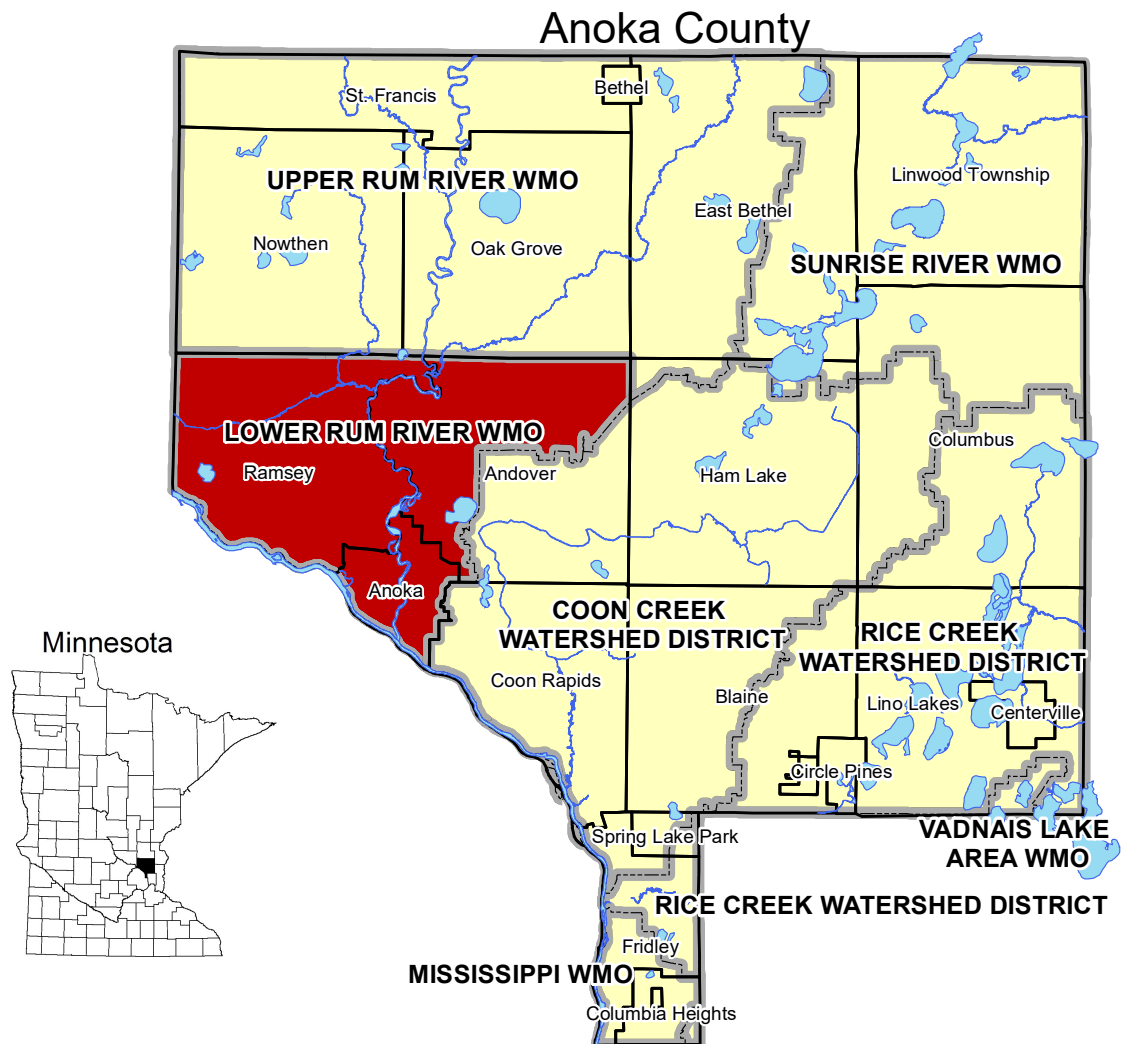


2021 Annual Report

Lower Rum River

Watershed Management Organization

Andover – Anoka – Ramsey



March 10, 2021

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Appendix A: 2021 Financial Report

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Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization
2015 First Avenue
Anoka, MN 55303
www.LRRWMO.org

I. Introduction

This report has been prepared to meet the annual watershed management organization reporting requirements of Minnesota Rules 8410.0150. The report is intended to fulfill 2021 reporting requirements.

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) is a joint powers organization under Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59. It is comprised of the cities of Anoka and Ramsey, and portions of Andover. Board members are appointed by the member cities. The organization's direction is laid out in its watershed management plan and the member municipalities' local water plans. The LRRWMO meets every month on the third Thursday at 8:00 am at the Anoka City Hall.



Rum River in Andover and Ramsey

II. Activity Report

a. Current Board Members

CITY OF RAMSEY

Debra Musgrove (Chair)
7550 Sunwood Dr NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
763/208-6729
dmusgrove@ci.ramsey.mn.us

Chris Riley (Alternate)
7550 Sunwood Dr NW
Ramsey, MN 55303
763/576-4368
criley@cityoframsey.com

CITY OF ANDOVER

Valerie Holthus (Vice Chair)
1685 Crosstown Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304
763/753-3755
cm.holthus@andovermn.gov

Kim Kovich (Alternate)
763-228-9955

CITY OF ANOKA

Jeff Weaver (Treasurer)
2015 1st Ave N
Anoka, MN 55303
763/421-5522
Angler55303@yahoo.com

Phil Rice (Alternate)
2015 1st Ave N
Anoka, MN 55303
763/421-9244
philrice@ci.anoka.mn.us



View of Mississippi River Community Park in Anoka

b. Day to Day Contact

The day to day contact person for the LRRWMO who can answer questions about the organization is:

Becky Wozney
 1318 McKay Dr. NW, #300
 Ham Lake, MN 55304
 763-434-2030 ext. 140
Becky.Wozney@AnokaSWCD.org

c. Employees and Consultants

The LRRWMO does not employ staff, but does utilize consulting services. A description of contracted services is listed below:

