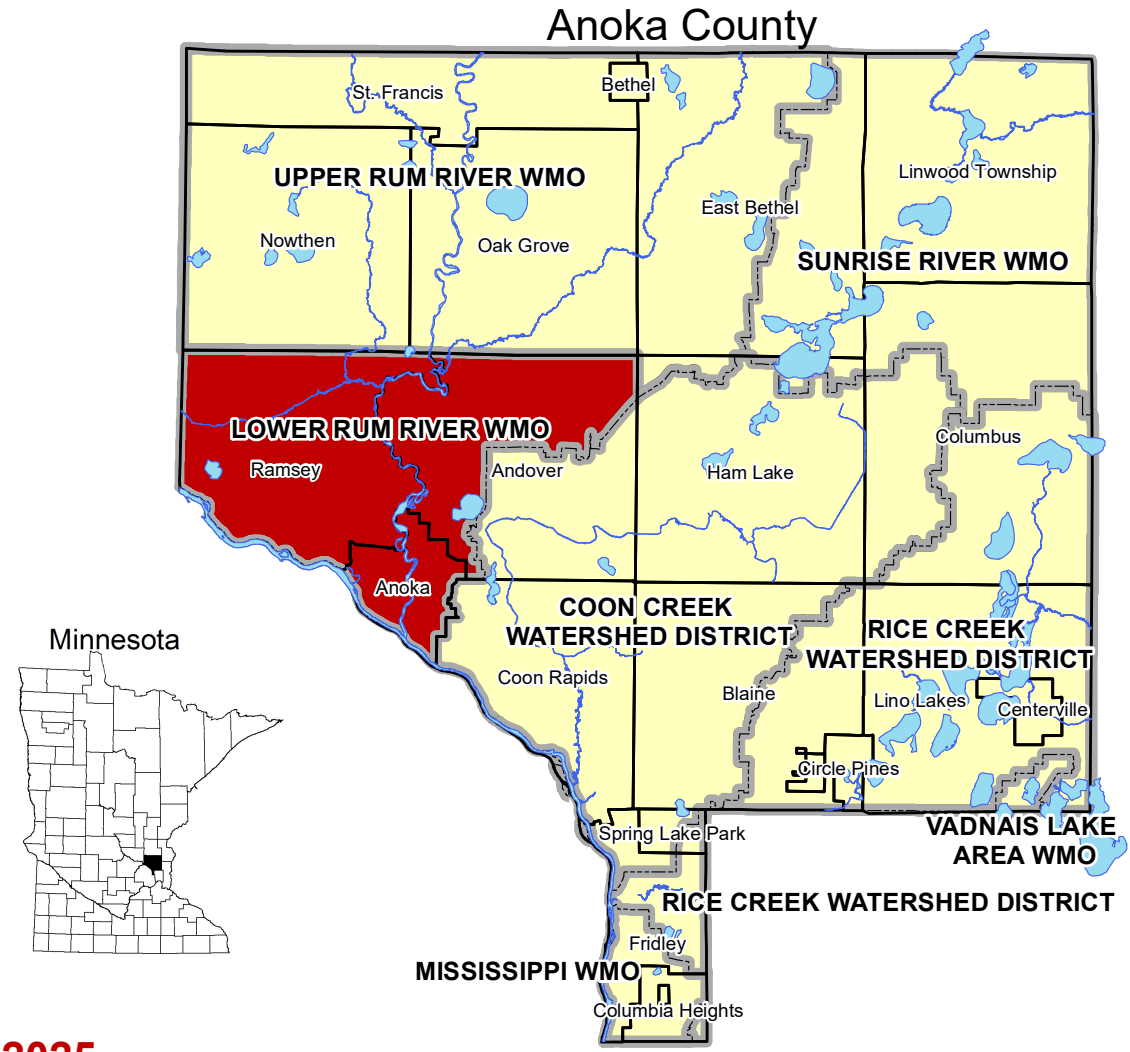
2024 Annual Report

Lower Rum River

Watershed Management Organization

Andover – Anoka – Ramsey



April 29, 2025

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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 2024 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. 2024 Board Members

CITY OF RAMSEY

Debra Musgrove (Chair)
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Chris Riley (Alternate)
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CITY OF ANDOVER

Valerie Holthus (Vice Chair)
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Kim Kovich (Alternate)
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CITY OF ANOKA

Jeff Weaver (Treasurer)
2015 1st Ave N
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763/421-5522
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Phil Rice (Alternate)
2015 1st Ave N
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View of Mississppi 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 are 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 as J. Schurbon Becky.Wozney@anokaswcd.org 763-434-2030 ext. 140	• 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	Stephanie Johnson or Heather Lau Senior Water Resources Engineer 4700 West 77th St Minneapolis, MN 55435-4803 952-832-2945	• Permit reviews. • Technical and engineering guidance • Assistance reviewing local water plans • Watershed management plan update
Financial Consultant	Lori Yager, Finance Director 2015 First Ave North Anoka, MN 55303-2270 612-518-7641	• Deputy Treasurer
Town Law Center	Troy Gilchrist 1250 Wayzata Blvd E Wayzata, MN 55391 612-234-7539	• Legal services
Timesaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.	Carla Wirth 21021 Karoline Court N. Forest Lake, MN 55025 612-251-8999 timesaver.secretarial@gmail.com	• 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 2023, the LRRWMO solicited proposals for 2024 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

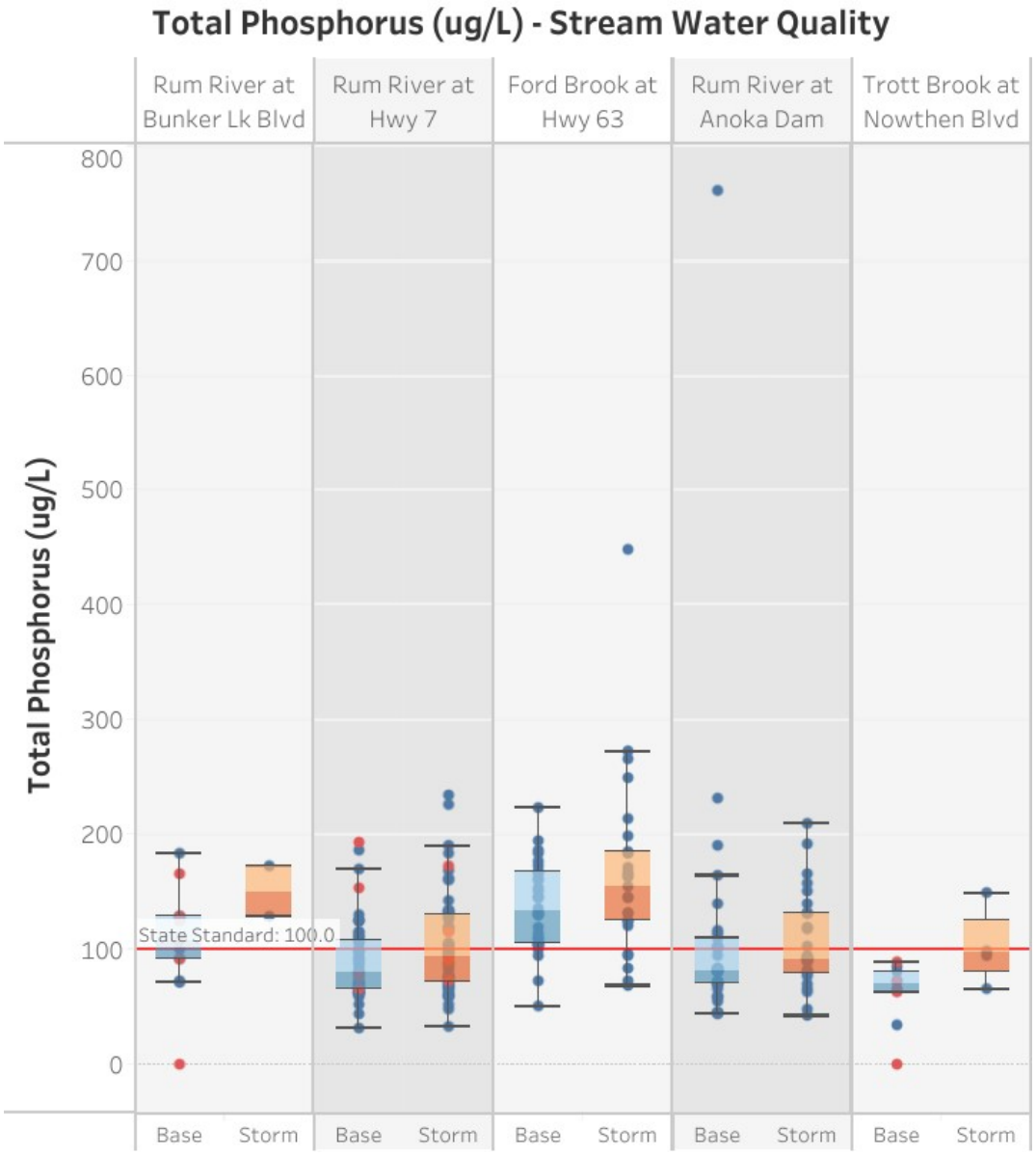
Lake	Years monitored	Most recent year monitored	Letter grade	Trend
Round	15	2024	A	No trend

