

# elm creek Watershed Management Commission

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
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[www.elmcreekwatershed.org](http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org)

January 3, 2024

Representatives

**and**

Technical Advisory Committee Members  
Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission  
Hennepin County, Minnesota

*The meeting packet for this meeting may be  
found on the Commission's website:*  
[http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/minutes-  
-meeting-packets.html](http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/minutes-<br/>-meeting-packets.html)

Dear Representatives and Members:

A regular meeting of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission will be held on **Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.** at Plymouth Community Center, 14800 34th Avenue North, Plymouth, MN.

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will meet at **10:00 a.m., prior to the regular meeting.**

Please email me at [judie@jass.biz](mailto:judie@jass.biz) to confirm whether you or your Alternate will be attending the regular meeting.

Thank you.



Judie A. Anderson

Administrator

JAA:tim

Encls: Meeting Packet

cc:	Alternates	Erik Megow	Diane Spector	James Kujawa	Rebecca Carlson
	TAC Members	Karen Galles	Kris Guentzel	Kevin Ellis	Brian Vlach
	City Clerks	DNR	BWSR	Met Council	MPCA
	Official Newspaper				

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## AGENDA Technical Advisory Committee January 10, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order.
  - a. Approve agenda.\*
  - b. Approve minutes of last meeting.\*
2. Proposed Rules Revisions - Small Projects\*
3. Proposed 2024 Work Plan.\*
4. Other Business.
5. Next TAC meeting – \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Adjournment.

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\*in meeting packet  
\*\*available at meeting

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## Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes | October 11, 2023

I. A meeting of the **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** of the Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission was called to order at 10:02 a.m., Wednesday, October 11, 2023, in the Plymouth Community Center, 14800 34th Avenue North, Plymouth, MN, by Chair Derek Asche.

Present: Kevin Mattson, Corcoran; Josh Accola, Stantec, Dayton; Derek Asche, Maple Grove; Rebecca Haug, WSB, Medina; Ben Scharenbroich, Plymouth; Andrew Simmons, Rogers; Diane Spector and Erik Megow, Stantec; Kris Guentzel and Kevin Ellis, Hennepin County Environment and Energy (HCEE); and Judie Anderson, JASS.

Not represented: Champlin.

Also present: Doug Baines, Dayton.

II. Motion by Simmons, second by Mattson to approve the **Agenda** as presented. *Motion carried unanimously.*

III. Motion by Haug, second by Simmons to approve the **Minutes** of the July 12, 2023, meeting. *Motion carried unanimously.*

IV. **Rules Relating to Small Redevelopment Projects.\*** Staff is requesting input from the members regarding how small redevelopment projects are reviewed and how the definition of “land disturbing activity” is interpreted. Recent small redevelopment projects prompted this discussion when Commission staff and City staff interpreted the rules in slightly different ways. Staff requests review and clarification for consistency in interpretation, Commission intent, and with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s (MPCA) municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) General Permit requirements.

The Commission’s Stormwater Rule is triggered when there is “any land development or site development that disturbs more than 1 acre of land.” The Commission’s current definition of Land Disturbing Activity is:

**Land Disturbing Activity.** Any change of the land surface to include removing vegetative cover, excavation, fill, grading, and the construction of any structure that may cause or contribute to erosion or the movement of sediment into waterbodies. The use of land for agricultural activities, or improvements such as mill and overlay or concrete rehabilitation projects that do not disturb the underlying soil shall not constitute a land disturbing activity under these Rules.

The Commission’s definition closely follows the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s definition of construction activity. Per MPCA and MS4 guidelines, MS4 programs, “must address construction activity with land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, within the permittee’s jurisdiction and that discharge to the permittee’s MS4.”

The MPCA defines construction activity as follows:

**Construction Activity** means activities including clearing, grading, and excavating, that result in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre, including the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one acre. This includes a disturbance to the land that results in a change in the topography, existing soil cover, both vegetative and nonvegetative, or the existing soil topography that may result in accelerated stormwater runoff that may lead to soil erosion and movement of sediment.

There have been two recent projects in the watershed where interpretation of the Commission's definition of land disturbing activity has come into question. For both sites/projects, the applicants were redeveloping sites currently used as parking areas and although the Project Areas exceeded one acre, there was less than one acre of land disturbing activity under the current definition, and additional stormwater practices were not required.

**A.** Dunkirk Square (Project Review 2032-020) This project did not result in an increase of impervious surface and there is no degradation to downstream waterbodies.

