

Appendix D: Chisago County Local Priorities

Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

July 2020

**CHISAGO COUNTY
APPENDIX TO THE
LOWER ST. CROIX
RIVER
COMPREHENSIVE
WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT
PLAN**

July 17, 2020



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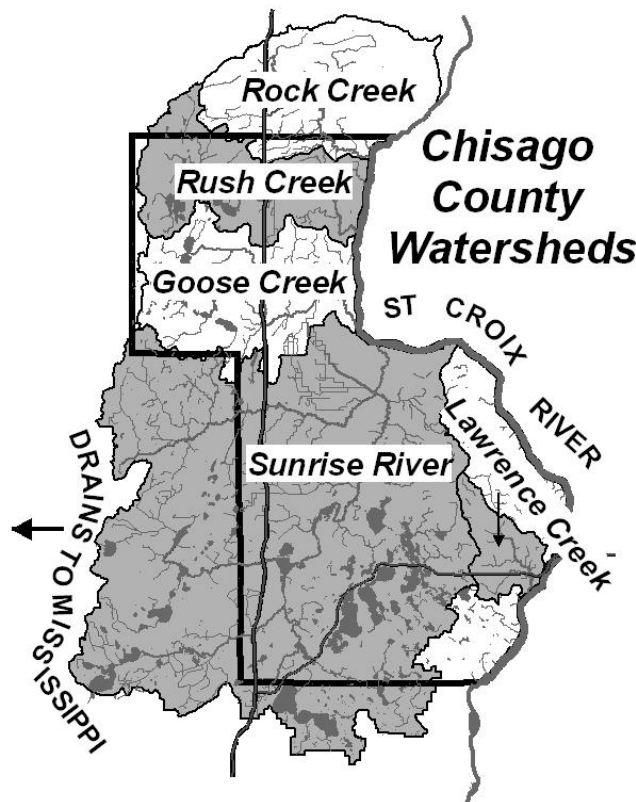
CHISAGO COUNTY APPENDIX TO THE LOWER ST. CROIX RIVER COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Chisago County, located in east central Minnesota, approximately 35 minutes north of the Twin Cities metropolitan area, was established in 1851, seven years before Minnesota became a state. Chisago, the county name, comes from the Chippewa Native American word, Ki-Chi-Saga, which means Fair and Lovely Waters. Chisago County borders the St. Croix River to the east, and shares borders with Pine, Isanti, Anoka, and Washington Counties. The county seat, first at Taylors Falls, moved to Chisago City in 1865 and then to Center City in 1875, where it remains today.

Chisago County is almost entirely in the St. Croix River watershed. Chisago County is divided into multiple subwatersheds – Rock Creek, Rush Creek, Goose Creek, Sunrise River, Lawrence Creek, and direct drainage.

Figure 1: Chisago County Watersheds



PURPOSE OF THE CHISAGO COUNTY APPENDIX TO THE LOWER ST. CROIX RIVER COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of the Chisago County Appendix to the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (Chisago County Appendix) is to allow for the inclusion of County watershed priorities that were established in the September 2013 – 2023 Chisago County Local Water Management Plan.

During the Lower St. Croix One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P) prioritization process to develop water related measurable goals and strategies, or objectives, some of the current objectives identified in the Chisago County Local Water Management Plan were not included in the final Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (LSC-CWMP). However, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the 1W1P planning process allowed Chisago County and other counties to include all objectives absent from the final Lower St. Croix River CWMP as an Appendix to the plan.

Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team members and residents have identified watershed priorities to include in the Chisago County Appendix. The County will use the priorities identified in the Appendix to obtain and use resources to protect, improve, and conserve water resources in Chisago County including lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater.

The Chisago County Appendix does not replace, but supplements the Mission, Vision, Resource Areas, Issues, Measurable Goals, Outputs and Priority Locations as established in the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

CHISAGO COUNTY WATER PLAN POLICY TEAM REVIEW OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The majority of the Goals and Objectives that were adopted in the September 2013 – 2023 Chisago County Local Water Management Plan are included in the Measurable Goals, Outputs and Priority Locations as found in the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

However, in the winter of 2019 and 2020, the Chisago County Water Plan Policy Team reviewed the Goals and Objectives in the September 2013 – 2023 Chisago County Local Water Management Plan to identify which Goals and Objectives to include in an Appendix.