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.

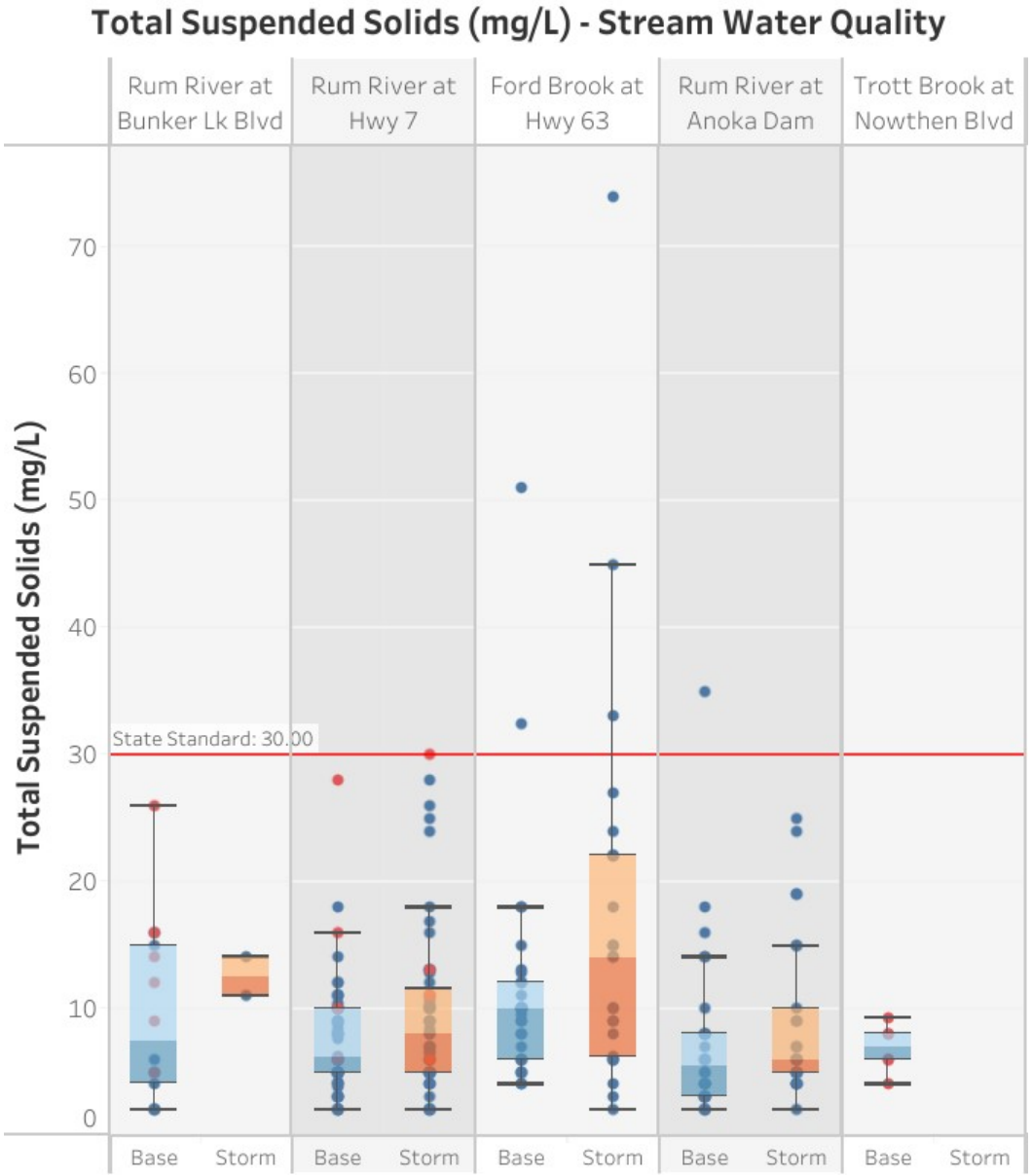
The LRRWMO also takes special interest in how the Rum River's water quality changes longitudinally, particularly within its jurisdictional boundary. The Rum River is monitored most years near where it enters and exits the LRRWMO. The figure below provides data for phosphorus and suspended solids and Appendix D in our 2024 annual report 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.

Rum River total phosphorus during baseflow and storm conditions. Orange dots are historical data from previous years and blue dots are 2024 readings. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th and 75th percentile (ends of box), 10th and 90th percentile (floating outer lines) and red line are state standards.



Total suspended solids during baseflow and storm conditions. Orange dots are historical data from previous years and black dots are 2024 readings. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th and 75th percentile (ends of box), 10th and 90th percentiles (floating outer lines) and red lines are state standards.



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 EQuIS 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

Trott 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.

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 2023 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 Removed Trott Brook water quality and hydrology monitoring.
Reason 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 Removed Rogers Lake water quality monitoring.
Reason 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 Added Sunfish Lake water quality monitoring.
Reason 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 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 Did not monitor the Rum River at the Anoka Dam.
Reason Metropolitan Council monitors this site or nearby sites and makes the data available to the LRRWMO.

Change Added production of a brochure about the LRRWMO, programs and water resources.
Reason The board felt the need to have distributable materials for public events and public places such as city hall lobbies.

Change Added support of the Anoka County Water Resource Outreach Collaborative, including for groundwater and lakeshore stewardship videos.
Reason 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 2024 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	• Street sweeping completed annually. • Educational outreach in 2024 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. 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. Estimate we reach 3300 residents per year with this information. • New and reconstructed street projects were completed in 2024. 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. • 2 projects and 405 ft. of streambank stabilization on the Rum River. • 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. Restoration/rehabilitation of 6 acres of wetlands utilizing OHF funds have begun at Martin's Meadows.