Consultant/Partner	Contact	Work Description
Anoka Conservation District	Jamie Schurbon Watershed Projects Manager 1318 McKay Dr NW, #300 Ham Lake, MN 55304 763-434-2030 ext. 210 jamie.schurbon@anokaswcd.org Becky Wozney Same address Becky.Wozney@anokaswcd.org 763-434-2030 ext. 140	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality and hydrologic monitoring, and special studies • Website maintenance • Administer the WMO’s cost share grant program • Public outreach • Reporting assistance • Assistance reviewing local water plans
Barr Engineering	Bob Obermeyer Senior Water Resources Engineer 4700 West 77 th St Minneapolis, MN 55435-4803 952-832-2945	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit reviews. • Technical and engineering guidance • Assistance reviewing local water plans • Watershed management plan update
City of Anoka Finance Department	Lori Yager, Finance Director 2015 First Ave North Anoka, MN 55303-2270	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Treasurer
Kennedy & Graven	Troy Gilchrist 470 Pilsbury Center Minneapolis, MN 55402 612-337-9214	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal services
Timesaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.	Carla Wirth 21021 Karoline Court N. Forest Lake, MN 55025 612-251-8999 timesaver.secretarial@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative secretary • Recording secretary for meetings

d. Solicitations for Services

Minnesota Statutes 103B.227 require watershed management organizations to solicit bids for professional services at least once every two years. In 2021 the LRRWMO solicited proposals for 2022 water monitoring and management services. Only one proposal was received, from the Anoka Conservation District (ACD). The LRRWMO favorably viewed this proposal and ACD’s past performance for the LRRWMO, and selected this agency.

e. Water Quality Trends

The LRRWMO has a long-term water quality monitoring program that includes most larger stream and recreational lakes in the watershed. Waterbodies are monitored either periodically or annually on a predetermined schedule customized to each waterbody. The monitoring serves to identify problems and responses to management, detect trends, and track longitudinal changes.

LRRWMO monitored lakes and their trend analyses are in the table below.

Summary of lake water quality trends

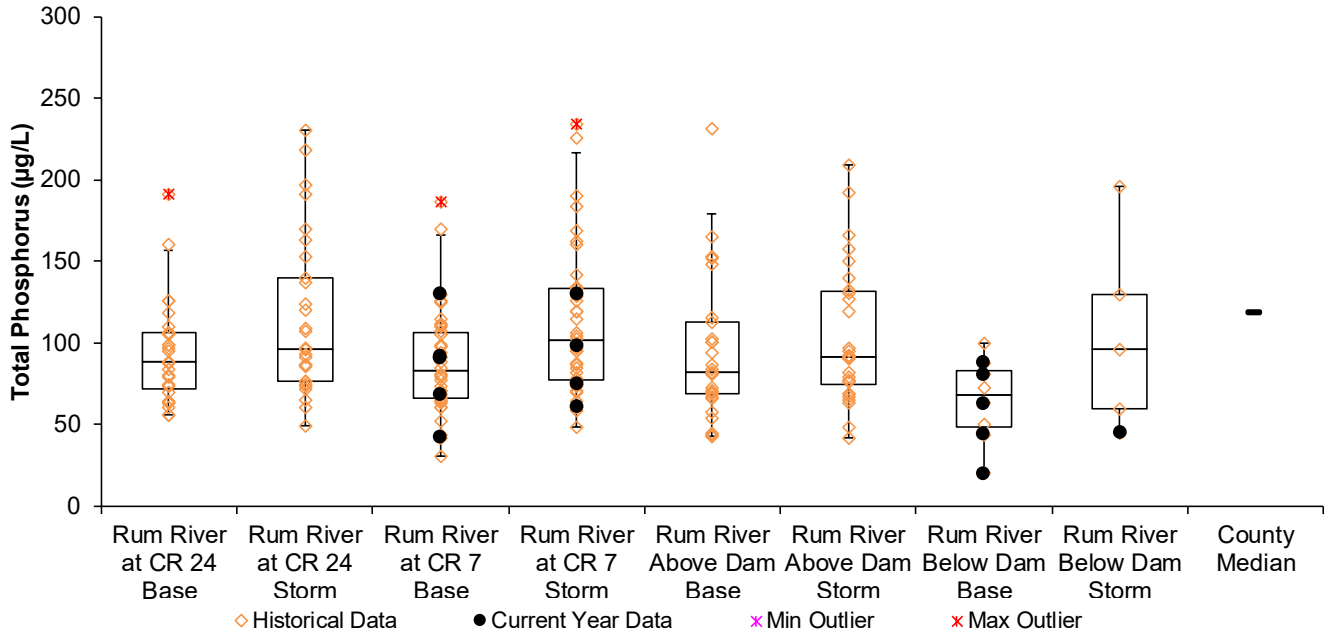
Lake	Years monitored	Most recent year monitored	Letter grade	Trend
Round	12	2019	A	No change
Sunfish	5	2021	B+	Insufficient data

While a long-term statistical trend for the Rum River has not been found in the LRRWMO’s analysis for its reach of the river, there is a general observation of long-term water quality improvement for the entire river. An analysis for the Rum River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (WRAPS) project, which covers the whole watershed, found that at the Pleasant Street bridge in Anoka there had been a 51% decline in total phosphorus in the years 1953 to 2010.

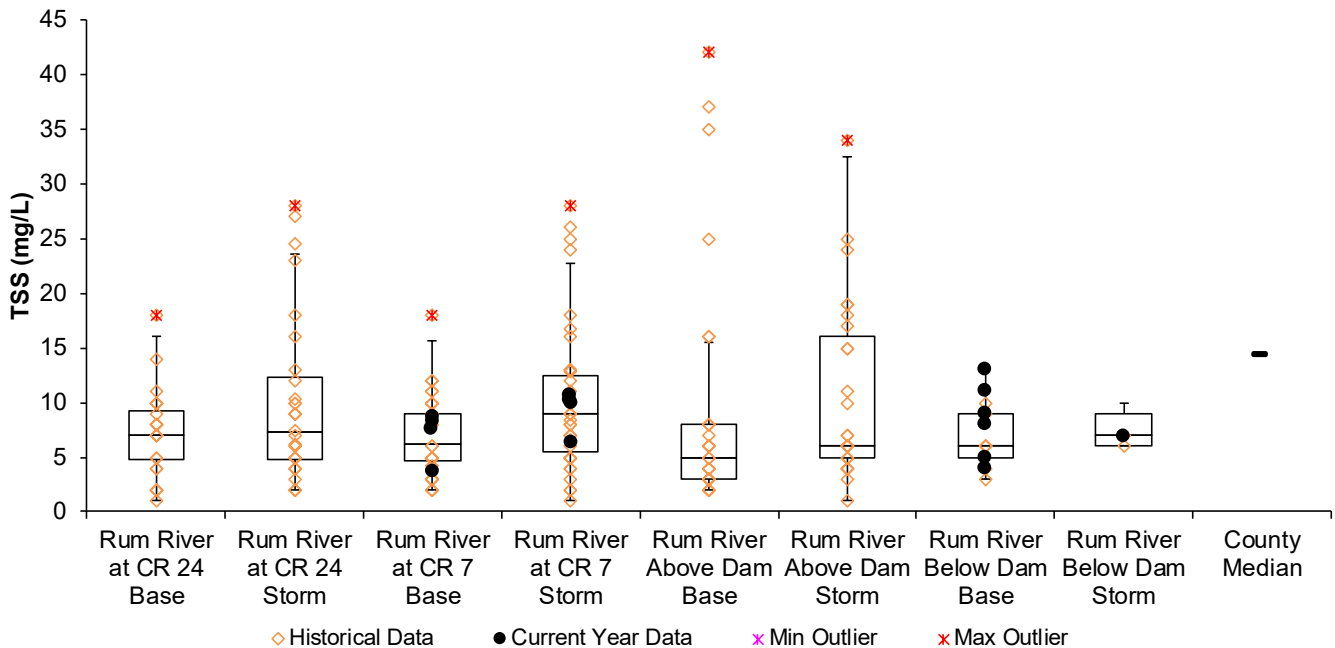
The LRRWMO also takes special interest in how the Rum River’s water quality changes longitudinally, particularly within its jurisdictional boundary. The Rum River is monitored most years near where it enters and exits the LRRWMO. The figure below provides data for phosphorus and suspended solids and Appendix D in our 2019 annual report (not monitored in 2020 or 2021) provides detailed results for many additional parameters. Phosphorus and suspended solids are similar when comparing water entering and leaving the LRRWMO. This is encouraging, because this reach includes many developed and developing areas which could contribute these pollutants. The LRRWMO’s permitting program is designed to limit pollutant increases from these sources. The LRRWMO will continue efforts to improve water quality in its jurisdiction.