**B.** Redevelopment for Childcare Site (PIDs 3411922120019 and 3411922120011). For the future Childcare site, the project would likely increase pollutant loads (TP and TSS) due to an increase in impervious surface. However, future development/redevelopment of the adjacent parcel would likely trigger both parcels requiring stormwater treatment.

The difficulty in interpreting the Land Disturbing Activity definition came when Commission and City Staffs were trying to interpret the **level of grading, fill, and excavation that constitutes a land disturbing activity and what activities fall under concrete rehabilitation projects**. Therefore, Staff would like to discuss these two projects in order to decide whether to:

1. Continue our current interpretation of land disturbing activity and keep the current definition,
2. Update our current definition of land disturbing activity, or
3. Add additional language to ensure these small redevelopment projects are incorporating stormwater BMPs.

Members also considered adding the Shingle Creek Watershed Management Commission's guidance of requiring stormwater BMPs for site redevelopment projects that disturb between 0.5 and 1.0 acres.

Review thresholds will be discussed at the next TAC meeting.

**V. South Fork Rush Creek.\***

**A.** Staff have completed a **draft [interactive map](#) of the South Fork Rush Creek subwatershed assessment** for initial review. This map, [South Fork Rush Creek – SWA \(arcgis.com\)](#), was created based on:

1. Inventory, acquisition, and formatting of pertinent geospatial data products at state, county, and city levels as identified during the project kick-off meeting.
2. Development of required custom inputs for the Agricultural Conservation Planning Framework (ACPF) tool.
3. Generation of optimal Best Management Practice (BMP) locations identified using the ACPF tool. Note that these BMPs have not yet been ground-truthed, so there may be some that are eliminated

based on development subsequent to the base map data or simply based on lack of suitability.

4. Total phosphorus and total suspended solids delivery estimates by sub-catchment, developed using the PTMApp.

B. Staff are seeking the TAC's input on:

1. The practicality/suitability of BMP locations *and* BMP types.
2. Suggestions for additional data layers and/or map functionality.
3. Identification of particular parcels or sub-catchments of interest.
4. Any general feedback.

Suggestions from the members included incorporating channel conditions, load reduction priority areas, areas of likely projects, and development areas occurring in the next five years.

**VI. WMWA Educator Special Project Follow-up.** Last month Staff briefly introduced some ideas for an initial discussion regarding development of potential outreach ideas with the joint WMWA coordinator. The Watershed-Based Implementation Funding grant workplan supporting the shared coordinator calls for implementing at least four "special projects" across the five participating WMOs. Examples cited in the work plan were workshops for residents/property owners/business owners, perhaps with follow-up small grants and/or onsite consultation; or multi-family housing equitable engagement projects, likely in partnership with Metro Blooms, similar to projects undertaken in the Shingle Creek watershed at multi-family housing sites that include updated stormwater management as well as other site improvements.

A. The shared coordinator, Grace Barcelow, has asked each WMO to express a preference for what type of special project might be a good fit for their watershed. Staff are not aware of potential multi-family projects currently, so they are focused on workshop ideas. Regardless of which option the Commission prefers, it is likely that implementation would not occur until spring 2024. Some ideas from Staff include:

1. Customizing the existing Blue Thumb Resilient Yards workshop ([Workshops & Events – Blue Thumb](#)), offering free on-site consultation and planting stipends to participants.
2. As suggested by Corcoran, developing a new workshop and online resource targeted at HOA members regarding strategies for maintaining their green spaces and understanding how to manage and maintain their on-site BMPs.
3. Develop a new workshop based on other ideas the Commissioners might have. This may require an additional financial commitment from the Commission depending on how much customization or workshop development would be required.

B. Spector noted that Hennepin County staff like the HOA-focused resources but were hesitant to use WBIF funding because 1) the focus was on maintaining existing BMPs rather than installing new BMPs, and 2) properly maintaining BMPs is related to a regulatory requirement, which is typically ineligible for grant-funded activities. After some discussion, the TAC expressed an interest in developing outreach and technical/financial resources to property owners interested in installing infiltration and treatment BMPs to intercept runoff prior to entering surface water such as a lake, stream, wetland or pond.

Staff will work with Barcelow to develop needs, objectives, and desired outcomes before formally developing work products. This topic will also be discussed at the upcoming regular meeting.