City of Anoka

Submitted 2024 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	• 4 streambank stabilizations installed with 600 ft on the Rum and Mississippi Rivers. • 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. • Planted 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

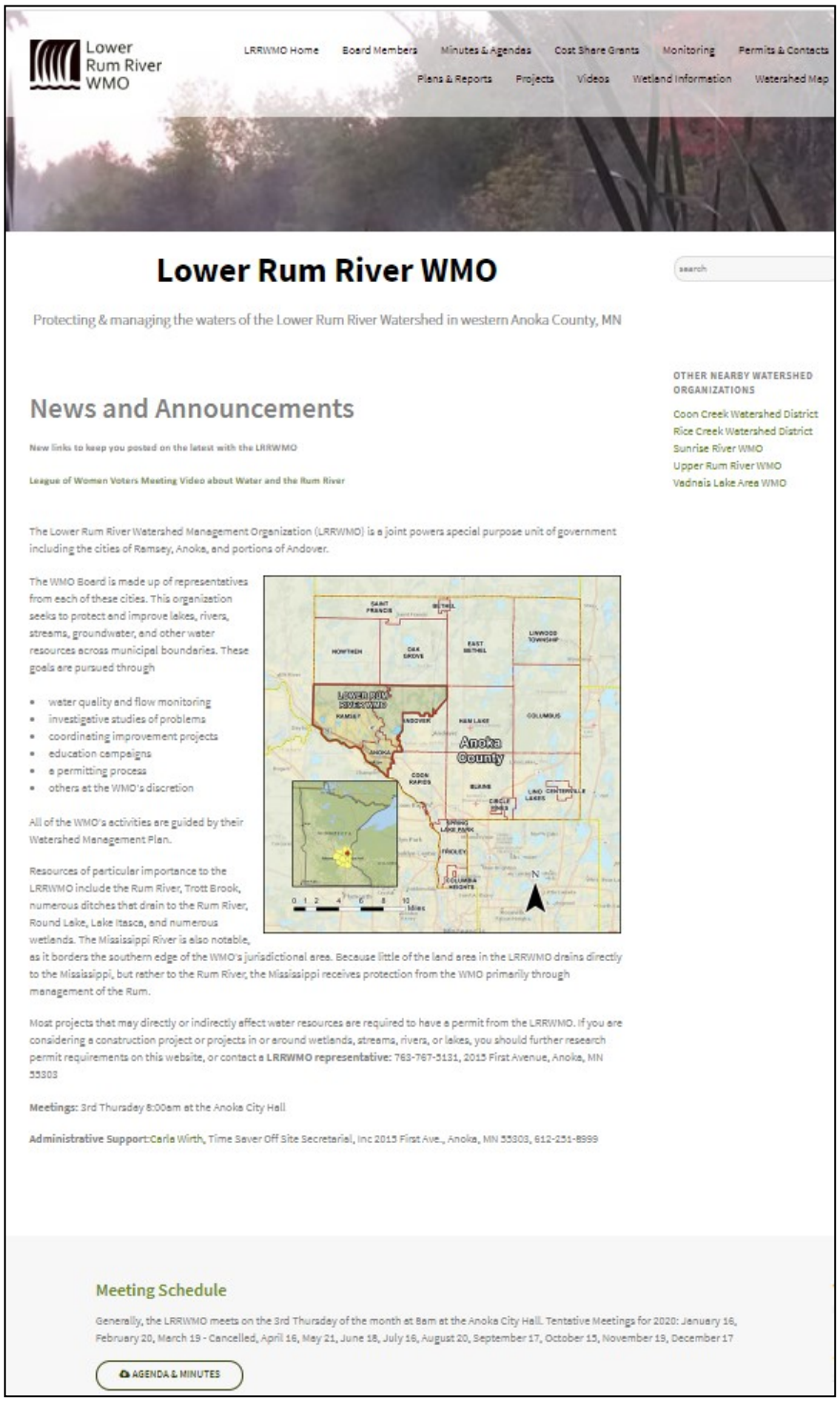
Submitted 2023 annual report to LRRWMO?	Yes
Ordinances and Local Water Plan Status	The City of Ramsey's local water plan was approved by the LRRWMO September 17, 2015. Ramsey has all of the ordinances required by the LRRWMO.
Some Recent Implementation Accomplishments	• 3 projects and 1,140 ft. stabilized on the Rum River. • 1 regional stormwater pond installed that treats untreated water from an existing neighborhood. • 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



- **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	Raingardens 101
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
2022	"Our River Connection" Video
2025	Rain Garden Construction Video

- **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. This past year we conducted a 'dry-land' float by taking a bus with several of our board members, DNR staff, city officials and others to visit sites throughout the LRRWMO.

- **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. Permit Summary

The LRRWMO's 2024 permit activity is summarized in the table below.

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Connexus Energy AKA 54 Tiger Street Under Trott Brook	#2022-07	Ramsey	Directional bore of W2200576 3-phase 750MCM electric feeder conductor under Trott Brook. Entry and exit bore holes located in upland areas. The project was determined to avoid wetland impacts and activities meet WCA no-loss criteria under MN Rule 8420.0415 A. The LRRWMO as the Local Government Unit (LGU) administering the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) **approved the WCA no-loss**.
Anoka County CSAH 9	#2023-19	Andover	Reconstruction of 0.9 miles of Round Lake Boulevard (CSAH 9) disturbing a total of 15.3 acres and adding 3.3 acres of new impervious area. Project is located within both the LRRWMO and CCWD. Volume retention, rate control, and water quality management will be provided by 4 stormwater basins. **Project approved.**
West Rum River Trail Phase 1 (Stormwater and Erosion/Sediment Control)	#2023-21	Anoka	Construction of a new trail along the Rum River disturbing 1.49 acres and creating 0.33 acres of new and/or reconstructed impervious area. Stormwater management will be provided by the disconnection of impervious surfaces and 1 stormwater basin. **Project approved.**
West Rum River Trail Phase 1 (Wetland)	#2023-21A	Anoka	The project was determined to avoid wetlands and a **WCA no-loss was approved** by the LRRWMO.
Trunk Watermain Improvements (Wetland)	#2023-22	Ramsey	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination and **WCA no-loss** for temporary wetland impacts associated with trunk watermain improvements.
St. Katharine Drexel Church	#2024-02	Ramsey	Construction of a new building and parking lot on a 14.3-acre parcel resulting in an increase of 4.5 acres of new impervious surfaces. An existing expanded stormwater basin will provide volume retention, rate control, and water quality management. **Project approved.**

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Lightbridge Academy	#2024-03	Ramsey	Construction of a daycare building and associated parking lot and access drive resulting in 1.1 acres of new impervious surfaces within a 2.1-acre site. Stormwater management will be provided by the Rivers Bend Park regional facility to be designed and constructed concurrently to the proposed project. Project execution will be phased to align construction timelines between the two projects. **Project approved.**
Barthel's Rum River Acres & White Pine Estates Street Reconstruction	#2024-04	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 6,500 linear feet of roadway creating an increase of 0.04 acres of new impervious area. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
Hall's Dover Acres Street Reconstruction	#2024-05	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 5,200 linear feet of roadway resulting in a reduction of impervious area within the 5.2-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
Alpine Drive Street Reconstruction	#2024-06	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 3,450 linear feet of roadway with no increase in impervious area within the 2.65-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
Juniper Woods Street Reconstruction	#2024-07	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 2,300 linear feet of roadway creating an increase of 0.01 acres of new impervious area within the 2.78-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
Waterfront Village (Wetland)	#2024-08	Ramsey	Development of 110 single family homes with associated stormwater facilities and roads. The parcel was previously approved under Permit #2023-12 for grading impacts to incidental wetlands with a condition that future development on the parcel does not have indirect impacts to jurisdictional wetlands on site. Under Permit #2024-08, the development was determined to avoid indirect wetland impacts and project activities meet WCA no-loss criteria under MN Rule 8420.0415 A. **WCA no-loss was approved** by the LRRWMO**.**

