



Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Program and Project Updates

April 2024



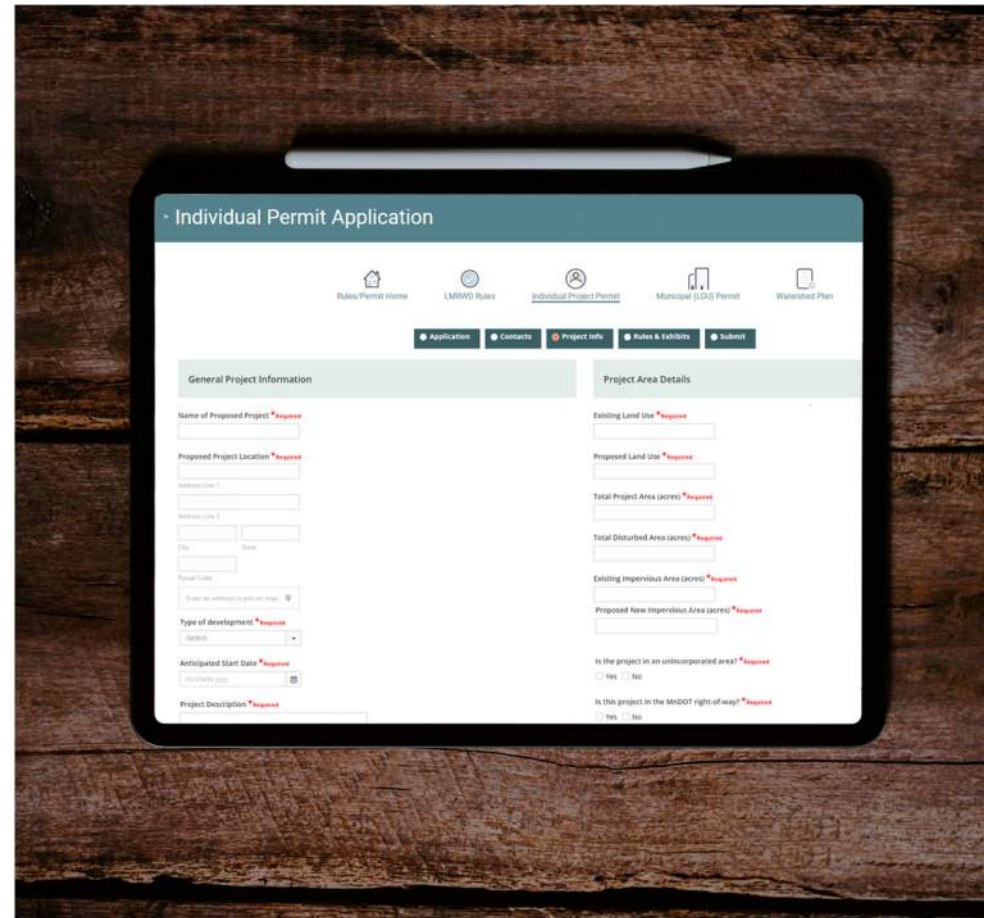
Programs

- Individual and Municipal Permitting
- Education and Outreach
- Water Resources Restoration Fund

LMRWD Permit Program

Historical Context

- **2020:** Rules were first adopted
- **2022:** Rules were amended in October
- Local government units (LGUs) that wish to obtain a municipal permit must highlight how they intend to implement and enforce these rules through official controls



The image shows a tablet displaying a web application for an "Individual Permit Application". The interface includes a navigation bar with icons for "Rules/Permit Home", "LMRWD Rules", "Individual Project Permit", "Municipal (LGU) Permit", and "Watershed Plan". Below the navigation bar are tabs for "Application", "Contacts", "Project Info", "Rules & Exhibits", and "Submit". The main form is divided into two columns: "General Project Information" and "Project Area Details".