Prior to the Water Plan Policy Team meetings, staff from Chisago County, the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District and the Comfort Lake – Forest Lake Watershed District updated the status of each Objective and made a recommendation to keep the Objective as Written or to either Modify, Change or Delete the Objective. Staff also marked the suggested Priority ranking of each Objective prioritizing each in following the Tier A, B, C ranking as shown in the 1W1P Prioritized Issue Statements identified in the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Goals and Objectives from the September 2013 – 2023 Chisago County Local Water Management Plan that were not included in the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan are included in Table 1 in the Chisago County Appendix. These Goals and Objectives are important local priorities for Chisago County and the county is committed to accomplishing them over the next ten years.

At their meeting on February 10, 2020, the Water Plan Policy Team passed a motion approving the draft Chisago County Appendix to the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

CHISAGO COUNTY APPENDIX TO THE LOWER ST. CROIX RIVER COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

Listed below in Table 1 are the objectives that Chisago County considers as important local priorities that were not included in Table 5-1 of the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (LSC-CWMP). Chisago County is committed to accomplishing them over the next ten years.

Each objective includes a brief description of the proposed activity. Included with the description is the year/s the objective will be completed, the cost to complete each objective, the estimated local funds committed for each objective, additional funds required to complete the objective, and the agencies that will be implementing or supporting the objective. Also identified in Table 1 are the corresponding Issues and Goals by Resource Area for each objective, as found in Table 5-1 in the LSC-CWMP.

Table 1: Chisago County Appendix Objectives

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
Groundwater (GW)												
GW 1B	Support local Wellhead and Source Water Protection activities and provide technical assistance and information as requested.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Minnesota Department of Health, Local communities
GW 3A	Use information in the Chisago County Geologic and Hydrogeologic Atlas in decision-making.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Minnesota Geologic Survey
GW 1B	Support improved security of city water supply wells and Wellhead Protection areas.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Minnesota Department of Health, Local communities

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
GW 1B	Support protection of water resources by participation in Chisago County Emergency Management Planning.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
GW 3A	Promote comprehensive policies to protect ground and surface water from sand and gravel mining and processing, including frac sand mining.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	
GW 3A	Access Minnesota Department of Health Contaminants of Emerging Concern program for support in outreach and education efforts to enhance citizen understanding of their role in protecting groundwater quality including their use and disposal of pharmaceuticals, personal care products, hazardous materials, pesticides, and fertilizers.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	
Lakes (LK)												
LK 2C	Partner with Lake Associations to control aquatic invasive species, as identified by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for purposes of improved navigation.	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$270,000	\$270,000			Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District	Local lake associations
LK 1C GW 1B	Preserve septic system data by updating septic system index. ⁱ										Chisago County	

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
LK 1C GW 1B	Support the construction of community wastewater treatment systems in unsewered Rural Village Centers as defined in the Chisago County Comprehensive Plan. Provide support through staff assistance to communities in researching grant opportunities. i										Chisago County	
LK 1C GW 1B	Partner with local communities in the effort to connect areas of high density, undersized, riparian lots to community wastewater treatment systems. This includes shoreland areas around the Chisago Lakes Chain of Lakes, Goose Lake, Rush Lake and resorts. i										Chisago County	
LK 1C GW 1B	Promote and encourage participation in the Chisago County/Chisago Lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Commission Holding Tank Waste Receiving Program and encourage expansion of the program so that septage may be accepted. Promote and encourage all municipal sewage treatment facilities to accept individual sewage treatment system sewage. i										Chisago County	
LK 1C GW 1B	Mail approximately 200 Septic System Owners Guides each year to owners of new or newly purchased homes or replacement septic systems. i										Chisago County	
LK 1B R&S 1A	Implement projects that will help meet water quality goals of the Chisago County Comprehensive Parks and Trails Plan and other public lands. County parks include Dennis Frandsen, Fish Lake, Checkerboard, Kost Dam, Ki-Chi-Saga, Sunrise Prairie Trail, and North Sunrise Park Reserve.	0	0	\$40,000	\$40,000	0	\$80,000			\$80,000	Chisago County	

