

6. Organizations, Roles, & Goals

Seven local and state organizations play direct roles in the management of Crooked Lake. Other agencies, such as the Metropolitan Council, conduct research and are involved in monitoring the condition of lakes within the seven county Metropolitan area.

This Plan discussed those agencies that have programs or policies which have a direct impact on the management of Crooked Lake.

The seven agencies are:

Local Agencies & Organizations

1. Crooked Lake Area Association
2. City of Andover
3. City of Coon Rapids
4. Anoka Conservation District
5. Coon Creek Watershed District

State Agencies

6. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
7. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

6.1 Local Agencies & Organizations

Crooked Lake Area Association

www.cooncreekwd.org>News & Information>Get Involved!>Crooked Lake Area Association

c/o 13415 NW Heather Street
Andover, MN 55304

The Crooked Lake Area Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of Crooked Lake. The Association is organized to encourage wise use, management, and preservation of Crooked Lake in order to maintain the delicate ecological balance which must be kept between the lake and the adjacent watershed. Further, the Association considers, recommends, and endeavors through comprehensive management planning and responsible means, to bring about appropriate action by agencies of government and private individuals to effectively manage and preserve Crooked Lake, its watershed.

The purpose of the Association is to preserve and protect Crooked Lake and its surrounding watershed, and to enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety, and aesthetic values of Crooked Lake, as a public recreational facility for today and for future generations.

The Association operates eight programs either independently or in cooperation with other agencies to fulfill this purpose:

Table 6.1.1

Organization	Mission	Program	Description
Crooked Lake Area Association	To preserve and protect Crooked Lake and its surrounding watershed	Adopt-A-Park: Boat Landing	Policing the park and landing once-a-week and picking up and disposing of litter and garbage
		Boat Inspections	In cooperation with the DNR, inspect boats entering and leaving the lake for invasive species.
	To Enhance the water quality, fishery, boating safety and aesthetic values of the lake	Invasive Plant Treatment	Annually coordinate the application and treatment of the lake for Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curly leaf Pondweed

Organization	Mission	Program	Description
Crooked Lake Area Association	To prepare, maintain, and support the Comprehensive Plan for Crooked Lake	Lake Level Monitoring	Record lake water levels weekly during ice-out. Program coordinated by the Anoka Conservation District (ACD)
		Communication: Newsletter	Prepare and distribute a news letter to members 2-3 times per year
		Planning	Be actively involved in the development and maintenance of this Comprehensive Plan and other planning processes and reports that may affect the lake
		Governmental Relations: Watch Dog	To monitor the activities of Boards, Councils, and Commissions when financial and policy decisions influence the lake and its watershed.
		Winter & Summer Meetings	Hold a winter meeting focused on the business of the Association and issues regarding the lake. Hold a summer meeting focused on building and maintaining the Crooked Lake community.

Cities within the District

Crooked Lake is located within two cities: Andover and Coon Rapids.

City of Andover

www.ci.andover.mn.us

1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW
Andover, MN 55304

The City of Andover is a city of the second class with a population exceeding 30,000. The city operates 6 programs that directly affect Crooked Lake:

Table 6.1.2

Department	Mission	Program	Description
Council/Administration	Responsible for all activities and operation conducted by the City	Budgeting	The Andover City Council has made funds available to the Crooked Lake Area Association for the treatment of invasive species in the lake.
Engineering	Responsible for virtually all City public improvement projects	Storm Sewer	Projects include all publicly owned facilities
Parks and Recreation	Provide information about various programs and offer literature on various natural resource subjects	Natural Resources	There are several different natural resource and environmental quality issues in Andover: Water quality, tree preservation, tree insect, and invasive vegetation are some examples
Public Works	Responsible for the care and maintenance and some construction of City improvements.	Parks Maintenance	Maintains city parks and trail system. Maintenance tasks related to Crooked Lake include: buildings and shelters, landscaping, trees and plantings, blacktop repair,

Department	Mission	Program	Description
Andover Public Works	<p>There are six main departments within the Public Works Division:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicle Maint 2. Parks Maint 3. Street Maint. 4. Sewer Maint 5. Water Department 6. Recycling 	Sewer Maintenance	trash and litter control, and various construction projects.
		Street Maintenance	<p>Maintains all storm sewers, catch basins, manholes, and sediment ponds consistent with the City comprehensive storm water management plan.</p> <p>Maintains all City streets to minimize deterioration. Maintenance includes seal coating, crack sealing, pothole patching, sweeping, gravel road maintenance, and wash and seal bridges.</p>

