participants said that winter maintenance is discussed and decided (contracts signed) in September and October. Snow removal and lawn care are often handled by the same contractor and so in some associations the discussion and contract signing happens in March and April.

Decisions: Faith Communities

Faith community facilities managers who participated (often parish members who are volunteers, or the pastor) said that they make the decisions about winter maintenance vendors and practices. In some instances, they consult with internal committees (e.g., operations, grounds, or environment) or their internal maintenance supervisor.

Parishioners in these communities do not participate in the decisions; when parishioners have concerns about icy conditions in problem areas or snow removal, they alert the facilities manager or building janitorial staff. Comments from parishioners include both compliments and criticism.

A few parishes reported they have buckets of salt and/or sand near problem areas where parishioners could apply it, but people are more likely to alert building maintenance.

No pattern was observed among faith community participants as to when winter maintenance is discussed and decided.

Decisions: Property Managers

Note: Two of five interviewees had many years of experience managing hundreds of townhome and condominium associations. Their responses have been preferentially weighted in this analysis.

Three of five property managers who participated said that they make the decisions about winter maintenance vendors and practices. Two of five said the association board makes the decisions, often with advice or recommendations from the property manager.

These respondents said residents in these communities do not participate in the decisions, but do influence them by complaining (e.g., prompting a change of vendors). When residents have concerns about icy conditions in problem areas or snow removal, they alert the property managers or, occasionally, the snow removal contractors.

One property manager who has managed hundreds of associations said condominiums are more likely to have buckets of salt and/or sand for resident use near entrances or problem areas than are townhome associations. He said lawn care and snow removal contracts go hand-in-hand; decisions about contracts are made in spring and fall.

Decision Drivers

Drivers: Townhome and Condominium Associations

For these participants, decisions are driven by two main factors:

- **Safety.** More than half of these participants said protecting residents from accident and injury was a deciding factor, as important, or for some, more important than cost.
- **Cost.** Most participants were mindful of the increased cost the association pays when salt is applied in their complex; they want to be good fiscal stewards. Keeping costs down was frequently mentioned as a benefit to minimizing salt use.

If we need to pay a bit more to do the right thing—protect the residents—we'll do that.

Association board member

Monetary cost, however, was not the only factor they considered; participants also saw a “cost” to safety with unsafe conditions. Similarly, a few spoke of the cost to the environment of salt use.

The interviewers asked questions about several other factors:

- **Protecting the environment.** The harmful effects of salt on water resources and drinking water were top-of-mind for only two of eight participants. Knowledge about connections between salt and harm to the environment varied, with most having only a general idea that “it’s bad.” When prompted, four of eight said it was important to consider environmental impact.
- **Protecting asphalt/concrete and lawns/landscaping.** This was mentioned by three of eight association board members.
- **Protecting carpets/floors.** Four of eight people mentioned this.
- **Mitigating liability.** There was some general concern about liability protection as stewards of their communities (e.g., making sure they carried enough insurance), but preventing slips and falls and ensuring resident safety was of greater concern.
- **Problem areas.** Coping with problem areas, such as icy sidewalks, was a specific reason for a lot of salt use.

Drivers: Faith Communities

For these participants, decisions are driven by two main factors:

- **Safety.** All five of these participants said they have many elderly people in their congregations and they are concerned for their safety. They have either had cases of slips and falls, or are worried they will.
- **Protecting the environment.** The harmful effects of salt on water resources and drinking water were important to all five faith community interviewees. Knowledge levels about the connections between salt and harm to the environment were high. Protecting the environment was sometimes framed as “protecting God’s creation.”



If there were non-polluting substitutes, we would pay the extra money; I know we would.