**VII.** Members will be notified of the date of the **next meeting** of the Technical Advisory Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

**elm creek Watershed Management Commission**

TAC Meeting Minutes | October 11, 2023

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judie A. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Judie" being more prominent.

Judie A. Anderson  
Recording Secretary  
JAA:tim

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**To:** Elm Creek TAC

**From:** Erik Megow, PE  
Diane Spector

**Date:** January 3, 2024

**Subject:** Rules Update for Small Redevelopment Projects

**Recommended TAC  
Action**

Review and discuss and provide direction as requested.

This item is a continuation of our review how we are interpreting ‘land disturbing activity’ relating to stormwater for small redevelopment projects near the 1.0-threshold for land disturbing activity that may trigger the Commission’s Stormwater Management Rule (Rule N). Recent small redevelopment projects prompted this discussion when Commission staff and City staff interpreted the rules in slightly different ways. Staff discussed these projects and our interpretation with the TAC at the October Elm Creek TAC meeting, where the consensus was that our definition and interpretation of land disturbing activity was consistent with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s (MPCA) municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) General Permit requirements.

**Background**

The Commission’s Stormwater Rule is triggered when there is “any land development or site development that disturbs more than 1 acre of land.”

The Commission’s current definition of Land Disturbing Activity is:

**Land Disturbing Activity.** Any change of the land surface to include removing vegetative cover, excavation, fill, grading, and the construction of any structure that may cause or contribute to erosion or the movement of sediment into waterbodies. The use of land for agricultural activities, or improvements such as mill and overlay or concrete rehabilitation projects that do not disturb the underlying soil shall not constitute a land disturbing activity under these Rules.

The Commission’s definition closely follows the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s definition of construction activity. Per MPCA and MS4 guidelines, MS4 programs, “must address construction activity with land disturbance of greater than or equal to one acre, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development or sale, within the permittee’s jurisdiction and that discharge to the permittee’s MS4.”

The MPCA defines construction activity as follows:

**Construction Activity** means activities including clearing, grading, and excavating, that result in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre, including the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one acre. This includes a disturbance to the land that results in a change in the topography, existing soil cover, both vegetative and nonvegetative, or the existing soil topography that may result in accelerated stormwater runoff that may lead to soil erosion and movement of sediment.

For sites/projects where applicants are proposing to disturb near, or just under 1 acre, we hope to continue working with City Staff to determine how this land disturbing area is being interpreted so we are

consistent. We would also like to remind Cities that there are additional activities that would require approval from the Commission already outlined in our standards, including:

- Plans of any land development or individual site development adjacent to or containing a lake, wetland, or a natural or altered watercourse as listed in the Hennepin County wetland inventory or the final inventory of Protected Waters and Wetlands for Hennepin County, as prepared by the DNR.
- Any culvert installation or replacement, bridge construction, stream cross-section alteration, or activity requiring a DNR Waters Permit on Elm, Rush, North Fork Rush, or Diamond Creeks or their tributaries.
- Plans for any land development or site development within the 1% chance (100-year) floodplain as defined by the Flood Insurance Study for the member city or the Commission's flood study.
- Plans of any land development or site development regardless of size, if such review is requested by a member city.
- Land disturbing activity that drains to more than one watershed, for that portion of the site draining into the Elm Creek Watershed.

Furthermore, for these projects that are near the 1-acre disturbance threshold, we would like to put forth additional language and requirements promoting stormwater treatment. Therefore, we would like to add the following language and requirements to our stormwater rule to ensure these small redevelopment projects are incorporating stormwater BMPs:

*"For projects disturbing between 0.5 acres and 1.0 acres, the project owner shall work with local municipal staff to incorporate permanent water quality Best Management Practices (BMPs) to the respective municipality's satisfaction."*

These permanent water quality BMPs can be anything from a raingarden to soil amendments to sump manholes or catch basins. The goal of the BMPs for this size of projects is to provide some level of water quality benefit and hopefully provide a scenario where pollutant loads (TSS and TP) will not increase from the existing to proposed scenario, especially if there is no regional treatment between the site and a downstream impaired waterbody.