Water quality of the river does change in other areas outside the LRRWMO. Water monitoring farther upstream has been sporadic, most recently occurring in 2013-2014. There are water quality declines that generally occur within the Isanti County reaches of the river, which has the most agriculture and impaired waterbodies draining to the lake (see figure below).

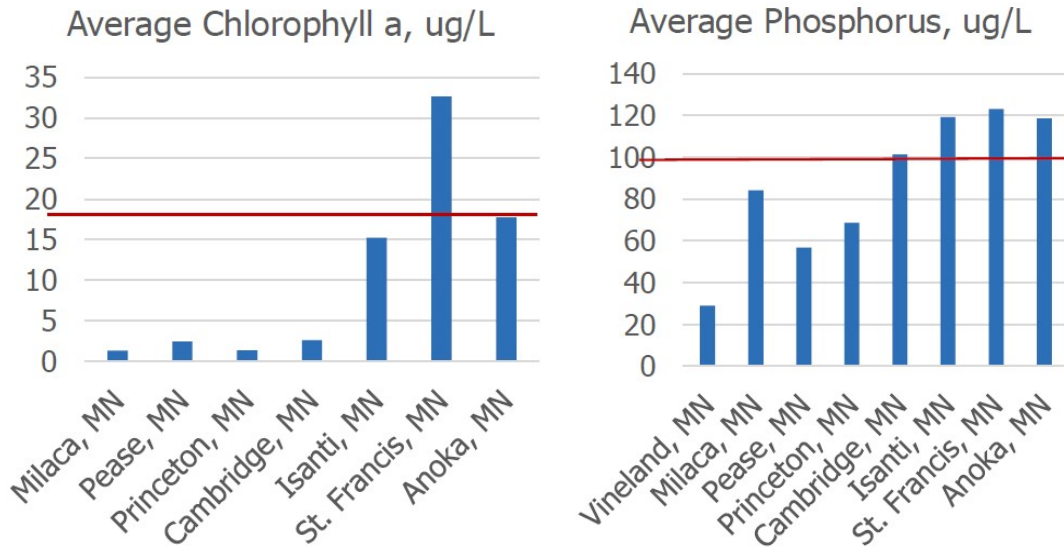
Rum River total phosphorus during baseflow and storm conditions. Orange diamonds are historical data from previous years and black circles are 2019 readings. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th and 75th percentile (ends of box), and 10th and 90th percentile (floating outer lines).



Total suspended solids during baseflow and storm conditions. Orange diamonds are historical data from previous years and black circles are 2019 readings. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th and 75th percentile (ends of box), and 10th and 90th percentiles (floating outer lines).



Whole Watershed Longitudinal Rum River Water Quality Changes (graphic from RESPEC for the Rum River WRAPS).



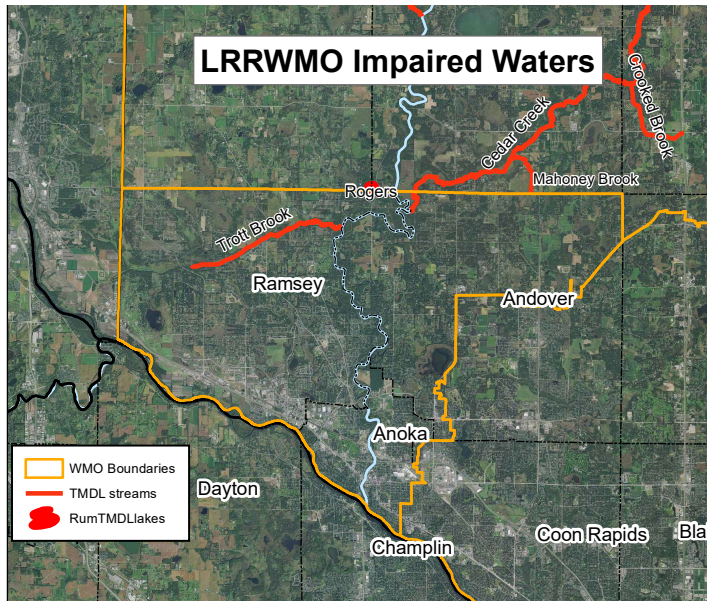
Additional water quality data is available online. Annual watershed monitoring reports are available on the LRRWMO website (www.LRRWMO.org). All water quality data collected by the LRRWMO is on the MN Pollution Control Agency's EQUS database, which is accessible through their website.

f. Impaired Waters

Two impaired waters are of relevance to the LRRWMO: Trott Brook and Mahoney Brook. Neither has an apparent water quality trend. Trott Brook originates in Sherburne County outside the LRRWMO but much of its length is in the LRRWMO. Mahoney Brook's subwatershed is partly within the LRRWMO, but the impaired reach of the stream is not.

Impaired Waterbodies

(note: Rogers Lake was removed from the impaired waters list after production of this map.)



Trotter Brook, a tributary to the Rum River, was added to the State impaired waters list in 2015 for impaired biota (fish and macroinvertebrates) and low dissolved oxygen. A TMDL was done only for the oxygen impairment in 2016 and approved in 2017 as part of the Rum River Watershed TMDL report (available on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website). That study found low oxygen is the likely cause of the biotic impairments. Causes of low oxygen include nutrients (phosphorus), decomposing organic matter (sediment oxygen demand and decomposition in surrounding ditched wetlands) and others. Low oxygen occurs under all flows (low to high), indicating the problem is not runoff-driven. Overall, a 50% reduction of oxygen demand is needed to meet water quality standards. Management strategies may include wetland restorations and nutrient reduction BMPs. In 2020, sulfate was added as an impairment.