Faith community participant

The interviewers asked questions about several other factors:

- **Cost.** Three of five faith community participants listed cost as a concern. Monetary cost, however, was not the only factor they considered; participants also saw a “cost” to safety inherent in unsafe conditions. Similarly, a few spoke of the cost to the environment of salt use.
- **Mitigating liability.** When prompted, four of these participants had heightened concern about liability. Researchers infer this may be connected to concern for the elderly populations they serve; preventing slips and falls was a key concern.
- **Protecting asphalt/concrete and lawns/landscaping.** This was mentioned by four of five faith community members. This was tied to concern for the environment as several had rain gardens and/or were protective of waterways or natural areas near their place of worship.
- **Protecting carpets/floors.** Two of five people mentioned this. For those two people, salt on carpets and floors was a major headache.
- **Problem areas.** Coping with problem areas, such as icy stairs, was a specific reason for a lot of salt use.

Drivers: Property Managers

For these participants, decisions are driven by two main factors:

- **Cost.** Interviewees said keeping costs down is a major consideration for association boards managed by professional property management companies. An experienced property manager observed that inflation and labor shortages will affect decision-making in the next year; he expects costs to go up 10 percent or more.
- **Safety and liability.** Ensuring safety and mitigating liability are *linked concerns* for this audience.



Associations are required [in their governing documents] to maintain health and safety, so if that means throwing buckets of salt down, they're going to do it.

Property manager participant

The interviewers asked questions about several other factors:

- **Protecting the environment.** The harmful effects of salt on water resources and drinking water were generally not part of the decision-making process for these property managers. One experienced property manager

observed that board members who prioritize environmental concerns come and go; boards turn over, so this may be very important one year, and of little importance the next. Knowledge levels about the connections between salt and harm to the environment in this group were moderately high.

- **Protecting asphalt/concrete and lawns/landscaping.** All of these property managers mentioned wear and tear on asphalt/concrete and lawns/landscaping as being of concern to the associations they serve.
- **Protecting carpets/floors.** Four of five people mentioned this.

Trusted Advisors

Advisors: Townhome and Condominium Associations

Trusted advisors have the potential to become messengers and partners.

- **Property management company.** Six of eight townhome and condominium association board members turn to their property management company for advice. Two mentioned association management trainings or online information offered through their property management companies: [Omega](#) and [Associa](#) were specifically mentioned.
- **Attorneys.** Two of eight participants had attorneys they consulted directly. Several others mentioned using the attorney with the property management company.
- **Insurance company.** Two of eight participants turn to insurance companies for advice about property management.
- **Professional associations.** Two association members mentioned belonging to professional associations—[Community Associations Institute Minnesota Chapter](#) and Minnesota Common Ground (?)—that advised about winter maintenance.
- **Publications and media.** Two association members said they follow publications, namely those put out by Community Associations Institute, and the City of Plymouth.
- **City, county, and watershed districts.** Two participants mentioned the city, county, and/or watershed district as trusted advisors. No negative comments were made about government agencies.
- **“Green team” committee or individual.** None of these participants mentioned this.

Advisors: Faith Communities

- **“Green team” committee or individual.** Three of five members of this audience said their faith community has an environmental committee or active individuals.
- **Attorneys.** Three of five participants had attorneys they consulted directly; all three reported the attorneys were members of the congregation.
- **Property management company.** One of five faith community members mentioned getting advice from their property management company.
- **Insurance company.** One participant turned to an insurance company for advice about winter maintenance.
- **Professional associations.** One of these participants mentioned belonging to a professional association (other than the parent church or temple): [Minnesota Association of Church Facility Management](#) (for all faiths).
- **City, county, and watershed districts.** One participant mentioned the city, county, and/or watershed district as trusted advisors. No negative comments were made about government agencies.
- **Publications and media.** No faith community participants said they follow publications or media.