General Project Information:

- Name of Proposed Project *
- Proposed Project Location *
- Address Line 1
- Address Line 2
- City State
- Postal Code
- Type of Development *
- Anticipated Start Date *
- Project Description *

Project Area Details:

- Existing Land Use *
- Proposed Land Use *
- Total Project Area (acres) *
- Total Disturbed Area (acres) *
- Existing Impervious Area (acres) *
- Proposed New Impervious Area (acres) *
- Is the project in an unincorporated area? * Yes No
- Is this project in the MMDOT right-of-way? * Yes No

Individual Project Permits

Progress and Updates



Permit Number	Project Name	Status	Date Received	Conditional Approval	Permit Issued
2022-031	RSI Marine Storage	Conditional Approval	9/20/2023	2/21/2024	-
2022-037	Peterson Wetland Bank	Active	5/23/2023	7/19/2023	1/9/2024
2023-013	Merriam Junction Trail	Under Review	3/20/2024	-	-
2023-017	MN Bluffs Regional Trail	Conditional Approval	12/28/2023	3/20/2024	-
2023-020	Tramore Heights Addition	Conditional Approval	8/21/2023	2/21/2024	-
2023-022	MAC SSC Phase 2*	Active Rule B/Under Review Rule D	10/2/2023	-	-
2023-025	TH35W SP1981-140	Under Review	1/24/2024	-	-
2023-026	CP Pipeline Abandonment	Conditional Approval	1/5/2024	2/21/2024	-
2023-027	TH41 ORF Relocation	Under Review	12/12/2023	-	-
2024-001	Saint John's Church	No Permit Required	1/15/2024	-	-
2024-002	MnDOT Pond Maintenance	Under Review	3/20/2024	-	-
2024-003	Port Cargill Savage	Upcoming	-	-	-
2024-004	35W Early Release*	Conditional Approval	2/20/2024	-	-
2024-005	Fort Snelling Cemetery	Upcoming	-	-	-
2024-006	T2 North Expansion	Under Review	2/28/2024	-	-
2024-007	Chalet Driving Range	No Permit Required	2/18/2024	-	-
2024-008	CD Terminal Storage Pad	Under Review	3/22/2024	-	-
2024-009	FWTEC	Under Review	3/28/2024	-	-
2024-010	Lyndale Road	Under Review	3/29/2024	-	-

Municipal Permits

Municipal Permit Holders

- Eagan – 2020
- Mendota Heights – 2020
- Bloomington – 2020*
- Carver – 2021*
- **Chaska – 2024***
- Shakopee – 2021*
- Burnsville (*conditionally approved*) – 2022

**These cities do not have permitting authority for Rule C—Floodplain and Drainage Alteration*

Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Coordinate with Savage, Chanhassen, and the Metropolitan Airports Commission to get their LGU Permits

Education and Outreach Program

Historical Context

- Program established in 2020 as an output of Watershed Management Plan
- Multi-armed approach including:
 - Board of Managers Coordination
 - Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Content Development for Print and Digital
 - Interpretive Resource Signage
 - Schools Engagement
 - Education and Outreach Events and Partnerships



Education and Outreach Program

Progress and Updates

- Continued support of CAC and new recruitment efforts
- Social media on hold, posting reduced to critical updates
- Signage ready to install at Quarry Lake, Courthouse Lake, Ike's Creek with new signs in development
- Educator Mini-Grants Awarded
- Organizing 2024 Tabling Events