We would also like the partner cities to continue working with [re-]developers to raise awareness for sites where future phases (common plans of development) may result in land disturbing activities resulting in greater than 1 acre, such that we remain in conformance with the MPCA's MS4 Guidelines for Common Plan of Development or Sale (Parts 27.8 and 27.9):

27.8 "Common Plan of Development or Sale" means a contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct land disturbing activities may be taking place at different times, on different schedules, but under one proposed plan. One plan is broadly defined to include design, permit application, advertisement or physical demarcation indicating that land-disturbing activities may occur. [Minn. R. 7090]

27.9. "Construction Activity" means activities including clearing, grading, and excavating, that result in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre, including the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one acre. This includes a disturbance to the land that results in a change in the topography, existing soil cover, both vegetative and nonvegetative, or the existing soil topography that may result in accelerated stormwater runoff that may lead to soil erosion and movement of sediment. Construction activity does not include a disturbance to the land of less than five acres for the purpose of routine



maintenance performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, and original purpose of the facility. Routine maintenance does not include activities such as repairs, replacement and other types of non-routine maintenance. Pavement rehabilitation that does not disturb the underlying soils (e.g., mill and overlay projects) is not construction activity. [Minn. R. 7090]

**To:** Elm Creek WMO Commissioners/TAC

**From:** Erik Megow, PE  
Diane Spector  
Judie Anderson

**Date:** January 4, 2024

**Subject:** Draft 2024 Work Plan

**Recommended  
Commission Action**

Discuss and revise as desired and adopt as printed or as revised or carry over to the February 8, 2024 meeting.

Attached is the proposed work plan for 2024. Many of the items on this list are routine, but some are special projects or studies. Highlights include:

- The major item on the proposed workplan is to initiate development of the Fourth Generation Watershed Management Plan; the current Plan expires in Fall 2025. Typically, it takes about 18 months to go through the planning and review process, so the Commission and cities should expect to begin this process this Spring.
- The Watershed Wide TMDL Ten Year Review you already authorized for completion this year will wrap into the Fourth Generation Plan in the same manner as the original TMDL and WRAPS. Implementation strategies and actions from those studies were incorporated into the Third Generation Plan.
- The BWSR Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) for FY2024/25 for Elm Creek will provide about double the amount of funding (\$373,590) received during the previous biennium. The eligible entities (Commission, County, and cities) should plan on completing the Convene process this Spring so the funds can be contracted by July 1. This funding can be used on projects, studies, or management activities that result in a load reduction.
- We will continue to partner with WMWA and Hennepin County on enhanced education and outreach, with leadership and assistance from the shared outreach coordinator. Chloride management is a priority topic, and the work plan includes the development of a chloride education and outreach plan that includes identifying the different stakeholders and messages and options for implementation. The Commission will also sponsor one or more shoreline restoration/resilient yards workshops with the shared coordinator and Metro Blooms as part of the WBIF funding.

**DRAFT**  
**2024 Work Plan**

Minnesota Rule 8410.0150 requires the Commission to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources a financial report, activity report and audit report for the preceding fiscal year. 8410.0150 Subp. 3 outlines the required content of the annual activity report. It includes an assessment of the previous year's annual work plan and development of a projected work plan for the following year.

The Commission's Third Generation Watershed Management Plan identifies issues, priorities, and goals for the ten-year period 2015-2024. The Annual Work Plan is a more detailed set of actions the Commission undertakes to work toward meeting those goals (attached).

**Special Studies and Projects**

1. The Elm Creek Third Generation Watershed Management Plan expires on October 23, 2025. It typically takes about 18 months to complete a plan and take it through the review and approval process. This means the Commission should consider initiating the Fourth Generation Plan by April 2024. *We will plan to have initial discussion of potential approaches and timelines in Spring 2024.*
2. Using BWSR-provided Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) allocated in 2023, complete the subwatershed assessment of the South Fork Rush Creek subwatershed, and complete the feasibility assessment for remeandering North Fork Rush Creek between CR 116/Fletcher Lane and Brockton Road. *Both these studies were initiated in 2023 and will be completed in 2024.*
3. Undertake Phase 1 of the Elm Creek Watershed TMDL 10 Year Review. *Phase 1 is the collection of information about BMPs completed since the baseline years in the TMDL modeling, and completion of the first year of follow-up monitoring noted above. Where there is enough data, a trend analysis will be completed to determine if there have been any statistically significant changes to water quality.*
4. Undertake high priority projects identified in the Rush Creek Headwaters and Diamond Lake Subwatershed Assessments. *This activity will continue and be expanded in 2024, led by Hennepin County conservation staff. The Commission has dedicated an additional \$175,000 in Watershed-Based Implementation Funding to these implementation efforts, centered on the Rush Creek Headwaters and Diamond Lake subwatersheds.*
5. Obtain updates from member cities regarding projects already included on the Commission's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as well as new projects that they would like to have considered for inclusion on the CIP. *If necessary, hold public meeting and adopt an amendment to the Third Generation Watershed Management Plan; conduct a public hearing for any projects to be ordered; and certify levy to Hennepin County.*
6. Provide City and Partnership Cost Share funding to support small projects as requested. *These programs are continuously open until funds are depleted.*