Mahoney Brook was added to the State impaired waters list in 2015 for an impaired biota (fish). The impaired stream reach is not in the LRRWMO, but begins at the LRRWMO boundary and flows north. Presumably, a future TMDL for the impaired reach would include pollutant allocations for the upstream portions of the watershed in the LRRWMO. Draft analysis for the Rum River WRAPS project have concluded that low dissolved oxygen, excess phosphorus and habitat are all stressors to the biological community.

Rogers Lake was on the State impaired waters list until 2016. In 2016 it was determined that this waterbody met the definition of a wetland, and lake water quality standards were not appropriate. Rogers Lake is half in the LRRWMO and half in the URRWMO. It is small (~42 acres), shallow (< 4ft) and has no public access. Illegal herbicide applications at the lake may have played a role in switching the lake back and forth between turbid open water and clean water with dense macrophytes. The City of Ramsey, where most shoreline homes are located, has taken a lead role in educating landowners about lake management.

g. Evaluation of Watershed Plan Implementation

The current LRRWMO Watershed Management Plan was approved by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) in late 2021 and adopted by the LRRWMO on December 16, 2021. Implementation began that same year. The plan contains a detailed schedule of tasks that the LRRWMO should accomplish each year from 2022 through 2031 in order to realize its goals.

Appendix B is a table that shows tasks planned for each year in the watershed management plan, as well as responsible parties. It details which tasks were planned and completed.

The LRRWMO deviated from its work plan in the following ways in recent years:

- Change Reason Removed Trott Brook water quality and hydrology monitoring. The LRRWMO Watershed Plan’s monitoring schedule states the goal of monitoring Trott Brook is to determine its impairment status and calculate a TMDL. Trott Brook was extensively monitored in 2013-14 as part of the Rum River WRAP and that data is being used for TMDL calculation. MPCA has informed us that additional data would not be used for the TMDL because it is complete. No management actions have since occurred that might lead to a change in condition.
- Change Reason Removed Rogers Lake water quality monitoring. Rogers Lake was monitored by the LRRWMO in the early and mid-2000’s. It was found to be impaired, then removed from the impaired waters list because it does not meet the definition of a lake. The LRRWMO decided to discontinue monitoring of this lake because it has no public access and no outlet (to impact downstream waters).
- Change Reason Added Sunfish Lake water quality monitoring. Sunfish Lake was being monitored by the Anoka Ramsey Community College, but the college discontinued this work and had not been submitting their data to state databases. The waterbody has a growing importance in the community with the development of a shoreline park and homes.
- Change Reason Did not monitor groundwater levels or trends. Groundwater monitoring is best done at a regional level. The MN DNR has taken the lead.
- Change Reason Did not monitor the Rum River at the Anoka Dam. Metropolitan Council monitors this site or nearby sites and makes the data available to the LRRWMO.
- Change Reason Added production of a brochure about the LRRWMO, programs and water resources. The board felt the need to have distributable materials for public events and public places such as city hall lobbies.
- Change Reason Added support of the Anoka County Water Resource Outreach Collaborative, including for groundwater and lakeshore stewardship videos. The board felt this program could advance outreach and education goals of the LRRWMO and its member communities, and reduce duplication.

h. Status of Ordinances and Local Plan Implementation

All LRRWMO member cities local water plans were required to be updated for consistency with the LRRWMO Watershed Management Plan within two years of WMO plan adoption in January 2012. The status of each is summarized in the table below.

To track member cities’ progress on local plan implementation, the LRRWMO requires a brief annual report from each city and provides a template for this report. In addition to serving as a reporting tool, we hope that the template serves as a “to do” list for our cities. These reports are available upon request, and are summarized in the table below.

Status of city local water plans and some recent accomplishments toward plan implementation.

City of Andover	
Submitted 2021 annual report to LRRWMO?	Yes
Ordinances and Local Water Plan Status	Andover’s Local Water Plan was approved by the LRRWMO May 21, 2015. The city has all of the ordinances required by the LRRWMO.
Some Recent Implementation Accomplishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street sweeping completed annually. • Educational outreach in 2021 reached about 3300 households. Outreach efforts included newsletters (lawn care, adopt a street/pond/storm drain, pet waste, etc), brochures, website, local television (QCTV), and events such as the North Suburban Home Show and Andover Fun Fest. Adopt-a-Storm Drain allowed for XX stencils to be drawn on streets educating neighborhoods about the importance of non-point source pollution. Tree giveaway for Arbor Day event. Overall, educational outreach covered the topics of wetland protection BMPs, controlling invasive species, water conservation, yard waste management, pet waste disposal, and groundwater quality and protection. • New and reconstructed street projects were completed in 2021. When feasible catch basin sumps were installed in storm sewers to collect sediment. • Water control structures and stormwater treatment basins are inspected every five years and maintenance action is taken as needed. The City Public Works Department corrects issues including but not limited to sediment deposition (requiring pond dredging), stabilization, infrastructure repair, and storm sewer pipe and catch basin cleaning. Records are kept on file at the City. • Illicit discharge detection and elimination program. • Andover is actively inspecting its outfalls into the Rum River and other public waters. Records are maintained in city GIS software. • Periodic inspections of erosion control at construction sites. • Management of natural preserves called Martin’s Meadows, Maple View, Dalske and Northwoods Preserve continue. Efforts underway include prairie establishment, buckthorn control, and site stabilization where necessary. • Habitat improvement projects such as Kelsey Round Lake Park are ongoing and include 15 acres of buckthorn control and establishing a 35 acre native prairie.
City of Anoka	

