Welcome to the MAWD 2019 Legislative Briefing. The following schedule is approximate. Speakers and times may change as needed to accommodate the schedules of the presenters.

6:00 – 7:00 MAWD Priorities

6:00 Welcome and Announcements – Mary Texer, MAWD President
6:05 Main Platform Issues: Talking Points and How You Can Help – Ray Bohn, MAWD Lobbyist
   ▪ Increase the $250,000 general fund levy limit.
   ▪ Secure a strong bonding allocation for flood hazard mitigation projects.
   ▪ Permit temporary storage of water on DNR land during major flood events.
6:20 Issues to Watch and Play Defense on (if needed) – Ray Bohn, MAWD Lobbyist
   ▪ HF 1887/ SF 1766 – Watershed district provisions modified (a.k.a “Developer’s Bill of Rights”)
   ▪ HF 2314/ SF 2372 – Rice Creek watershed district spending and reporting requirements
   ▪ HF 2995 / SF 2931 – WD manager appointment modifications (County Commissioners as Board of Managers)
   ▪ HF 3502 / SF None – Sauk River WD levy authority modification
6:40 Legislative Efforts We Support (when led by others) – Emily Javens, MAWD Executive Director
   ▪ Provide limited liability protection to certified commercial salt applicators.
   ▪ Clarify the responsibility of counties to finance public drainage system projects upon request of a watershed district and/or provide authorization to watershed districts to do their own general obligation bonding.
   ▪ Support efforts of the Minnesota River Congress to increase water storage in the MN River Basin.
   ▪ Obtain stable and reliable funding for an ongoing flood damage reduction program.
6:50 Administrative Priorities to Work on with State Agency Staff and Councils – Emily Javens, Executive Director
   ▪ FY22-23 Clean Water Fund Allocations (Clean Water Council)
   ▪ Tiered Aquatic Life Uses (TALU) Standards (MN Pollution Control Agency)
   ▪ Drainage System Repair Permits (MN Department of Natural Resources)
   ▪ Stormwater Reuse Standards (MN Department of Health)

7:00 – 7:30 Legislator Interactions

7:00 Representative Rick Hansen, Environment and Natural Resources Finance Division Chair
7:15 Senator Bill Weber, Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Legacy Finance Vice Chair (invited)

7:30 – 8:10 State Agency Updates

7:30 MN Board of Water and Soil Resources – Angie Becker-Kudelka and John Jaschke
7:40 MN Pollution Control Agency – Glenn Skuta, Watershed Division
7:50 Department of Natural Resources – Pat Lynch, Flood Hazard Mitigation Program
8:00 Clean Water Council – Paul Gardner, Executive Director

8:10 – 8:30 Tips and Tricks for Meeting with Legislators

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8:25 Announcements for Legislative Breakfast

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th  8:00 – 10:00 AM LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST at the CAPITOL

Legislators have been invited to join us in an informal setting to chat about watershed management issues. A hot breakfast will be served. Doors to the Capitol open at 8 a.m.