City of Coon Rapids

www.ci.coon-rapids.mn.us

11155 Robinson Drive

Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Coon Rapids is the fifth largest city in the Metropolitan area and ninth largest city in the state with a population over 61,500. The City operates four programs that directly affect Crooked Lake and its watershed:

Table 6.1.3

Division	Mission	Program	Description
Council/Administration	Responsible for all activities and operation conducted by the City	Budgeting	The Coon Rapids City Council has made funds available to the Crooked Lake Area Association for the treatment of invasive species.
Public Works	Ensures City water is safe, streets are plowed, patched and swept, parks are maintained, and the City fleet of equipment and vehicles is in good condition.	Engineering	New streets, sidewalks, water mains, sanitary sewers and storm drain infrastructure are designed and construction supervised by the Engineering Division.
		Parks	Responsible for construction, operation, and maintenance of Coon Rapids park facilities. The department installs and removes park equipment, makes repairs, mows grass, trims around fences, and picks up garbage & litter.
		Utilities	Operates the storm sewer systems; based on the City comprehensive storm water management plan.

Anoka Conservation District

www.anokanaturalresources.com
 16015 Central Ave, Suite 103
 Ham Lake, MN 55304

The Anoka Conservation District (ACD) is a non-regulatory district by Minnesota State statute. The mission of the Anoka Conservation District is to:

- inform and assist county residents and landowners in natural resource management
- conduct research and monitoring for soil and water conservation
- promote practices for soil and water conservation
- serve as a guide to local units of government in land use planning.

The ACD operates four programs in cooperation with individuals or other agencies which directly pertain to Crooked Lake:

Table 6.1.4

Division	Mission	Program	Description
Water Resources	Conduct research and monitoring of water resources and promote water quality improvement projects	Lake Level Monitoring	Coordinate weekly lake water levels readings by volunteers
		Water Quality Monitoring	Collect water quality samples every two weeks during the period of May through September for a total of 10 samples. Monitoring is done 2 of every 3 years.
		Precipitation Monitoring	Collect and analyze precipitation data
		Shoreland Erosion Education	Work with individual property owners to address erosion problems and concerns
	Inform and assist county residents in natural resource management. Promote practices for soil and water conservation.	Water Atlas	Annual report of basic statistics on condition, trend and hydrologic features affecting the lake.

Coon Creek Watershed District

www.cooncreekwd.org

12301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 100

Blaine, MN 55434

The Coon Creek Watershed District (District) is a regulatory district by Minnesota State statute. The District is charged with managing water resources within the 94-square mile watershed of Coon Creek in Anoka County, Minnesota.

The Coon Creek Watershed District mission is to manage the groundwater and surface water drainage systems within the watershed to prevent property damage, maintain hydrologic balance, and protect water quality for the safety & enjoyment of citizens and the preservation & enhancement of wildlife habitat.

The District currently operates four programs that directly relate to Crooked Lake:

Table 6.1.5

Program	Mission	Activity	Description
Development Regulation	To evaluate, permit, and monitor plans and programs affecting water and related land resources of the District in an orderly and informed fashion.	Issues & Complaints	Investigates and responds to unanticipated and unplanned circumstances, events, or conditions that may affect Crooked Lake and its related land resources.
		Permit Inspection and Enforcement	Ensures compliance with permit requirements and the goals, objectives, and rules of the District.
		Permit Review	Involves reviewing, monitoring, evaluating, and permitting plans and programs affecting the water and related land resources of the District.
		Permits	Regulates land-disturbing activities affecting the quality, course, current, or cross-section of Crooked Lake.
Planning Programming and Budgeting	To coordinate the planning, prioritizing, and financing of programs & activities	Annual Reporting	Includes basic statistics on trend condition and trend of Crooked Lake

Program	Mission	Activity	Description
Planning Programming and Budgeting		Annual Budget	The Board of Managers has funded special studies, on-going data collection, and special services for Crooked Lake.
		Comprehensive Planning and SWPPP	Guiding documents for program and capital facilities management, and provides context and purpose to near-term choices and assesses the future consequences of those choices.
Public & Governmental Relations	To ensure that the continuing planning and management of the Crooked Lake is responsive to the needs and concerns of an informed public; and to coordinate policies and programs of local, state, and federal government agencies to achieve consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.	Education	To increase public awareness on the nature of issues and conflicts that arise when managing water resources
		Information	To disseminate and discuss the issues, decisions to be made, and the consequences of proposed actions and inactions.
		Involvement	To provide for active involvement of the public and related units of government in developing and implementing water management plans and activities.
Research	Provide integrated resource information used in planning, evaluating, and decision making	Monitoring	To collaborate with Anoka Conservation District to monitor and track qualitative and quantitative aspects of watershed hydrology to calibrate models and assess for signs of potential impairment of water resources.