Submitted 2021 annual report to LRRWMO?	Yes
Ordinances and Local Water Plan Status	The City of Anoka's local water plan was approved by the LRRWMO May 21, 2015. The city has all of the ordinances required by the LRRWMO.
Some Recent Implementation Accomplishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructed 80 catch basins on city projects. • Installed two boulevard rain garden. • Installed approximately 450 ft of storm sewer infiltration trenches. • Street sweeping. • Inspected water level controls and basins every 5 years. • The Public Service Department performed infrastructure repairs, removed sediment from treatment structures and cleaned storm sewers and catch basins. • Illicit discharge detection and elimination program. • Constructed a regional storm storage pond for flood storage. • Removed invasive species along the Mississippi River (1/2 ac) • Cleaned approximately 125 ft of ditches. • Planted over 20 trees on city property. • Educational outreach including 4 newsletter articles, 2 brochures, 3 website postings, and Arbor Day tree program and use of social media. Topics included controlling invasive species, water conservation, hazardous waste disposal, and yard waste management. The audience was 7,000 residents. • Anoka manages stormwater activities to ensure no net increase in volume, rate, sediment or nutrient loading. Street reconstruction projects are used as an opportunity to add more water treatment. • Annual outfall inspections and repair as needed.
City of Ramsey	
Submitted 2021 annual report to LRRWMO?	Yes
Ordinances and Local Water Plan Status	The City of Ramsey's local water plan was approved by the LRRWMO September 17, 2015. Ramsey has all of the ordinances required by the LRRWMO.
Some Recent Implementation Accomplishments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed a regional infiltration basin in the COR development. Pumps were installed in 2020 and the system were operational in summer 2021. • Annual street sweeping. • Implementing a five year plan for inspecting stormwater ponds. • Illicit discharge detection and elimination program. • Public Works cleaned ditches and culverts identified during inspection. • Reached 9,500 households with newsletter articles, brochures, and website postings. Topics of education efforts included yard waste management and groundwater protection.

i. Public Outreach

The LRRWMO and its member cities do regular public outreach and education projects. These include:

- **WMO website**, including general information about the organization, the watershed management plan, meeting agendas and minutes, water monitoring results, profiles of WMO projects, access to mapping and data access tools, and others.

LRRWMO Website

Lower Rum River WMO

Protecting & managing the waters of the Lower Rum River Watershed in western Anoka County, MN

News and Announcements

New links to keep you posted on the latest with the LRRWMO

[League of Women Voters Meeting Video about Water and the Rum River](#)

OTHER NEARBY WATERSHED ORGANIZATIONS

- Coon Creek Watershed District
- Rice Creek Watershed District
- Sunrise River WMO
- Upper Rum River WMO
- Vedna's Lake Area WMO

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) is a joint powers special purpose unit of government including the cities of Ramsey, Anoka, and portions of Andover.

The WMO Board is made up of representatives from each of these cities. This organization seeks to protect and improve lakes, rivers, streams, groundwater, and other water resources across municipal boundaries. These goals are pursued through

- water quality and flow monitoring
- investigative studies of problems
- coordinating improvement projects
- education campaigns
- a permitting process
- others at the WMO's discretion

All of the WMO's activities are guided by their Watershed Management Plan.

Resources of particular importance to the LRRWMO include the Rum River, Trott Brook, numerous ditches that drain to the Rum River, Round Lake, Lake Itasca, and numerous wetlands. The Mississippi River is also notable, as it borders the southern edge of the WMO's jurisdictional area. Because little of the land area in the LRRWMO drains directly to the Mississippi, but rather to the Rum River, the Mississippi receives protection from the WMO primarily through management of the Rum.

Most projects that may directly or indirectly effect water resources are required to have a permit from the LRRWMO. If you are considering a construction project or projects in or around wetlands, streams, rivers, or lakes, you should further research permit requirements on this website, or contact a LRRWMO representative: 763-767-5131, 2015 First Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303

Meetings: 3rd Thursday 8:00am at the Anoka City Hall

Administrative Support: Carla Wirth, Time Saver Off Site Secretarial, Inc 2015 First Ave., Anoka, MN 55303, 612-251-8999

Meeting Schedule

Generally, the LRRWMO meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 8am at the Anoka City Hall. Tentative Meetings for 2020: January 16, February 20, March 19 - Cancelled, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17

[AGENDA & MINUTES](#)

- **Web videos** – To bolster the content of the website the LRRWMO creates web videos. They include:

2012	About the LRRWMO
2013-14	Water conservation, Scenic River Rules
2014-15	Wetland regulation, Correcting riverbank erosion
2018-19	Groundwater videos in collaboration with Anoka County Water Outreach Collaborative
2020	“Our Lakeshore Connection” (2 videos) in collaboration with Anoka County Water Outreach Collaborative
2021	Add additional SWCD videos
- **Newsletter articles** – Articles are prepared by the LRRWMO and printed in member city newsletters. Copies of several of these articles are provided in **Appendix C**.
- **Public officials meetings** – Approximately every 5 years the LRRWMO hosts a dinner meeting for local officials. The purpose is to educate elected officials about the role of the WMO, discuss upcoming projects, and consider the overall direction of the WMO. These meetings were last held in 2008, 2013 and 2017.
- **Bi-annual river float with city officials and staff** – Every other year the WMO Board, along with city staff and officials, float the Rum or Mississippi River. The trip is an opportunity to inspect for violations or problems, as well as share an appreciation of the river with decision-makers. A float was last done in September 2019 on the Rum River from the County Road 7 bridge (top of the LRRWMO) to the Anoka Dam (near the bottom of the LRRWMO). The LRRWMO’s last float was cancelled because of COVID-19.
- **A wetland education series** – From 2013 to 2020 the LRRWMO is conducting a six-part education program about wetlands. The purpose is to improve public understanding of wetland values and rules. Cities continued wetland education outreach including providing educational materials in city halls.

j. Permits, Variances, and Enforcement Actions

The LRRWMO’s 2021 permit activity is summarized in the table below.

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Mississippi River Community Park Riverbank Stabilization	2121-01	Anoka	1400 lineal feet of riverbank stabilization along the Mississippi River. Permit is for erosion and sediment control. Work under the jurisdiction of the MnDNR and Corps of Engineers. Project approved.
Northfork Meadows	2121-02	Ramsey	88 lot, 31.7-acre residential development. Twelve acres of new impervious area. LRRWMO volume retention, rate control, water quality management and low floor requirements are applicable. Project approved.
Andover Village	2121-03	Andover	49 lot, 83-acre residential development. Seven stormwater basins to comply with the LRRWMO volume retention, rate control, water quality management and low floor requirements. Project approved.
Green Haven Parkway – Phase 2	2021-04	Anoka	Two stormwater basins for volume retention rate control and water quality management for the 1.7 acres of new site impervious proposed. Project approved.
Gi Gi’s Salon	2021-05	Ramsey	1.4-acre site located with a Drinking Water Supply management Area. City to provide stormwater management to comply with the LRRWMO requirements in a downstream regional basin. Project approved.
VOA Anoka Senior Housing – Phase 2	2021-06	Anoka	Continuation of Permit #2014-14. A 90,000 square foot, 80 unit, 3-story senior apartment building proposed. Site runoff directed to a regional basin for compliance with the LRRWMO stormwater requirements. Project approved.
US 10 & 56	2021-07	Ramsey	WCA No-loss determination. Project approved.
O’Reilly Auto Parts	2021-08	Ramsey	Area disturbed – 1.3 acres requiring a LRRWMO permit. Site is within Drinking Water Supply Area. City to provide stormwater management to comply with the LRRWMO requirements in a downstream regional basin. Project approved.