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Waterfront Village (Stormwater and Erosion/Sediment Control)	#2024-09	Ramsey	Development of 110 single family homes, associated parking, and private streets within a 12.6-acre area located in the COR. The project will involve 7.14 acres of new or reconstructed impervious area. Volume retention, rate control, and water quality management are provided within the Waterfront Pond and regional COR infiltration basin. **Project approved.**
Harmony Farms	#2024-10	Ramsey	Development of 57 single family homes, associated parking, utilities, and private streets within a 22.8-acre parcel. The project will involve 7.7 acres of new or reconstructed impervious area. Volume retention, rate control, and water quality management are provided impervious disconnection, a vegetated swale, and a stormwater pond with infiltration bench. **Project approved.**
2024 Street Reconstruction - Southern Portion (Erosion/Sediment Control)	#2024-11	Andover	Reconstruction of 2,100 linear feet of roadway and 500 linear feet of trail creating an increase of 0.12 acres of new impervious area within the 5.2-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
2024 Street Reconstruction – South (Wetland)	#2024-12	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved a WCA de minimis exemption** for proposed permanent wetland impact of 80 square feet resulting from storm sewer replacement associated with the street reconstruction project.
2024 Street Reconstruction - Northern Portion (Erosion/Sediment Control)	#2024-13	Andover	Reconstruction of 11,900 linear feet of roadway creating an increase of 0.01 acres of new impervious area within the 35-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
2024 Street Reconstruction – North (Wetland)	#2024-14	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved a WCA de minimis exemption** for proposed permanent wetland impact of 70 square feet resulting from storm sewer replacement associated with the street reconstruction project.
Transform Church	#2024-15	Andover	The LRRWMO approved a **WCA no-loss** for an incidental wetland determination.

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
2024 Rum River Channel Restoration Project – Phase II	#2024-16	Anoka	Channel restoration project within the Rum River between River Avenue and Peninsula Point Park involving the removal of sediment within the 3,750 linear feet of main channel. Because the project does not involve land disturbance of greater than one acre, a LRRWMO erosion control permit is not required. A memo was provided to the LRRWMO with comments on the submitted erosion control plan. **No approval required.**
15620 Armstrong Boulevard NW	#2024-17	Ramsey	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination.
2024 NE Ramsey Street Reconstructions	#2024-18	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 10,100 linear feet of roadway resulting in no increase in impervious area within the 9.5-acre project corridor. Only erosion and sediment control requirements apply. **Project approved.**
MSA XKimo Street Reconstruction	#2024-19	Ramsey	Roadway resurfacing project exempt from LRRWMO requirements. **No approval required.**
Rivers Bend Regional Stormwater Management Study	#2024-20	Ramsey	Notification that the City of Ramsey has begun planning for the siting and construction of a regional stormwater management facility at Rivers Bend Park. Design of the Rivers Bend Regional Stormwater Improvement project will begin summer 2024, with construction expected to be completed in November 2024. **No approval required.**
Rivers' Bend Park	#2024-21	Ramsey	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination.
Transform Church	#2024-22	Andover	Parking lot addition within the 39-acre Transform Church parcel. The project will involve 3.0 acres of new or reconstructed impervious area. Volume retention, rate control, and water quality management are provided within 3 stormwater basins. **Project approved.**

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Skyline on Sunwood	#2024-23	Ramsey	Development on a 4.0-acre parcel involving the construction of a mixed-use building and associated parking. The project involves the addition of 3.8 acres of new impervious area. Site is located within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) and 10-year capture zone for the City's municipal wells, where infiltration is prohibited. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management will be provided by the City's regional basin. **Project approved.**
Voice of Hope	#2024-24	Ramsey	Construction of Voice of Hope Church and associated roadways, parking, and utilities within a 10.5-acre parcel. The project will involve 2.6 acres of new impervious area. Stormwater management for the site is proposed to be provided within one stormwater pond with infiltration bench. **Project approved.**
Take 5 Oil	#2024-25	Ramsey	Development on a 1.2-acre parcel involving the construction of a Take 5 Oil building and associated parking and driveway. The project involves the addition of 0.57 acres of new impervious area. Site is located within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) and 10-year capture zone for the City's municipal wells, where infiltration is prohibited. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management will be provided by the City's regional basin. **Project approved.**
River's Bend Regional Stormwater Improvements	#2024-26	Ramsey	Construction of a regional stormwater management facility at Rivers Bend Park designed to provide stormwater management for a 33-acre partially developed area containing 13.4 acres of existing impervious surfaces which is anticipated to increase to 17.2 acres of impervious surfaces after the development of three currently vacant parcels. The site is located within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) and 10-year capture zone for the City's municipal wells, where infiltration is prohibited. Based on additional site constraints making infiltration infeasible, a wet pond is proposed as the feasible solution to meet the LRRWMO rate and water quality standards. **Project approved.**

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
181st Ave NW, Ramsey Township	#2024-27	Ramsey	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination.
Transform Church	#2024-28	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved a WCA de minimis exemption** for proposed permanent regulated wetland impact of 1,953 square feet resulting from a parking lot expansion project. An additional 1,857 square feet of fill in previously approved incidental wetland is not regulated under the WCA.
Green Valley Greenhouse West Site Improvements (Wetland)	#2024-29	Ramsey	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type and WCA agricultural exemption** under MN Rule 8420.0420 Subpart 2 for wetland impacts associated with a greenhouse expansion.
Green Valley Greenhouse West Site Improvements (Stormwater and Erosion/Sediment Control)	#2024-30	Ramsey	Construction of three new greenhouse buildings within an existing 28-acre partially developed site. The project involves 17.9 acres of new and/or reconstructed impervious area. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management is provided within one infiltration basin with wet pond forebay. **Project approved.**
Diamond Graphics Building	#2024-31	Ramsey	Construction of a building addition at the Diamond Graphics site within a 4.8-acre undeveloped parcel. The project involves 3.46 acres of new and/or reconstructed impervious area. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management is provided within one infiltration basin. **Project approved.**
Parkside Townhomes	#2024-32	Ramsey	Development of 68 residential townhome units, associated parking, utilities, and private streets within a 5.0-acre site. The project will involve 3.3 acres of new or reconstructed impervious area. The site is located within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area (DWSMA) and 10-year capture zone for the City's municipal wells, where infiltration is prohibited. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management will be provided by the City's regional basin. **Project approved.**

Permit Name	Permit #	City	Summary
Holiday Station Store LLC NTI	#2024-33	Andover	Construction of a Holiday Station store and associated parking lot within a 4.9-acre parcel within the larger Andover Crossings development. The project involves 1.12 acres of new and/or reconstructed impervious area. Rate control, volume retention, and water quality management is provided within two existing infiltration basins. Stormwater runoff from the vehicle fueling and maintenance areas is directed to a sumped catch basin with pretreatment skimmer device which discharges downstream of the existing infiltration basins. **Project approved.**
CSAH 7 at County Road 158 Roundabout	#2024-34	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination.
Martin's Meadows Wetland Enhancement	#2024-35	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved** the proposed wetland fill and excavation activities associated with the wetland enhancement project as **WCA no-loss** activity under MN Rule 8420.0415 D for the purpose of wetland restoration or fish and wildlife habitat restoration or improvement.
Mississippi River Trail Reconstruction	#2024-36	Ramsey	Reconstruction of 3,000 linear feet of trail resulting in an increase of 0.06 acres of new and/or reconstructed impervious area within the 1.38-acre project corridor. Stormwater management is provided by impervious disconnection. **Project approved.**
2025 Street Improvements Project	#2024-37	Andover	The LRRWMO **approved the wetland boundary and type** determination.