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
LK 1B R&S 4A	Develop a plan to remove excess sediment in the shoreland area of Dennis Frandsen Park. Complete appropriate studies, which may include an Environmental Assessment Worksheet, and obtain necessary permits.	0	0	\$20,000	0	0	\$20,000			\$20,000	Chisago County	
LK 1B R&S 4A	Implement the plan to remove excess sediment in the shoreland area of Dennis Frandsen Park. Plan may include application of sediment to nearby farmland.	0	0	0	\$60,000	0	\$60,000			\$60,000	Chisago County	
LK 1A R&S 1B	Update the Chisago County Subdivision Ordinance to include standards that will improve water quality of surface water runoff.	0	0	\$40,000	0	0	\$40,000			\$40,000	Chisago County	
LK 1B	Update the Chisago County Shoreland Ordinance to be consistent with the revised State of Minnesota Shoreland Ordinance.	0	0	0	\$40,000	0	\$40,000			\$40,000	Chisago County	
Implementation for Ecosystem Services												
GW 1B LK 2C R&S 1A STC 2A	Host the countywide Chisago Children’s Water Festival on an annual basis. Invite all Chisago County fifth grade students and teachers to the one-day event. Provide youth and classroom teachers with an innovative, quality, hands-on learning opportunity highlighting the relationship and interdependence of water to all living things.	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$120,000	\$60,000		\$60,000	Chisago County	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
LK 1B	Establish and maintain countywide Hook, Line and Sinkers recycling program.	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$1,500	\$1,500			Chisago County	Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District
GW 1B LK 1A, 1B, 2C R&S 1A UP 1A STC2A	Provide opportunities to municipal officials, planning commissions, and the agricultural community to receive education on how their land use decisions have a direct impact on non-point source runoff pollution. Principles outlined in the University of Minnesota Non Point Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) program will be implemented.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	
GW 1B LK 2C R&S 1A STC 2A	Provide information and education to Chisago County citizens using the Environmental Connections Newsletter. Publish newsletters twice yearly.	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$200,000	\$200,000			Chisago County	
LK 1A, 1B, 4A R&S 1A	Assist local lake and river associations, lake improvement districts, and lake management planning. Provide liaison and technical assistance, help facilitate grant resources for water quality improvement projects, and continue to work with existing lake and river associations.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Local Lake and River Associations, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
LK 1A, 1B R&S 1A	Strengthen and support existing and help form new lake and river associations in Chisago County.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Local Lake and River Associations, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
LK 1A, 1B R&S 1A	Explore the feasibility of formation of additional lake improvement districts, watershed management organizations, or watershed districts in Chisago County.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	
Implementation for Prioritization and Analysis												
LK 4A	Develop a countywide annual water quality monitoring plan for nutrients, aquatic life, and other parameters to determine ambient water quality concentration trends and loading for all public waters in Chisago County, including lakes with public accesses and the main stems and selected tributaries of Rock Creek, Rush Creek, Goose Creek, Sunrise River, and Lawrence Creek.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$50,000			Chisago County	
LK 4A	Implement a countywide lake water quality monitoring plan.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$50,000	\$50,000			Chisago County	
R&S 4A 4C	Implement countywide river and stream water quality monitoring plan.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$50,000			\$50,000	Chisago County	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District

Issues and Goals by Resource Area Found in Table 5-1, LSC-CWMP	Chisago County Appendix Objective	Years 1-2	Years 3-4	Years 5-6	Years 7-8	Years 9-10	10-year Estimated Cost	10-year Estimated Local Funds	10-year Existing Stable External Funding	Additional Estimated. External Funds Needed	Implementing Entities	Supporting Agencies
LK 4A R&S 4A 4C	Develop an annual water quality monitoring report for Chisago County describing the water resources monitored and their parameters. The annual report will provide a complete summary of the monitoring results.	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$60,000	\$60,000			Chisago County	Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
LK 4A R&S 4A 4C	Participate in volunteer programs such as the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizen Lake and Stream Monitoring, Surface Water Assessment, or Citizen Lake Monitoring Plus.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
	Administer and coordinate Chisago County's portion of the Lower St. Croix River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, including the Chisago County Appendix.	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$265,000	\$265,000			Chisago County	
	Administer and coordinate the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Water Resources Management Plan. ⁱⁱ	\$164,000	\$164,000	\$164,000	\$164,000	\$164,000	\$824,000	\$824,000			Chisago County	
	Pursue additional partnership and funding opportunities. Actively pursue local, state, and federal grants.	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$18,000	\$8,600	\$9,400		Chisago County	
Table 1: GRAND TOTAL							\$2,346,500	\$1,883,700	\$112,800	\$350,000		

ⁱ Implementation funds are noted in Table 5-1, #8 and #9, 10-year Existing Stable External Funding in the LSC – CWMP.

ⁱⁱ Funding for administration and coordination is also noted in Table 5-1, #52, 10-year Estimated Local Funds in the LSC – CWMP.