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Pinewski Addition	2021-09	Anoka	29 single-family residential lots on a 10-acre site. Two stormwater basins to be constructed for compliance with LRRWMO stormwater management requirements. Low floor requirements applicable. Low floor Assessment criteria used for 3-lots. Project approved.
Bunker Lake Industrial Park Building #4	2021-10	Ramsey	68,000 square foot building on a 5-acre lot within the Bunker Lake Industrial Park. Two stormwater basins to be constructed to comply with LRRWMO stormwater management requirements. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
Rain for Rent Storage Addition	2021-11	Ramsey	1.5-acre gravel storage area. Stormwater basin constructed for compliance with LRRWMO stormwater requirements. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
William's Woods	2021-12	Ramsey	Nine single-family lots on a 94-acre site. Floodplain of Trott Brook extends onto the property – City administers FEMA requirements. On-site stormwater provided to comply with LRRWMO requirements. Low floor elevation criteria applicable to Trott Brook, on-site wetlands and stormwater basins. Project approved.
Ramsey Spec Industrial	2021-13	Ramsey	Three office-warehouse building with a combined area of 405,000 square feet on a 46-acre site. Two stormwater basins constructed for volume retention, rate control and water quality management. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
C.S.A.H. 16 Improvements from Armstrong Blvd. to Wolfram Street	2021-14	Ramsey	Roadway improvements that will create 58,700 square feet of new impervious area triggering the LRRWMO stormwater requirements. Stormwater management provided in the roadway drainage swales. Project approved.
G-Wills Liquor	2021-15	Ramsey	12,600 square foot building to be constructed on a 3.1-acre site. Stormwater management to be provided on-site. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
Lynwood	2021-16	Ramsey	Fifteen single-family homes and 19 townhomes to be constructed on a 23-acre parcel. Three stormwater basins to be constructed to comply with LRRWMO criteria. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Lot 1, Block 1, Knoll Properties 2 nd Addition	2021-17	Ramsey	64,900 square foot commercial building with a proposed 52,000 square foot future building on a 280,000 square-foot site. Stormwater management provided on-site within a proposed basin. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
6841 173 rd Avenue N.W.	2021-18	Ramsey	Wetland boundary and type determination. Project approved.
Ramsey Elementary School	2021-20	Ramsey	Wetland boundary and type determination. Project approved.
County Road 64	2021-21	Ramsey	Wetland boundary and type determination. Project approved.
C.S.A.H. 83 Roundabout	2021-22	Ramsey	Wetland boundary and type determination. Project approved.
HOM Furniture Building Addition and Parking Lot Reconstruction	2021-23	Anoka	Proposed 97,500 square foot building addition with 237,600 square feet of new and reconstructed parking lot on the 20.9 -acre site. Volume retention not required because less than 50% (38.5% proposed) of the site is to be disturbed by the project. Water quality management and rate control provided within an underground stormwater management facility. Low floor elevation criteria applicable. Project approved.
C.S.A.H. 58	2021-24	Andover	Wetland boundary and type determination. Project approved.
Green Valley Green House Building Construction	2021-25	Ramsey	Construction of a 170,000 square foot green house building. Stormwater management provided within a basin constructed as part of LRRWMO Permit #2019-06. Project approved.
Riverside II	2021-27	Anoka	31, 20 ft. by 60 ft. single-family lots on a 3.1-acre site. Three on-site stormwater basins for compliance with LRRWMO stormwater management requirements. Project approved.

k. 2022 Work Plan

Planned 2022 activities are listed in the table below. Most routine administrative tasks are excluded.

Task	Purpose	Description	Locations or Action	Cost
Lake Level Monitoring	To understand lake hydrology, including the impact of climate or other water budget changes. These data are useful for regulatory, building/development, and lake management decisions.	Weekly water level monitoring in lakes by volunteers. All are available on the Minnesota DNR website using the "LakeFinder" feature (www.dnr.mn.us.state/lakefind/index.html).	Itasca Lake Round Lake Sunfish Lake Rogers Lake	\$1,200
Lake Water Quality Monitoring	To detect water quality trends and diagnose the cause of changes.	May through September lake water quality monitoring conducted every two weeks and including total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a and transparency.	Grass/Sunfish Lake	\$1,900
Stream Water Quality Monitoring	To detect water quality trends and diagnose the cause of changes. Rum River monitoring is done where the river enters and leaves the LRRWMO.	Eight water samples are taken throughout the open water season. Parameters tested include total phosphorus, total suspended solids, turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, chloride, and others. Hydrology data is provided by the USGS station near St. Francis for the Rum River.	Rum River at CR7	\$1425
Rum River Invertebrate Biomonitoring	To assess overall river health. To provide a hands-on educational experience to high school students.	Facilitated by the ACD, science classes from Anoka High School assess aquatic insect populations. Students will collect macroinvertebrate samples, identify them, and calculate indices of river health. Anoka Conservation District staff provide instruction, oversight, and write a final report. This monitoring has been conducted for more than 10 years.	Rum River at Bunker Lake Blvd	\$900
Reference Wetland Hydrology Monitoring	The ACD maintains a network of 18 reference wetlands throughout the county. These data aid in understanding of water conditions in wetlands, surficial water table changes, and trends. It is useful for regulatory determinations (for example, is a dry area actually a wetland, or are all wetlands dry right now?) and resolving water level disputes. Each reference wetland has been monitored for more than 10 years, providing a long term record.	Install and maintain a WL40 electronic water level monitoring device at the edge of reference wetlands. These devices measure water levels every four hours.	AEC Ref Wtld Rum Central Ref Wtld Lake Itasca Trails Ref Wtld	\$1,950