k. 2025 Work Plan

Planned 2025 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 Grass/Sunfish Lake Rogers	$1,400
Lake Water Quality	To detect water quality trends and diagnose the cause of changes.	Every other week May-Sept for total of 10x. Parameters: total phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, temperature, conductivity, pH, salinity and transparency. Subjective ranking of recreational suitability and physical conditions will also be noted using the Metropolitan Council's ranking protocol.	Round and Sunfish	$5,200
Trott Brook Low Oxygen Study Monitoring	To detect water quality trends and diagnose the cause of changes.	Study of low oxygen impairment of Trott Brook causes and possible projects. The LRRWMO funded the monitoring the component of the study in 2023. The 2024 study/analysis is funded by a FY2023 Rum River Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) grant.	Trott Brook	$0
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	$1450
Rum River Invertebrate Biomon-itoring	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	$1250

Task	Purpose	Description	Locations or Action	Cost
LRRWMO Website	To increase awareness of the LRRWMO 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 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	$1190
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	$3,680
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	$$ Waiting for bids
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	$900
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 Improve-ment	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	$6,000
Match for Anticipated Watershed Based Implementation Fnnds (WBIF) grant	To improve water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams.	Funds to meet the 10% grant match requirement. Activities to be funded are selected by the FY2025 Watershed Based Implementation Funds (WBIF) convene committee.	Basin-wide	$20,000

III. Financial and Audit Report

a. 2024 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 audit was completed this year. The final report is available online on our website at www.LRRWMO.org.

RESOLUTION # 2024-01

RESOLUTION OF THE LOWER RUM RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (LRRWMO) FOR ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR YEAR 2025

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

The budget for the LRRWMO the **year 2025** hereby approved and adopted with appropriations for each of the various activities as follows:

REVENUE:	
Assessments	
Andover	$ 28,747
Anoka	$ 22,156
Ramsey	$ 54,097
Total Assessments	$ 105,000
Permits	$ 54,500
Grants	$ 1,200
Interest earnings	$ 6,750
TOTAL REVENUES	$ 167,450
EXPENDITURES:	
Engineering	$ 14,000
Permit Review	$ 50,000
LRRWMO Plan Update	$ 3,000
Legal	$ 3,500
Financial Compilation/Audit (every 5 yrs)	$ 9,000
Financial Services	$ 11,000
Quickbooks	$ 750
Secretarial Services	$ 9,800
Postage, Copying, etc.	$ 1,000
Insurance	$ 2,800
Water Resource Coordinator	$ 15,000
Web Site maintenance/upgrade	$ 1,090
Annual Report to BWSR	$ 900
Writing Grant Application Fees	$ 1,100
Water Quality Cost Share Grant Search/Program	$ 6,000
Wetland education (2 city newsletter articles)	$ 1,120
Anoka Co. Water Resource Outreach Collaborative	$ 3,680
Lake Level Monitoring	$ 1,440
Lake Water Quality Monitoring	$ 5,200
Rum River Water Quality Monitoring	$ 1,585
Steam Biomonitoring w/ students	$ 1,000
Wetland Monitoring	$ 2,250
10% Match for Anticipated Watershed Based Fund	$ 20,000
Miscellaneous	$ 2,235
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	$ 167,450
NET INCOME	$ 0

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Lower Rum River Water Management Organization of Minnesota this 20th day of June 2024.

ATTEST:

Jeff Weaver, Treasurer of LRRWMO

Debra Musgrove, Chairman of LRRWMO

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Appendix A:
2024 Financial Report

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Appendix B: Implementation of Watershed Management Plan Summary

Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization Task Checklist

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.

Task	2022						2023						2024						2025					
	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other
EDUCATION																								
ED-1 Website Administration – Maintain and post WMO news, meeting dates, permit apps and other documents. Provide links to cities and partners. Check monthly for agenda and meeting minutes.	Ongoing						Continuous updates including minutes						Ongoing updates.											
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X		X				X							
ED-2 Develop Education and Outreach Plan-Work with ACD to develop planned activities for the ACD Education and Outreach Coordinator in support of LRRWMO goals	Completed.						ACD did include in their budget for 2024.						In 2025 WBIF plan.											
	X				X		X				X		X				X							
ED-3 Education Coordinator Actions in Support of Education Plan-Support a county-wide position housed at ACD													In 2025 WBIF plan.											
Ongoing																								
ED-4 Newsletter - Distribution of education material biannually, fostering water quality management practices in Community newsletters, specifically addressing wetland regulation from time to time.	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X							
ED-5 TAC and CAC coordination – Utilize technical and citizen advisory committees on an occasional, as-needed basis.	8/2022 CAC mtg to create outreach plan												Will be implemented in 2025 WBIF plan.											
Ongoing																								
ED-6 Rum River boat tours-host a boat tour of the Rum River for government officials, city staff, and new managers.							Will be reconsidered for summer, 2024						Completed.											
											NA						X							
ADMINISTRATION																								
AD-1 General Administration – includes services of contracted administrator as well as recording, financial, and legal services as needed.													Ongoing											
Ongoing	X					X	X					X	X					X						
AD-2 Annual Reporting to State. Submit annual reports to BWSR and the State Auditor.													100% complete											
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X		X				X							
AD-3 Biennial Progress Review																								
X" when completed							X				X													
AD-4 Grant Review and Application –	ACD submitted LSOHC application for Rum Riverbank stabilizations						ACD applied for $500000 CWF Funds but we were 1 point short of receiving funding.						Received OHF Funding for in-stream fish habitat, bank stabilization and wetland restoration											
"X" when completed	X						X						X											
AD-5 Review Funding Mechanisms- LRRWMO will annually review its Watershed Management Plan to ensure it reflects current goals and is appropriate																								
"X" when completed					X						X						X							
Solicit Bids - LRRWMO will solicit bids for professional services (solicit proposals for work as needed in the following year)							Completed.						Complete											
"X" when completed											X													

Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization Task Checklist

WATER MONITORING AND IMPROVEMENT	2022						2023						2024						2025					
	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																								
MN-1 Lake WQ Monitoring							100% complete (report left)						Monitoringis 95% completed for the season.											
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X		X				X							
MN-2 Lake Level Monitoring																								
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X		X				X							
MN-3 Rum River WQ Monitoring																								
"X" when completed	X				X		X				X		X				X							
MN-4 Stream Bio Monitoring-Macroinvertebrate monitoring on the Rum River facilitated by ACD and local schools.																								
"X" when completed	X					X						X						X						
MN-5 Wetland Monitoring-Wetland hydrology monitoring performed annually at 3 locations in the WMO																								
"X" when completed	X						X						X											