Water Resources Restoration Fund

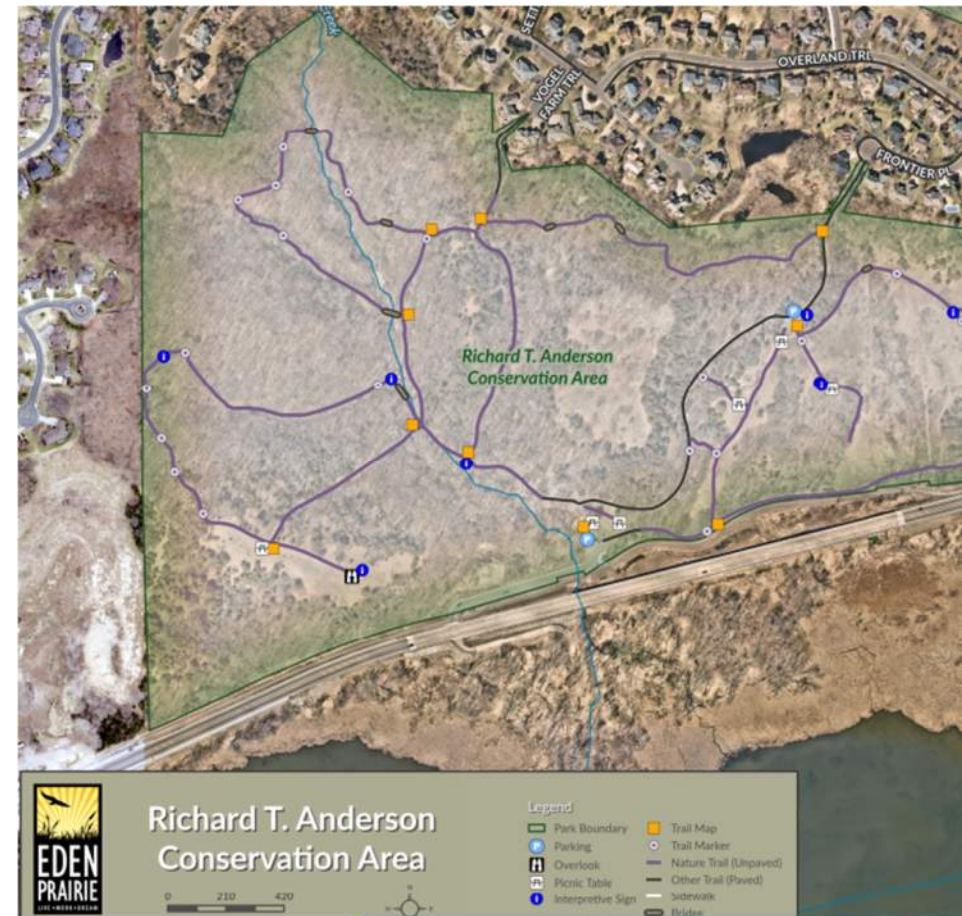


Historical Context

- **2017:** Fund was established as part of Watershed Management Plan to contribute to partnership projects with aligned goals relating to nonpoint source pollution, groundwater quality, and resource health and management.

Progress and Updates

- **2024:** LMRWD received one application from the City of Eden Prairie for Richard T. Anderson Bluff Stabilization Project.



Projects

- Capital Improvement Projects

Area 3 Riverbank and Bluff Stabilization

Historical Context

- **2008:** Erosion issues observed and monitored.
- Partnership with Eden Prairie revealed stormwater pond a contributing factor.
- **2018:** Project incorporated in Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) Capital Improvement Project List.
- **2023:** Additional funding secured through legislature and Hennepin County. 60% plans completed.



Area 3 Riverbank and Bluff Stabilization



Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Permit Applications Submitted. Once approved, 90% design will continue. Soil borings scheduled for early summer 2024.

Permit	Status
MnDNR Public Waters	MnDNR requested a No-Rise Evaluation to complete the application. The no-rise model is currently undergoing Quality Assurance/Quality Check (QA/QC).
USACE Section 404	Permit issuance is waiting on the National Historic Preservation Association review to be completed.
Wetland Conservation Act	Approval depends on the USACE decision for Section 404.
USACE Section 106	106 Group is reviewing the potential for deeply buried soils in the western and eastern portions of the limits of disturbance to satisfy Section 106 requirements.
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) 401 Certification	The MPCA waived its Section 401 authority
LMRWD Rules B and C	The no-rise model is currently undergoing QA/QC

Fen Stewardship Plans

Historical Context

- **2015:** Initial sustainability plans developed.
- Project was expanded to include additional assessment on Dakota County fens, Seminary Fen, and Savage Fen.
- **2020:** Fens Sustainability Gaps Analysis was completed.



Fen Stewardship Plans

Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Stewardship Plans completed for Savage Fen, Nicols Meadow Fen, and Gun Club Lake Fens.
- Partnership expanding with Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Buckthorn and purple loosestrife control actions planned.
- Property acquisition advancing.