Advisors: Property Management Companies

- **Publications and media.** Four mentioned following publications, put out by Community Associations Institute, and City of Edina. The Executive Director at CAI-MN also mentioned two radio programs hosted by property managers (but did not know the stations): [Gene Sullivan at New Concepts](#), and Kyle Miller of All-Around Construction (researchers tracked this down as the Structure Tech podcast).
- **Insurance company.** Three of five property managers turn to insurance companies for advice about winter maintenance. One long-time property manager said insurance companies will get involved and dictate snow and ice removal policies if they do an inspection and find major problems.
- **Professional associations.** Three of five property managers mentioned membership in [Community Associations Institute - Minnesota Chapter](#) that advised about winter maintenance, and one is Executive Director of CAI-MN.
- **City, county, and watershed districts.** Three participants mentioned the city, county, and/or watershed district as trusted advisors. No negative comments were made about government agencies.
- **Attorneys.** No property managers mentioned consulting attorneys, yet property management companies routinely have attorneys on retainer or on

staff (and this was mentioned by HOA members); often they are specialists in community association law.

- **“Green team” committee or individual.** None of these participants mentioned this.

Message Building Blocks

Messaging: Townhome and Condominium Associations

- Emphasize ensuring safety while lowering cost.
- Include, but don't prioritize, discussion of protecting the environment, asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, carpets/floors, and pet paws.
- Recommend practical alternatives and best practices. Provide written “how-to” information about dealing with different types of problem areas.
- Persuade with examples of other associations that have been successful minimizing salt use.
- Inform about programs available to subsidize the cost of abatement measures (such as water diversion loans/grants) (written handout).
- Forego discussion of liability unless a) Smart Salting legislation becomes law, or b) the audience raises the issue (be prepared to respond). If discussed, express understanding and compassion for their concerns, and emphasize that safety can be protected while minimizing salt use.

More on an improved product that will have less detrimental effects, and its cost.

Association board member

Messaging: Faith Communities

- Emphasize ensuring safety while protecting the environment (discuss their building's proximity to water resources where applicable). Express concern for the safety of all parishioners, but especially older adults.

When they hear about less salt, they worry about safety. Safe and environmentally responsible—that's a win, win.

Faith community participant

- Include, but don't prioritize, discussion of minimizing cost, and protecting carpets/floors, asphalt/concrete, and landscaping/lawns.
- Recommend practical alternatives and best practices. Provide written "how-to" information about dealing with different types of problem areas.
- Persuade with examples of other faith organizations that have been successful minimizing salt use.
- Inform about programs available to subsidize the cost of abatement measures (such as stormwater diversion loans/grants) (written handout).
- Forego discussion of liability unless a) Smart Salting legislation becomes law, or b) the audience raises the issue (be prepared to respond). If discussed, express understanding and compassion for their concerns, and emphasize that safety can be protected while minimizing salt use.

Messaging: Property Managers

- Emphasize minimizing costs while protecting resident safety and guarding against liability. When liability is discussed, express understanding and compassion for their concerns, and emphasize that safety can be protected while minimizing salt use.
- Include, but don't prioritize, discussion of protecting the environment, asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, and carpets/floors.
- Recommend practical alternatives and best practices. Provide written "how-to" information about dealing with different types of problem areas.
- Persuade with examples of associations and their property management providers that have been successful minimizing salt use.
- Inform about programs available to their clients to subsidize the cost of abatement measures (such as stormwater diversion loans/grants) (written handout).

Messaging: Across All Audiences

- *Emphasize ensuring safety.* It is important that this is communicated as HCCI's central focus; it is the primary reason for salting across all audiences.
- Highlight the parallel benefits of minimizing cost and protecting the environment.
- Include, but don't prioritize, discussion of protecting asphalt/concrete, landscaping/lawns, carpets/floors, and pet paws.
- Recommend practical alternatives and best practices. Provide written "how-to" information about dealing with different types of problem areas.
- Persuade with examples of associations and faith communities that have been successful minimizing salt use.

- Inform about programs available to subsidize the cost of abatement measures (such as water diversion loans/grants) (written handout).
- Forego discussion of liability unless a) Smart Salting legislation becomes law, or b) the audience raises the issue (be prepared to respond). If discussed, express understanding and compassion for their concerns, and emphasize that safety can be protected while minimizing salt use.