PROJECTS/PROGAMS	2022						2023						2024						2025					
	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other	ACD	Andover	Anoka	Ramsey	LRRWMO	Other
Our manager addressed the county board in regards to funding a groundwater specialist. There was good discussion but there are other high priority items as well. We are waiting for their final budget. It is likely a groundwater specialist will not happen next year.																								
PP-1 Cost-share grant small projects-fund grants for WQ improvement including shoreland restoration et al	X				X		X				X		X		X		X							
PP-2 Rum River Streambank Restoration-fund projects to reduce phosphorus/sediment loading to the Rum River.	X				X		X				X		X				X							
PP-3 Mississippi River Streambank Restoration-fund and implement projects to reduce phosphorus/sediment to Mississippi	X				X		X				X		X		X		X							
PP-4 Ramsey Central Park Stormwater (non-WBIF)	LRRWMO advised Ramsey plant															X	X	X						
				X																				
PP-5 Support for Rum River 1W1P projects located upstream- provide written support											X						X	X						
PP-6 Subwatershed Analysis of City of Andover draining to Rum River-Conduct studies to assess pollutant	Funding secured. 2023 work						X				X		X	X			X							
	X	X																						
PP-7 Trott Brook Study (WBIF)							X			X	X		X			X	X							
PP-8 Install stormwater retrofits at priority sites identified by SWAs	X						X						X		X	X	X							
PP-9 Wetland Restoration support for partners in priority areas	WBIF funding secured						X	ACD has reached out to landowners					X	Finished SWA assessments										
PP-10 Groundwater Planning and Technical Assistance						X						X						X						

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Appendix C:
Goal Tracking Worksheet

Priority Level	Goal ID	Goal Statement	Measure/Output	Status (updated biannually)	Notes
Level 1	SW-A	Reduce phosphorus loading by 10 lbs/year and sediment loading by 10 tons/year to the Rum River through retrofit or redevelopment of **stormwater systems** with limited or no existing water quality treatment	Retrofit/ redevelopment projects: 5 over 10 years; TP reduction: 10 lbs/year total; TSS reduction: 10 tons/year total	Number of relevant retrofit/ redeveloped projects: 7 TP reduction: 16.8 lb/yr TSS reduction: 3.8 lb/yr	See water projects www.AnokaSWCD. projects details. 2022 – 6 rain garde lb/yr TP. 0.8 T/yr T 2024 – 1 stormwat 11.9 lb/yr TP. 3 T/
	SW-B	Manage stormwater runoff with practices that mimic natural hydrology by **infiltrating** a volume equivalent to 1.0 inches over new and redeveloped or existing impervious surfaces for at least 90% of permitting projects	Reviewed projects: 90% of projects achieving goals through abstraction/infiltration	Percent of permitted projects subject to infiltration standards: 100% Percent achieving the infiltration goal: NA	
	SW-C	**Infiltrate** an additional 5 acre-feet per year through retrofit or redevelopment of existing stormwater systems with limited or no volume reduction	Retrofit/redevelopment projects: 5 over 10 years; Volume reduction: 5 acre-feet/year total;	Number of relevant retrofitted redeveloped projects: 6 Volume reduced with above projects: 3.67 acre-ft	2022 – 6 rain garde Tye – 0.23 ac-ft/yr Holm – 0.83 Leaf – 0.88 Hansen – 0.42 Hess – 0.88 Bowler – 0.43
	SW-D	Achieve intended water quality and quantity function from stormwater infrastructure through required **inspection and maintenance of City facilities and establishment of maintenance agreements** for 100% of LRRWMO-permitted projects	Summary of maintenance agreements submitted with SWPPPs; annual reports from cities	Number of projects with maintenance agreements: 100% Did cities meet their inspection and maintenance guidelines (Y/N): Y	
Level 1	WQ-A	**Maintain or improve existing water quality** in priority LRRWMO waterbodies: - Grass (Sunfish) Lake: 2016-2018 average (TP= 25 µg/L, Chl *a* = 5.3 µg/L, SD = >1.4 m) - Round Lake: 2016 & 2019 average (TP = 20 µg/L, Chl *a* = 3.7 µg/L, SD = 3.1 m) - Rum River: (state standards TP = 100 µg/L, TSS = 30 mg/L)	Water quality monitoring results	<table><tr><th></th><th>Round Lake</th><th>Grass Lake</th><th>Rum River</th></tr><tr><td>TP (µg/L)</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>Chl-a (µg/L)</td><td>8.1</td><td>8.7</td><td>NA</td></tr><tr><td>TSS (mg/L)</td><td>NA</td><td>NA</td><td>3.9</td></tr><tr><td>SD (m)</td><td>2.3</td><td>1.3</td><td>NA</td></tr></table>	Round Lake – 2022 2024 average show Grass Lake – 2022 Rum River – 2023 from Anoka Dam. All sites appear to maintaining. No t
	WQ-B	**Maintain TP in the Rum River below 100 µg/L** by reducing phosphorus loading to the Rum River from the LRRWMO by 100 lbs/year through non-structural and structural improvements (e.g., streambank stabilization) (supporting the 5% TP load reduction of the Rum River 1W1P)	Water quality monitoring results; TP reduction: 100 lbs/year; at least 2 capital improvements/ restoration projects	Rum River median TP (µg/L): 90 (2023) TP reduction lb per year: 145.54 Number projects: 13	2022- 4 riverbanks lb 2023- 3 riverbanks 2024 – 6 riverbank River media TP is a Dam 2023 & earlie

Priority Level	Goal ID	Goal Statement	Measure/Output	Status (updated biannually)	Notes
	WQ-C	**Maintain TSS in the Rum River below 30 mg/L** by reducing TSS loading to the Rum River by 75 tons/year through non-structural and structural improvements (e.g., streambank stabilization) (see also goal ES-A) (supporting the 5% sediment load reduction of the Rum River 1W1P)	TSS reduction: 75 tons/year; at least 2 capital improvements/ restoration projects	Rum River median TSS (mg/L): 6 TSS reduction tons per year: 168.2 Number projects: 15	2022- 4 riverbanks 2023- 3 riverbanks 2 critical area plant T 2024 – 6 riverbank River media TP is a Dam 2023 & earlie
	WQ-D	**Promote practices to reduce bacteria** loading to the Mississippi River and Rum River through targeted outreach and education to achieve bacterial water quality standards (126 CFU/mL monthly geometric mean, April–October) in the Mississippi River (Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL)	Educational distributions (at least 1 per year) addressing topics (e.g., pet waste, vegetated buffers, SSTS maintenance)	Number of educational distributions that occurred: 2 in each 2022 & 2023 (1 in Ramsey, 1 in Andover) Bacteria-related topics addressed: pet waste, SSTS maint.	2024 outcomes no known – awaiting reports
Level 1	WQ-E	Work towards achieving MPCA water quality standards applicable to the **Mississippi River** (TP < 100 mg/L, TSS < 30 mg/L) by **reducing phosphorus** loading to the Mississippi River from the LRRWMO by 30 lbs/year through non-structural and structural improvements (e.g., streambank stabilization)	Water quality monitoring results; TP reductions from projects in the Mississippi River watershed: 30 lbs/year;	MS River average TP (µg/L): ? TP reduction lb per year: 61.2 Number projects: 8	2022 – 4 riverbank lb/yr 2023 – 17.1 lb/yr 2024 - None
	WQ-F	Work towards achieving MPCA water quality standards applicable to the **Mississippi River** (TP < 100 mg/L, TSS < 30 mg/L) by **reducing sediment** loading to the Mississippi River from the LRRWMO by 25 tons/year through non-structural and structural improvements (e.g., streambank stabilization)	Water quality monitoring results; TSS reductions from projects in the Mississippi River watershed: 25 tons/year;	MS River average TSS (mg/L): ? TSS reduction tons per year: 57.2 Number projects: 8	2022 – 4 riverbank 2023 – 20.2 T 2024 - None
	WQ-G	Promote **increased dissolved oxygen concentrations in Trott Brook** (towards 75% of samples above 5 mg/L) over 10 years through education for riparian landowners, targeted pollution prevention practices (to reduce phosphorus and organics), and identification of shoreline restoration opportunities.	Water quality monitoring results; Targeted education materials; projects implemented in Trott Brook watershed; review of riparian restoration opportunities	Percent of Trott Brook DO samples over 5 mg/L: 100% at Nowthen Blvd in 2023 Number of education events: 0 Number of projects in Trott Brook watershed: 0 Status of riparian opportunities: Diagnostic study with BMP ID to be completed in 2025	See 2025 report fo analysis of whethe meets low DO imp criteria and mgmt. approaches.
	WQ-H	Achieve 100% of member communities implementing MPCA recommended best practices for **chloride management**	City MS4 practices; education distributions (at least 1 per year) addressing topics	# city plow drivers Smart Salt level 1 certified: Andover 19, Anoka 7, Ramsey 23 # cities Smart Salt level 2 certified: 0 of 3 Number cities with education distributions addressing chloride: 1 of 3	