Vernon Avenue/Dredge Material Site



Historical Context

- **2007:** Savage site acquired for dredge material management.
- Vernon Avenue access road was in disrepair and required frequent maintenance due to flooding.

Progress and Updates

- **2023:** Developed plans to rehabilitate roadway and nearby culvert. Construction bids received.
- **2024:** Funding strategy and coonstruction planned.

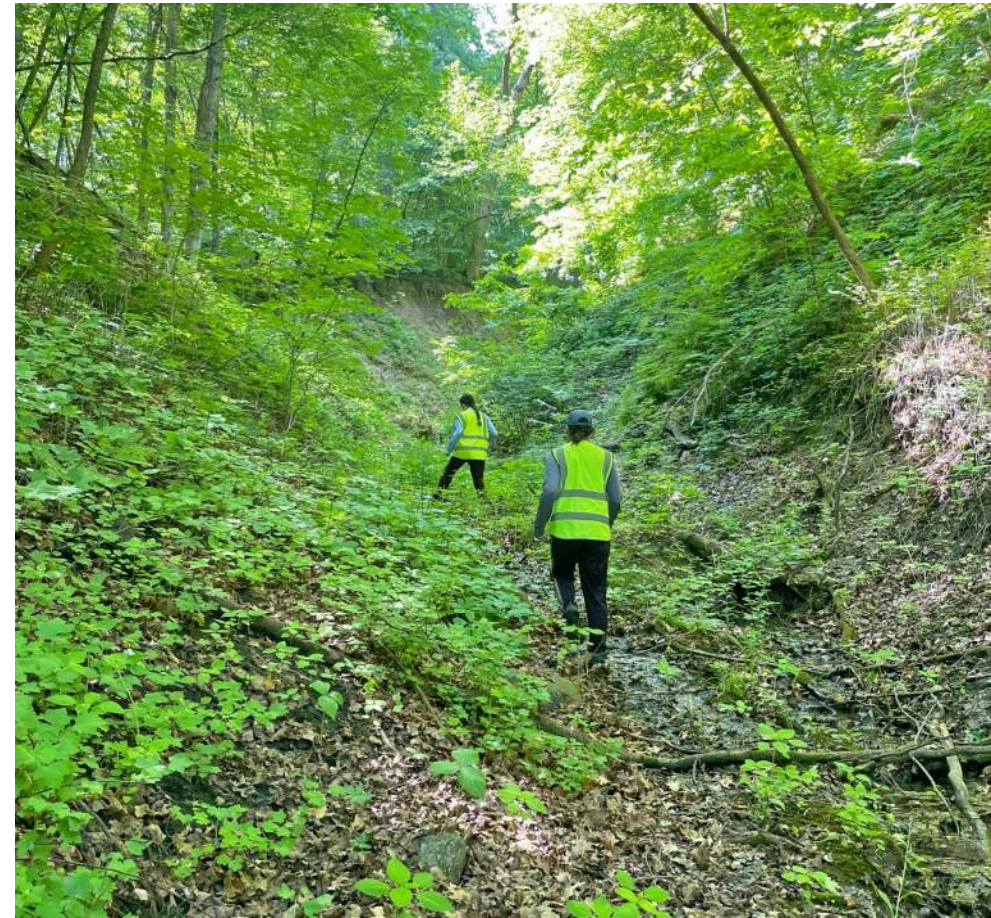


Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment



Historical Context

- **2008:** Original gully assessment.
- **2020:** LMRWD initiated new gully inventory and assessment to understand increased erosion and sediment to Minnesota River. Phase 1 of gully inventory fieldwork.
- **2021:** Phase 2 of gully inventory.