6.2 State Agencies

Because of the broad range of state planning and regulatory responsibilities, it is essential that the District take an aggressive role in ensuring that the actions of various agencies are consistent with the objectives of the Comprehensive Management Plan. Some state agencies, in particular the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), have far-reaching powers in terms of both public and private land-use decisions.

This section touches upon the major roles state agencies currently play in the management of Crooked Lake.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

www.dnr.state.mn.us

500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is the agency of the state of Minnesota charged with conserving and managing state natural resources. The agency maintains areas such as state parks, state forests, recreational trails, and recreation areas as well as managing minerals, wildlife, and forestry. The agency is currently divided into eight sections: Ecological Resources, Enforcement, Fish & Wildlife, Forestry, Lands and Minerals, Trails and Waterways, Parks and Recreation, and Waters.

Five Divisions and 10 programs have the most involvement with the management of Crooked Lake:

Table 6.2.1

Division	Mission	Program	Description
Ecological Resources	To protect the ecological health of Minnesota resources by restoring ecosystems and addressing threats such as invasive species	Designating and identifying infested waters (Crooked Lake is listed).	Water bodies are designated infested if they contain invasive species that could spread to other waters if activities are not regulated, and where the risk of spread to an uninfested waterbody is high.
		Inspecting boats at public water accesses	The program hires a crew of seasonal watercraft inspectors each year to educate boaters about aquatic invasive species.
		Prohibited Invasive Species (EWM & CLP are “Prohibited Invasive Species)	It is a misdemeanor to possess, import, purchase, transport, or introduce these species except under a permit.

Division	Mission	Program	Description
Ecological Resources		Aquatic Plant Control Permits	Any removal of emergent vegetation in a Public Water requires a permit.
Enforcement	Focuses on the enforcement of Minnesota natural resource laws and public safety	Conservation Officers	Includes state laws and regulations related to laws dealing with the alteration of lake beds, streams, and wetlands
Fish & Wildlife	To manage, protect and regulate state fish and wildlife resources	Fisheries	Management of the diverse fishery in Crooked Lake.
Trails & Waterways	To provide opportunities to enjoy recreational activities in public resources, without causing damage to the wildlife.	Fishing Piers	Installs/constructs fishing piers in select lakes in MN
		Public Access	Constructs public boat landings to Public Waters
Waters	Accountable for all lakes, rivers and streams, wetlands, and ground water within the state	Public Waters Permits	Regulates all activities that affect the course, current, or cross-section of public waters and wetlands. Crooked Lake is a Public Water.
		Shoreland Regulations	Requires cities to adopt regulations governing land use within Shoreland areas. Shoreland is all land within 1,000 feet of the Ordinary High Watermark of Crooked Lake or the landward extent of the floodplain, which ever is greater.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

www.pca.state.mn.us

520 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is the agency of the State of Minnesota that monitors environmental quality, offers technical and financial assistance, and enforces environmental regulations. The MPCA finds and cleans up spills or leaks that can affect our health and environment. Staff develop statewide policy, and support environmental education

Four programs have direct interaction or influence on the management of Crooked Lake:

Table 6.2.2

Division	Mission	Program	Description
Municipal	<p>Works with cities and towns to ensure proper management of wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste to help protect the environment and citizens.</p> <p>Work includes technical assistance, development of rules and policy, permitting, and compliance and enforcement</p>	Stormwater	<p>To better manage stormwater across the state, the MPCA administers the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act in addition to its own State Disposal System requirements.</p> <p>The Stormwater Program includes three general stormwater permits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) 2. Construction Stormwater 3. Industrial Stormwater <p>Each program administers a general permit (and in some cases, individual permits) that incorporates federal and state requirements for stormwater management.</p>

Division Environmental Analysis and Outcomes	Mission To monitor and evaluate the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the environment in Minnesota.	Program Biological Monitoring	Description Tracks the health of biological systems: measuring and evaluating the condition of biological systems, and the consequences of human activities for those systems. The aim is to distinguish between naturally occurring variation and changes caused by human activities.
			The MPCA currently conducts biological monitoring to assess the health of riverine and wetland environments utilizing fish, macroinvertebrate, or plant communities.
		Citizen Lake Monitoring Program	Volunteers collect water transparency data using an 8-inch, circular, all-white metal plate attached to a calibrated rope. This tool is called a Secchi disk.
		Lake Water Quality Assessment Program	Provides lake water quality criteria which can improve how lake resources are managed and how current conditions are measured: this provides a knowledge base that can be used to protect and restore lakes.