Priority Level	Goal ID	Goal Statement	Measure/Output	Status (updated biannually)	Notes
Level 2	FL-A	Maintain existing **floodplain volume and function** (i.e., no net loss)	LRRWMO performance standards enforced on permitted projects; city official controls maintained	# of cities implementing floodplain ordinance: 3 of 3	
	FL-B	Limit flood risk to structures through the implementation of **minimum building elevations and rate control standards** for new development and redevelopment	LRRWMO performance standards enforced on permitted projects; city official controls maintained	# cities with minimum building elevations: 3 of 3 # cities with rate control standards: 3 of 3	
	FL-C	Mitigate negative impacts of **climate change** by considering present and future climate and precipitation trends when evaluating LRRWMO performance standards at least once during Plan implementation	Review of LRRWMO performance standards	Have the negative impacts of climate change been reviewed since plan implementation (Y/N)?: N	
	FL-D	Evaluate water levels in LRRWMO priority waterbodies to **evaluate hydrologic impacts** of climate change, development, and other drivers	Water level and hydrology monitoring data	Was there a change in average water level in any LRRWMO water body (Y/N)?: Y If change, which water body and what was the water level change in (feet)? See DNR report	See MN DNR repo "Evaluation of Hyd Change Technical Summary Rum Riv Watershed" Jan 20
Level 2	ES-A	Reduce sediment loading from **streambank erosion along the Rum River** by approximately 75 tons/year through streambank stabilization and restoration actions over an estimated 500 feet. (see also goal WQ-C) (supporting the 5% sediment load reduction of the Rum River 1W1P)	2+ projects totaling 500 feet of shoreline and 75 tons/year TSS reduction over 10 years	Amount of shoreline in feet that has been improved with projects: 4,360 TSS reduction ton/year: 168.2 T/yr Number of projects: 15	2022- 4 riverbanks 2023- 3 riverbanks 2 crit. area plantin 2024 – 6 riverbank River media TP is a Dam 2023 & earlie
Level 2	NA-A	Work with partners to minimize the spread and negative impact of **aquatic invasive species**	Cooperative opportunities; education distribution (at least 1 per year) addressing topics; supporting programming of the Anoka County aquatic invasive species coordinator	Number of education events: 0 Were programs held with the Anoka County aquatic species coordinator?: N	Newsletter conten 2022- 0 2023- 0
	NA-B	Minimize negative impacts to wetlands through continued **administration of the Wetland Conservation Act**	Wetland permitting process and LRRWMO performance standards	# cities with WCA being implemented: 3 of 3	
Level 2	GW-A	Cooperate with partners **to limit pollutant loading to groundwater** through coordinated education efforts and providing technical assistance, as requested	Cooperative opportunities; education distribution (at least 1 per year) addressing topics	Cooperative opportunities: Well sealing cost share led by ACD Number/type of education distributions: 1/yr in 2 cities on SSTS; 1/yr in 1 city on household hazardous waste	
Organization	RP-A	Improve regulatory efficiency and environmental benefits through regular (annual) review and in-depth **review/updates to the LRRWMO rules and permit program at least once every five years**	Review of performance standards; % of complete applications acted on in prescribed timeframe; % of permits inspected consistent with City requirements; % of applicable maintenance agreements filed with Cities;	Date of standards review: 2018 Percent on-time reviews: 100%	2018 standards rev 2023 updates to p application, proces

Priority Level	Goal ID	Goal Statement	Measure/Output	Status (updated biannually)	Notes
	SW-A	Minimize increases in loading of nutrients, sediment, and other pollutants to downstream water resources resulting from development and redevelopment through the continued **implementation of the LRRWMO rules and permit program**	Reviewed projects: 100% of applicable projects (est. 150 over 10 years) TP prevention: 800 lbs/year total; TSS prevention: 80 tons/year	% applicable projects reviewed: 100% TP & TSS prevention: unable to estimate	
Organization	FC-A	**Evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of LRRWMO programs** and activities and adjust activities using an adaptive management approach	Review of performance standards; annual meeting with city staff; annual report/progress assessment; plan amendments (as needed)	Date of annual meeting: Feb annually Review of City annual reports completed: March annually Progress assessment complete: 1-2025 (this worksheet) Do plan amendments need to be made (Y/N)?: N	Joint powers agree updated in 2024
	FC-B	**Increase the use of grant funding** and cost-share opportunities to achieve LRRWMO goals by pursuing at least 5 grant opportunities and/or cost-share projects over 10 years	5 grants/cost-share applications over 10 years	Number of grant applications submitted: 3 Grant funding: ~$1,949,355 plus see notes	2022 – CWF Wood House riverbank $1,008,820 FY23 – WBIF Rum $371,157 FY25 – WBIF Rum $569,378 Phase 1 & 2 OHF – $1.669M for entire watershed
	FC-C	**Coordinate with cities and partners** to most efficiently achieve LRRWMO goals through shared expertise and resources	TAC meetings (at least 1 per year)	Number of TAC meetings: City & ACD staff attend every LRRWMO mtg (12/yr) Number of partner projects: All	
	FC-D	Work with partners to consider and **incorporate recreational benefits** in coordination with LRRWMO programs and projects	Meetings with partners (1+ per year)	Projects consider recreational benefits: Y	Ongoing per proje
Organization	ED-A	Increase public awareness and support for LRRWMO actions through **education and engagement activities** (see Section **Error! Reference source not found.**)	ACD education coordinator actions; City articles (4 per year); CAC meetings (2 per year); Education Plan; Events attended, stakeholder group meetings (adapted from Rum River 1W1P); See Section **Error! Reference source not found.**	Number of city articles: 2-4/yr Number of CAC meetings: 1 in 2022 ACD education activities: See annual reports to BWSR	Articles 2024 – 3 2023-2 2022 – 4 All of the above x 3
	ED-B	Increase community capacity to engage in behaviors and practices to improve the quality of water and natural resources through education and at least 1 volunteer opportunity per year (see Section **Error! Reference source not found.**)	ACD education coordinator actions; Education Plan developed and implemented; Events attended	Education plan complete: 2022 Outreach plan implemented annually? Y	2022 completed 10 LRRWMO outreach Annually 2-4 news articles.

Goal ID is used to correlate implementation actions to applicable goals

Appendix D:
Newsletter Articles

Septic system repair & replacement grants

- Homesteaded single family homes or duplexes in Anoka County
- Must have been inspected and issued a certificate of non-compliance.
- May **not** be used for tank pumping or other maintenance.
- Household must meet low income thresholds. Grant covers up to 90% depending on income.
- Funding is limited and may vary by location. Shoreland areas or projects providing the greatest health and environmental benefits may be preferentially funded.
- See all program requirements at www.AnokaSWCD.org under "financial assistance."