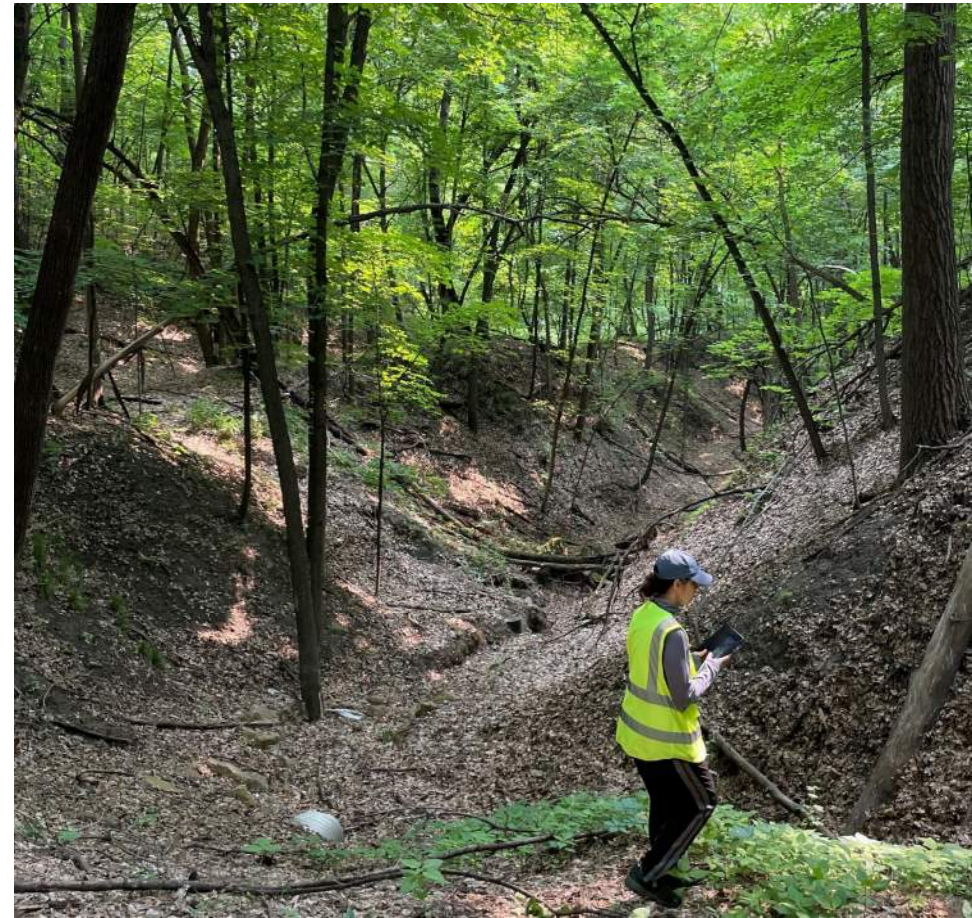


Gully Inventory and Condition Assessment



Progress and Updates

- **2024:** 2023 Gully Inventory identified four priority gullies for further study.
 - **Shakopee** (3 sites)- Two addressed through an upcoming City project.
 - **Burnsville** (1 site)
- Fieldwork planned for mid-April to collect detailed site information.
 1. Collect public pipe outfall information
 2. Desktop analysis using LiDAR
 3. Further assessments
 4. Explore alternative modes for inaccessible sites



Floodplain Modeling

Historical Context

- **2002:** Existing floodplain model established by state agencies.
- **2020:** Development of rules and model efficacy assessment.
- **2021-22:** Feasibility study for model update.

Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Model updates underway.



Spring Creek Site Stabilizations



Historical Context

- **2018:** Landowners raised concerns about impacts of the dynamic creek.
- **2019:** Site visits and hydrology assessment.
- **2023:** Three sites studied for erosion.
- Two sites advanced for bank stabilization practices. Third site will be monitored through management.



Spring Creek Site Stabilizations



Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Construction of two stabilization projects.
- Working with landowner of third site to promote land management through steep slopes information.



Trout Stream Geomorphic Assessment



Historical Context

- **2019:** First trout streams assessment and recommendations as part of trout streams gap analysis.

Progress and Updates

- **2024:** Eight trout streams will be resurveyed to assess changes in stream alignment, cross-sectional geometry, and base flow.
- Interns to begin stream surveys in late May.





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Questions and Discussion