## elm creek

### Watershed Management Commission

7. Convene with BWSR and other entities eligible to receive funding from the next round of WBIF grants to establish priorities and select projects and strategies for funding. Elm Creek has been awarded \$373,590, which is available July 1, 2024. *The Convene Group will meet in early 2024 with the goal of allocating those funds by May 1, to be contracted in May-June 2024 for expenditure starting July 1. Initial discussion at WMWA is that there is some interest in extending funding for the joint outreach coordinator, which was allocated \$30,000 from the previous WBIF grant.*

#### **Monitoring Program**

8. Continue to partner with the Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) to share in the costs of conducting lake and stream monitoring in the watershed. *In 2023, TRPD will monitor Elm Creek at 77th Avenue (ECF77); Rush Creek at Territorial Road (RT); and Diamond Creek (DC) for continuous flow and water quality. A dissolved oxygen longitudinal survey will be conducted if adequate flow is available. TRPD will monitor four sentinel lakes (Fish, Weaver, Diamond, and Rice). Five additional lakes will be monitored as part of the Elm Creek Watershed TMDL 10 Year Review: Sylvan, Cowley Henry, Jubert and French.*
9. Fund the monitoring of one lake through Metropolitan Council's Citizen Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP). *One lake will be monitored through CAMP in 2024, depending on volunteers.*
10. Continue to operate the monitoring station in Champlin in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey (USGS). *The cooperative agreement with the USGS will be renewed for FY2024.*
11. Promote river stewardship through Hennepin County's RiverWatch program with three sites in 2024. *Hennepin County has resumed the program, but participation is in ongoing discussion.*

#### **Education and Outreach Program**

12. Continue as a member of the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA). *The contract educator will continue to schedule classroom visits in 2024. The four member WMOs: Bassett Creek, Elm Creek, Shingle Creek, and West Mississippi, along with Richfield-Bloomington will continue to partner with Hennepin County to support a one-half time outreach coordinator to provide engagement and programming in the five watersheds.*
13. Sponsor Lakeshore/Resilient Yard Workshops as part of the Commission's Education and Public Outreach Program. The workshops are presented by Metro Blooms. *One of the focus areas of the shared half-time coordinator is marketing and coordinating workshops. In 2024 the geographic focus area is proposed to be Fish Lake. An additional focus area will be available in 2025.*
14. Develop and implement a Chloride Education and Outreach Plan. *The Commission and TAC will identify target stakeholders and messages and develop options for delivering programming. This work will be coordinated with WMWA and the Hennepin County Chloride Initiative.*
15. Continue as a member of Blue Thumb and WaterShed Partners. *Staff will continue to virtually attend WaterShed Partner meetings and Blue thumb meetings to share resources, bringing back programs and ideas for promotion by the Commission.*

## elm creek

### Watershed Management Commission

16. Promote “Lawns to Legumes,” a program for residents to seed their lawns with a bee lawn mix, targeting habitat for the Rusty-patched bumblebee, an endangered species. A collaboration between Blue Thumb and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), provides cost-share funding and other resources to help Minnesota residents establish pollinator habitat in their yards. *The Commission supports this program on its website and with membership in Blue Thumb.*

#### **Agricultural Outreach**

17. Work with the Hennepin County Rural Conservation Specialist. Assist landowners in identifying BMPs for implementation throughout the watershed. Work with member cities to identify projects that will result in TMDL load reductions. *Hennepin County Environment and Energy Staff will collaborate with landowners to identify BMP projects as well as larger, more strategic projects for inclusion on the Commission’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP). County Staff will provide updates to the Commissioners through their monthly Staff Reports.*
18. Continue to work in partnership with the University of Minnesota’s agriculture specialist to help build relationships with the agricultural community in the watershed to achieve TMDL load reductions. *The Commission will continue to work with the agricultural specialist as available to supplement efforts of the Rural Conservation Specialists.*