Contact Kris Larson at 763-434-2030 ext 210 or kris.larson@anokaswcd.org at the Anoka Conservation District

Anoka Conservation District

Lower Rum River WMO
www.LRRWMO.org

Irrigation controllers: Save money and water

Worst	Better	Best
Clock-based	Soil moisture sensor	Weather-based "Smart"
Water on set schedule.	Overrides scheduled watering when there is enough soil moisture.	System adjusts watering based on recent and predicted rainfall, evapotranspiration and more. App-based control.

Residential soil moisture sensors and smart irrigation controllers cost a couple hundred dollars and can be added to any irrigation system. Water savings for an average home is 15,000 gal/yr[1] or 20-40%[2]. Save money on water, electricity, & pump maintenance. Protect aquifers from drawdown.

[1]Source: EPA [2]Source: Gardening Know How

look for WaterSense · Meets EPA Criteria

Lower Rum River WMO
www.LRRWMO.org

Stormwater Ponds

It's time for summer lawn care and landscaping. Homeowners are mowing, applying fertilizers and irrigating their yards. While these are all routine activities, they can significantly impact stormwater ponds, especially considering the cumulative effect of numerous properties engaging in similar practices.

Stormwater ponds are artificial ponds/basins designed to capture and treat stormwater runoff (excess rain or snowmelt that does not evaporate or infiltrate the ground) before the runoff enters rivers, lakes and wetlands. The ponds can hold runoff for several weeks, allowing pollutants and sediment to settle to the bottom before the water infiltrates the ground or is discharged to natural bodies of water.

As the City grows, more roads, driveways, rooftops and other hard surfaces (collectively called impervious surfaces) are constructed, replacing natural vegetation, including trees and undisturbed land. So, when it rains, rather than naturally infiltrating into undeveloped land, more stormwater now falls on these impervious surfaces where it can pick up sediments and pollutants before draining into catch basins (the metal grates along the edge of streets) and piped to a stormwater pond.

Pollutants include excess fertilizers, grass clippings, leaves and other chemicals, which can negatively impact a stormwater pond. Excessive nutrients (primarily nitrogen and phosphorous), either from fertilizers and/or grass clippings and leaves, can encourage the growth of algae and algae blooms. These are not only unattractive but can emit foul odors. More importantly, if ingested, certain algae (blue-green algae, aka cyanobacteria) can also present a severe health threat to humans and pets.

Stormwater ponds are located throughout the City in residential and commercial neighborhoods. Stormwater enters these ponds through a network of underground pipes known as a storm sewer system. So, even if a property is not directly adjacent to a stormwater pond, 'routine' care of any property can directly impact stormwater ponds. But, there are some simple actions we can all take to help reduce algae and potential odors, including:

- Prior to fertilizing, have your soils tested to determine what, if any, nutrients are deficient. Use phosphorous-free fertilizer (it's the law, with a few exceptions) and follow label directions for application. Sweep granules off driveways, sidewalks, and streets back onto the yard. Remember, what the lawn doesn't absorb will be washed into the storm sewer system and ultimately into stormwater ponds.
- Keep grass clippings and leaves out of ponds and roads, since they wash into catch basins and stormwater ponds. As grass and leaves decompose, they produce phosphorous, which promotes algae growth.
- If you live adjacent to a stormwater pond (or any water body), consider establishing a buffer of native plants along the edge (the wider, the better, but any little bit helps). Buffer strips can help slow runoff and strip excess nutrients and pollutants from the stormwater before entering the pond. Plus, they discourage waterfowl from walking onto your lawn.
- Pick up pet waste and properly dispose of it.
- Adjust downspouts so they discharge into the yard rather than onto sidewalks or driveways; consider installing a rain garden 'downstream' from a downspout to help promote infiltration before entering the storm sewer system.

If you have questions or concerns about a stormwater pond in your neighborhood, please contact Chris Anderson at canderson@cityoframsey.com or 763-433-9817.

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Appendix E:
2024 Work Results

Anoka Conservation District installed 9 Streambank Stabilizations with 2,195 feet stabilized in 2024 in the LRRWMO and one storm water pond. We have included one of each project in the report. For additional information; please go to our dashboard at: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ccebe39e9d214eceb7f28928ff0dc875/

PROJECT PROFILE

ANOKA RIVERFRONT TRAIL EASEMENT BANK STABILIZATION ANOKA, MN

Riverbank Stabilization

ANOKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Project Summary

A 400-foot section of Rum Riverbank just downstream of the Anoka High School was severely eroding, causing pollutant loading and tree loss into the river, as well as undermining a popular paved walking trail, posing a public safety threat. Low rock-toe armoring, combined with vegetated soil lifts and a regraded upper slope were installed in Fall, 2024. Native vegetation was seeded across the site, and over 2,000 cuttings of willow and dogwood were installed. One roll of articulated concrete block mat was placed at a popular public entry point to reduce future foot traffic damage. The City of Anoka will replace the paved walking trail in the near future.

Stabilization of the 10-foot tall bank will provide reductions in TSS (66 tons per year) and TP (56.1 pounds per year) to the Rum River. The project also enhances 400-feet and ~0.5 acre of riparian habitat. Project design, administration, and construction oversight were provided by ACD with engineering assistance from the Wright Conservation District and Hakanson Anderson.

The project was funded with grant dollars from the Outdoor Heritage Fund (OHF) with leverage from the City of Anoka, Anoka County, and the Lower Rum River Watershed Management Organization.

Post-construction November, 2024. Photo taken during dam pool drawdown (very low water). Typical water levels will hide most of the rock.

Project Specifications

Date Installed	November 2024
Project Length	400 feet
Bank Height	10 feet
Habitat Enhanced	~0.5 acre
TP Reduction	56.1 lbs/year
TSS Reduction	66.0 tons/year

Project Cost

Admin., Design, and Construction Oversight (ACD)	$34,631.12
Materials	$26.16
Construction	$149,319.67
Total Project Cost	$183,976.95

Project Funding

OHF Grant	$125,621.18
City of Anoka Match	$20,000.00
Anoka County Match	$26,538.20
LRRWMO Match	$10,507.34
ACD In-Kind Match	$1,310.23
Total Project Funding	$183,976.95

Project Details

Pre-project conditions consisted of a severely eroded, vertical bank with fallen trees and a threatened public walking trail.

A low rock toe will prevent future undermining, while a graded and bioengineered upper bank will vegetate.

PROJECT PROFILE

RIVERS BEND POND

RAMSEY, MN

Stormwater Pond

Project Summary

A new stormwater was constructed in 2024 on city property to treat residential and commercial neighborhood runoff before discharge to the Rum River. It is a top ranking project from a 2016 subwatershed assessment study. The constructed pond treats existing development that lacks stormwater treatment as well as new and upcoming development. Grants paid only in proportion to the pond's capacity to treat existing development, not to meet required treatment for new development.

This 1.11 acre pond includes a forebay and main basin. Stormwater pipes were realigned so the runoff from the entire drainage area enters the pond. Due to proximity to a city well, this pond is designed to not infiltrate water. The pond discharges to the Rum River just upstream of the Bunker Lake Blvd Bridge. This project was led by the City of Ramsey.

Pond project after completion. November, 2024.

Project Specs

Date Installed	Nov. 2024
Basin Area	0.92 ac
Forebay Area	0.19 ac
Basin Depth	11 ft.
Acres Area	0.55 ac
Min Project Life	30 yrs

Pollutant Reductions

Phosphorus	11.87 lbs/yr (52.9%)
Sediment	5,964 lbs/yr (67.4%)

Project Cost

Construction	$899,653

Design and coordination were provided by the City of Ramsey.

Project Funding

State WBIF Grants*	$286,250
LRRWMO Grant Match	$30,850
LRRWMO	$8,450
City of Ramsey	$574,103

Lower Rum River WMO

Location

During Construction