Recommended Messengers

Messengers: Townhome and Condominium Associations

Recommended messengers for reaching townhome and condominium association members include property managers, board members at other associations, and local government.

Messengers: Faith Communities

Recommended messengers for reaching faith community members include parishioners who are also advisors (including attorneys and “green team” committee members), representatives from other parishes, the [Minnesota Association of Church Facilities Management](#), and local government.

Messengers: Property Managers

Recommended messengers for reaching property managers include Community Associations Institute, the [Minnesota Multi-Housing Association](#), other property managers, and local government.

Preferred Communication Channels

Across all audiences, email was the preferred way to contact them. Some said phone was a good way to reach them. Some wanted to receive a mailing or flyer. Several mentioned the appeal of videos.

Quite a few homeowners’ association and faith community participants offered to host neighborhood meetings for reaching the broader community.

Direct outreach to townhome and condominium association board members and faith community facilities managers is recommended and will likely be welcomed.

Publications or sites that may be useful for communicating with these audiences include (but are not limited to) the Community Associations Institute-Minnesota Chapter magazine (*Minnesota Community Living*, published quarterly), the [Minnesota Multi-Housing Association](#), the [Minnesota Association of Church Facility Management](#), and city government and watershed district websites and newsletters.

Presentations and Outreach

Across all audiences, these participants were open to having HCCI meet with them to do a presentation; some were enthusiastic; some wanted to be reassured the presentation would contain new information and strategies.

- Most recommended presentations of 15-30 minutes, including time for questions. A few recommended presentations of up to an hour; longer presentations may be more feasible with property managers.
- Several stressed that presenters needed to be familiar with *their* situation, *their* ongoing problem areas (and offer solutions), and *their* mitigation efforts before presenting. This suggests the need for a brief pre-presentation interview.
- A number of townhome/condo and faith community interviewees envisioned offering a meeting to their whole community, and several offered space to do so. One of the property managers said he was also open to arranging presentations for communities the company manages.
- Several people mentioned the appeal of a video, 5 or 6 minutes long, as part of the presentation.
- Concentrate presentations in August, September, and October, and February, March, and April.
- Zoom meetings are the recommended presentation venue. Many boards already meet this way; Zoom facilitates PowerPoint presentations; association boards typically don't have a community meeting facility (pre-Covid most met in board members' homes); and Zoom is often the only forum available during the pandemic.

With Gratitude

This research would not have been possible without the generous cooperation of research participants, to whom we are very grateful.

| Organization | Contact | Application date | Description | Projected cost | Request | Grant award | Final Cost | Reimbursed | Reimbursed percent | Grant execution date | Reimbursement date | Status |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------|---|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| City of Chaska | Brent Alcott | 2/4/2021 | Segmented blade retrofit | \$ 12,230.00 | \$ 9,784.00 | \$ 9,784.00 | \$ 12,824.42 | \$ 9,618.32 | 75.0% | 3/3/2021 | 9/1/2021 | Complete |
| Eden Prairie Schools | Bert Windhorst | 1/17/2022 | Two granular salt spreaders (equip upgrade) | \$ 30,676.00 | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ 20,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | | 2/11/2022 | | Approved by BOM Feb 2022 |
| City of Edina | Jessica Wilson | 2/3/2022 | Snow removal equipment to prevent icing | \$ 22,279.16 | \$ 16,709.37 | \$ 16,709.37 | \$ - | \$ - | | <i>pending</i> | | LMC approved; to RPBCWD BOM 4/6 2022 |
| Edina Schools | Laurie Wilcox | <i>pending</i> | | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | | | | |

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Total requested | Total awarded | Total reimbursed |
| \$ 46,493.37 | \$ 46,493.37 | \$ 9,618.32 |

LMC Chloride Cost-Share Program

BUDGET **\$ 197,209.00** BWSR funds 10% match

Maximum grant: Up to 75% of cost (\$20,000 max)

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Budget remaining | |
| Per awarded | Per reimbursed |
| \$ 150,715.63 | \$ 187,590.68 |