#### **Routine and Administrative Actions**

19. Continue to review local development/redevelopment plans for conformance with the standards outlined in the Commission’s Third Generation Watershed Management Plan. *Continue to evaluate the fee schedule and administrative processes updated in 2023 to determine how well they are meeting the Commission’s goal of funding the costs of reviewing the projects.*
20. Maintain a fee structure that reimburses the Commission for the actual cost of completing and administering project reviews. *Staff will continue to review the fee structure for adequacy and implantability and recommend revisions as necessary.*
21. Adopt a 2025 operating budget. *A Budget Committee will draft a 2025 operating budget for consideration by the Commission in May 2024.*
22. Prepare a 2024 Audit Report. *This report will be prepared by Johnson and Company, LTD and forwarded to BWSR per MN Rule 8410.*
23. Continue to populate and maintain the Commission’s website [www.elmcreekwatershed.org](http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org) to provide news to residents, students, developers, and other individuals interested in the water resources of the watershed. *This activity will continue in 2024.*
24. Publish an annual activity report summarizing the Commission’s yearly activities and financial reporting. *The 2023 Annual Activity Report will be published in April 2024 and made available to the member cities and the public on the Commission website, <http://www.elmcreekwatershed.org/annual-reports.html>.*

### Third Generation Watershed Management Plan Goals

#### Goal Area A. Water Quantity

- Goal A. 1. Maintain the post-development 2-year, 10-year, and 100-year peak rate of runoff at pre-development level for the critical duration precipitation event.
- Goal A. 2. Maintain the post-development annual runoff volume at pre-development volume.
- Goal A. 3. Prevent the loss of floodplain storage below the established 100-year elevation.
- Goal A. 4. Reduce peak flow rates in Elm, Diamond, and Rush Creeks and tributary streams to the Crow and Mississippi and preserve conveyance capacity.

#### Goal Area B. Water Quality

- Goal B. 1. Improve Total Phosphorus concentration in the impaired lakes by 10% over the 2004-2013 average by 2024.
- Goal B. 2. Maintain or improve water quality in the lakes and streams with no identified impairments.
- Goal B. 3. Conduct a TMDL/WRAPS progress review every five years following approval of the TMDLs and WRAPS study.
- Goal B. 4. Use information in the WRAPS to identify high priority areas where the Commission will partner with cities and other agencies to provide technical and financial assistance.

#### Goal Area C. Groundwater

- Goal C. 1. Promote groundwater recharge by requiring abstraction/infiltration of runoff from new development and redevelopment.
- Goal C. 2. Protect groundwater quality by incorporating wellhead protection study results into development and redevelopment Rules and Standards.

#### Goal Area D. Wetlands

- Goal D. 1. Preserve the existing functions and values of wetlands within the watershed.
- Goal D. 2. Promote the enhancement or restoration of wetlands in the watershed.

#### Goal Area E. Drainage Systems

- Goal E. 1. Continue current Hennepin County jurisdiction over the county ditches in the watershed.

#### Goal Area F. Commission Operations and Programming

- Goal F. 1. Identify and operate within a sustainable funding level that is reasonable to member cities.
- Goal F. 2. Foster implementation of priority TMDL and other implementation projects by sharing in their cost and proactively seeking grant funds.
- Goal F. 3. Operate a public education and outreach program to supplement the NPDES Phase II education requirements for the member cities.
- Goal F. 4. Operate a monitoring program sufficient to characterize water quantity, water quality, and biotic integrity in the watersheds and to evaluate progress toward meeting goals.
- Goal F. 5. Maintain rules and standards for development and redevelopment that are consistent with local and regional TMDLs, federal guidelines, source water and wellhead protection requirements, nondegradation, and ecosystem management goals.
- Goal F. 6. Serve as a technical resource for member cities.

### Third Generation Watershed Management Plan Priorities

1. Begin implementing priority projects and actions in 2015, providing cost-share to member cities to undertake projects to help achieve WRAPS lake and stream goals.
2. Use the results of the WRAPS study to establish priority areas, and complete subwatershed assessments to identify specific Best Management Practices that feasibly and cost-effectively reduce nutrient and sediment loading to impaired water resources. Convene a TAC of agencies specializing in ag outreach to help guide assessments in agricultural subwatersheds.
3. Develop a model manure management ordinance to regulate the placement of new small non-food animal operations using the City of Medina ordinance as a guide, and require member cities to adopt that ordinance or other ordinances and practices to accomplish its objectives.
4. Partner with other organizations to complete a pilot project for targeted fertilizer application and to increase and focus outreach to agricultural operators.
5. Continue participating in joint education and outreach activities with WMWA and other partners.