Task	Purpose	Description	Locations or Action	Cost
LRRWMO Website	To increase awareness of the URRWMO and its programs. The website also provides tools and information that helps users better understand water resources issues in the area. The website serves as the URRWMO's alternative to a state-mandated newsletter.	Maintain and update the WMO website with current information about the organization, and meeting minutes and agendas. Web videos developed by the LRRWMO are also featured on the website.	http://www.lrrwmo.org	\$845
Newsletter articles	To increase public awareness of water resources and the LRRWMO.	Two newsletter articles will be produced and printed in city newsletters.	Watershed-wide	\$1,120
Anoka Co Water Resources Outreach Collaborative	Coordinated outreach and education programming across watersheds and cities while reducing duplication.	LRRWMO is providing financial support to match a \$34,000 Rum Metro Watershed Based Implementation Funding Grant.	Watershed-wide	\$2,500
Prepare Annual Report to State Auditor	To provide transparency and accountability of organization operations.	An annual financial report and online reporting of WMO finances though the State Auditor's SAFES website is completed by the LRRWMO's Deputy Treasurer.	Watershed-wide	\$0
Prepare Annual Report to BWSR	To provide transparency and accountability of organization operations.	Produce an annual report of WMO activities and finances that satisfies Minnesota Rules 8410.0150.	Watershed-wide	\$850
Permitting Program	To ensure water quality and hydrology are properly taken into consideration during construction projects.	The LRRWMO permitting program targets land disturbance activities.	Watershed-wide	Variable
Cost Share Grants for Water Quality Improvement	To improve water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams.	These grants offer incentives for a water quality improvement projects. Typical projects include erosion correction, lakeshore restoration, and rain gardens. The Anoka Conservation District provides administration.	Offer grants	\$2,000
LRRWMO Watershed Management Plan Update	To plan for the next 10 years.	The LRRWMO will finalize a new 10-year watershed management plan in spring 2021. Work began in early 2019.	Watershed-wide	
Rum River 1W1P	A water management plan across all areas of the Rum River watershed including 18 counties, SWCDs, and watershed organizations. The plan identifies mutual priorities.	The LRRWMO is participating in the planning process and will consider plan adoption upon completion.	Basin-wide	

The LRRWMO deviated from its watershed management plan for 2019 in the following ways:

Change Removed 2021 water quality monitoring of the Rum River at the Anoka Dam.

Reason: Metropolitan Council monitors this site and makes the data available to the LRRWMO.

Change Did not monitor groundwater levels or trends.

Reason Groundwater monitoring is best done at a regional level. The MN DNR has taken the lead.

Change Removed Rogers Lake water quality monitoring.

Reason This lake was declared impaired, but was delisted in 2016 because it meets the definition of a wetland not a lake. This waterbody is a low priority for the LRRWMO because of its small size, limited recreational capacity, lack of public access and because it has no outlets and therefore its water quality does not threaten high priority waterbodies downstream.

III. Financial and Audit Report

a. 2021 Financial Summary

See Appendix A.

b. Fund Balances

See Appendix A.

c. Financial Audit Documentation

The LRRWMO is required to complete an audit every five years. The last audit was done of 2019 finances and submitted to the State at that time.

d. 2022 Budget

RESOLUTION # 2021-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (LRRWMO) FOR ADOPTING
THE BUDGET FOR YEAR 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization of Minnesota as follows:

1. The budget for the LRRWMO the year 2022 hereby approved and adopted with appropriations for each of the various activities as follows:

REVENUE:

Assessments	
Andover	\$ 11,590
Anoka	\$ 9,233
Ramsey	\$ 21,177
	<u>\$ 42,000</u>
Permits	\$ 35,000
Grants	\$ 1,500
Interest earnings	\$ 750
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$ 79,250</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Engineering	\$ 7,000
Permit Review	\$ 30,000
Legal	\$ 4,000
Financial Services	\$ 2,400
Secretarial Services	\$ 9,100
Postage, Copying, etc.	\$ 1,600
Insurance	\$ 2,150
Water Resource Coordinator	\$ 17,200
General Administration	\$ 9,000
Web Site maintenance/upgrade	\$ 875
Annual Report to BWSR	\$ 850
Writing Grant Application Fees	\$ 1,000
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)	\$ 1,000
Water Quality Cost Share Grant Search/Program	\$ 5,000
Streambank Restoration Projects	\$ 5,000
Groundwater Planning	\$ 1,000
Wetland education (2 city newsletter articles)	\$ 1,120
Anoka Co. Water Resource Outreach Collaborative	\$ 3,000
Lake Level Monitoring	\$ 1,200
Lake Water Quality Monitoring	\$ 3,950
Rum River Water Quality Monitoring	\$ 3,700
Stream Biomonitoring w/ students	\$ 1,000
Wetland Monitoring	\$ 1,950
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 10,000</u>

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Appendix A: 2021 Financial Report

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Appendix B:
Implementation of Watershed
Management Plan Summary

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Key to Symbols

X = Task completed

Empty box = task planned but not yet completed

Black box = Task not planned for that entity or at that time.

EDUCATION	2013						2014						2015						2016						2017						2018						2019						2020						2021					
	ACD	Andover	Anoka Coon	LRRWMO	Ramsey		ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other						
Task																																																						
a. Newsletter - Distribution of education material biannually, fostering water quality management practices in Community newsletters, specifically addressing wetland regulation from time to time.	WMO hires ACD to write newsltr articles that cities print																																																					
"X" when completed -- April	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
"X" when completed -- August	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
b. Website - Maintain and expand the WMO website for water resource management. In 2013 add wetland regulatory info. The WMO website is linked to the Cities' websites.	Website overhauled.						Addition of wtd regulatory info on website																														WMO links on City websites.																	
"X" when completed	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X				X	X				X	X	X				X	X	X				X	X	X				X	X	X				X	X								
c. Volunteer Monitoring - Solicit volunteers for water quality monitoring – Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP)	Done- comm. College monitoring Sunfish Lk																																																					
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X	n				n	n				n	n	n				n	n	n				n	n	n				n	n	n				n	n								
d. City Local Water Plan Education Program - Member communities shall develop a public education program as part of their local plan development. May include newsltrs, door hangers, catch basin stenciling, cable TV, etc																																					QCTV coverage of 9-10-19 Rum R float. Community events.																	
"X" when completed	X	X			X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X				
e. Continued Wetland Education - Continue the distribution of the information packet to new property owners through the Cities' new resident packet information																																																						
"X" when completed												X				X	X				X	X	X				X	X	X				X	X	X				X	X							X				X	X		
g. Local Officials Workshop - Conduct local official workshops for elected and appointed officials. Should specifically include info about wetland regulation.	Spring LRRWMO dinner mtg																								Spring LRRWMO dinner mtg												Cancelled due to COVID-19																	
"X" when completed				X																			X																															

Appendix C: Newsletter Articles

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Lower Rum River Water Management Organization

Public Comment Period Open for Local Watershed Management Plan

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization's 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan is open this spring for public comment. The Plan can be viewed on lrrwmo.org/plans-reports. The Watershed Management Plan will guide all future WMO activities and projects.

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) is a special purpose unit of government made up of three cities: Andover, Anoka, and Ramsey. Its purpose is to manage the area's lakes, streams, and rivers, particularly those that flow across city boundaries. In the past, the LRRWMO has been involved in permitting construction projects to protect water quality, riverbank stabilizations, stormwater treatment projects, and public outreach.

Priority projects and strategies in the draft 4th Generation Watershed Management Plan include:

- Protect, preserve, and use natural surface water and groundwater storage and retention systems;
- Minimize public capital expenditures needed to correct flooding and water quality problems;
- Identify and plan for means to effectively protect and improve surface water and groundwater quality;
- Establish more uniform local policies and official controls for surface water and groundwater management;
- Prevent erosion of soil into surface water systems;
- Promote groundwater recharge;
- Protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and water recreational facilities; and
- Secure the other benefits associated with the proper management of surface water and groundwater.

Please see the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization website for upcoming and ongoing comment opportunities: LRRWMO.org.



Collaborating to Address Erosion on Rum Riverbanks

Over \$1.5 million dollars will soon be invested to stabilize Rum Riverbanks in Anoka County. The work is aimed at improving water quality and adding near-shore habitat. There are also benefits of protecting property. River users will see work ongoing at as many as 20 locations along the Rum River during 2021-2023.

Riverbank erosion causes problems for both property owners and the river's health. Stabilizing riverbanks and restoring habitat in these critical areas is a priority for the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) and its partners. Work is now underway to correct a number of identified eroding riverbanks.

Funding is from multiple sources. The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) is providing \$440,000 from the Clean Water Fund competitive grant fund to stabilize eroding Rum Riverbanks. This funding will be used in conjunction with funds from the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council to enhance habitat (\$816,000) and the DNR Conservation Partners Legacy

grant (\$185,000). The grants require matching funds, which are being provided by Anoka County, the Upper and Lower Rum River WMOs, ACD, the Nature Conservancy, and landowners.

Projects will range in size. At some locations, minor erosion can be corrected with a technique that "soft armors" the bank with cut (dead) cedar trees. In cases of more significant erosion, work may include regrading to a stable slope, rip rap at the toe, and revegetation. Each site will have a unique design.

ACD will reach out directly to landowners where the greatest improvements to the river can be achieved in a cost effective way. Riverbank owners interested in learning more or enhancing their shore should contact the Anoka Conservation District's Water Resource Specialist, Jared Wagner, at jared.wagner@anokaswcd.org or 763-434-2030 x20.

The Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization is a special purpose unit of government made up of three cities: Andover, Anoka, and Ramsey. Its purpose is to manage the area's waters, particularly those that flow across city boundaries.

Mississippi River Community Park

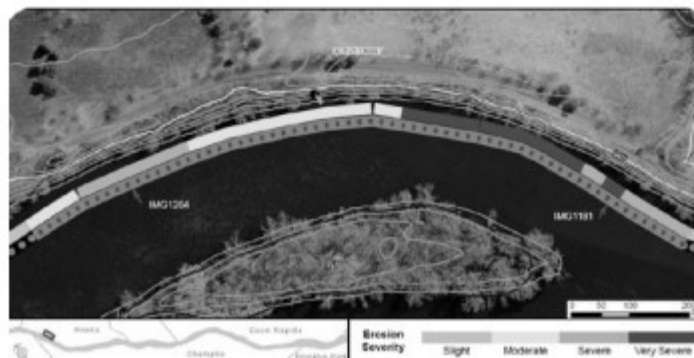
Riverbank Stabilization Project

In 2021, the City of Anoka will be stabilizing the banks located along Mississippi River Community Park. This project will stabilize a site prioritized with the third most sediment loss into the river – approximately 1,500 linear feet within the park property. The project will combine bioengineering, aquatic habitat, an armored toe, and recreational access and will showcase river stewardship and enhance public recreation.

The project will consist of the removal of mature trees and vegetation, then stabilizing the riverbank by regrading the bank to a stable slope. The riverbank will be covered with filter cloth, gravel, small stones, and rip-rap at the toe of the slope to protect against high water and ice. After the work is completed, the riverbank will be restored with a variety of native grasses, shrubs, and trees. During construction, a portion of the walking trail along the river will be closed.

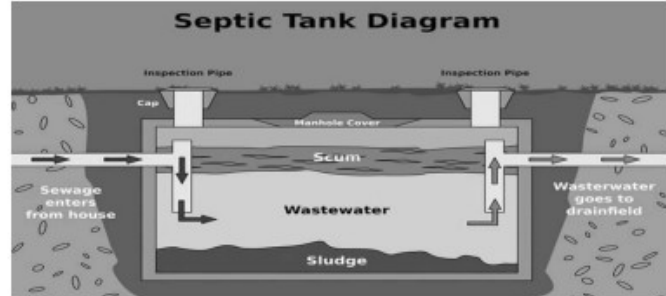
The approximate project cost is \$1M. The City of Anoka has received grants from the State to fund more than 80 percent of that cost. Construction is anticipated to end in the fall of 2021.

For additional information, please visit the Virtual Open House webpage at: anokaminnesota.com/riverbank.com or in person on-site. Sign boards have been installed along the walking trail to inform the public about the project, which includes information on what to expect during construction.



IS YOUR HOME ON A SEPTIC SYSTEM?

Emptying a septic tank is important because of the tank's main purpose. By design, heavier substances settle at the bottom and eventually form a sludge layer. If the sludge builds up to higher levels than allowed, more solid substances will make their way into the soil system (drain field). Here are some reminders to keep your system working properly:



- Pumping your septic tank on a routine basis could help to avoid backup into your property causing damage. They recommend pumping every 3 years or as recommended by your septic management plan.
- Avoid putting anything in your septic system other than human waste or toilet paper.
- Do not put food or grease down your drains
- Avoid overusing laundry and dishwashers-this adds extra strain on your septic system.

**Licensed Septic Pumpers can be found on the MPCA or City website.
Please contact the Building Dept. @ (763) 755-8700 with questions.**

Your Lawn Doesn't Need More P!

Minnesota law prohibits the use of phosphorus lawn fertilizers in most cases. The reason is simple—there's already adequate phosphorus in your soil. Extra phosphorus will runoff and make lakes and streams green with algae. If your lawn is unhealthy, a lack of phosphorus likely is not the problem.



Suggestions for a healthy lawn:

- **Aerate.** This allows water, nutrients and oxygen to penetrate down to where they're needed.
- **Mow taller.** In summer 2.5"-3" height promotes deeper root growth and drought resistance.
- **Water modestly.** 1" per week by rain or irrigation is sufficient. More is wasteful and contributes to nutrient runoff.
- **Get a soil test.** Find out what fertilizer or lime, if any, you really need. Mail-in tests are available through the University of MN soil testing laboratory for less than \$20.
- **Mulch.** Leaving grass clippings on the lawn provides the equivalent of one fertilizer application per year.
- **Shop smart.** When purchasing fertilizers look at the three number sequence on the bag. A middle number of "0" indicates that it contains no phosphorus.

Thank you for helping the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization (LRRWMO) keep local waterbodies healthy. The LRRWMO is formed by the Cities of Anoka, Andover and Ramsey to manage local water resources. For more information see www.LRRWMO.org.

Appendix D: 2021 Work Results

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